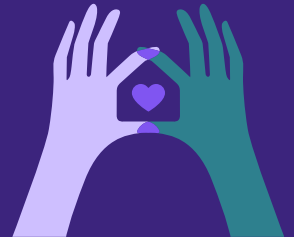


# Six steps to guardianship or open adoption from out-of-home care



1

## Getting ready

Prepare for permanency by strengthening a child's sense of belonging, culture, family time, life story and the carer's readiness. DCJ approve case plan goal change when step 1 is complete.

Thinking about permanency

Talking with children, carers and family

Getting ready through action

Consultation about permanency

Family participation  
Cultural consultation

2

## Application

Approve probity and suitability checks

3

## Assessment

Approve assessment and carer suitability

4

## Preparing for court

Approve court documents

5

## Going to court

Court hearing  
Court decision

6

## After the order

Approved financials managed by DCJ



Supporting children to live safely with their parents is always the first goal. When this is not possible, guardianship and open adoption are other permanent options.

Living with family and kin is preferred for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who are not able to live with their parents. Open adoption remains the last permanent option for Aboriginal children.