

OurSPACE

Specialist outreach trauma therapeutic support

The OurSPACE Program is dedicated to enhancing stability and fostering lasting relationships for children and young people under the age of 16 years in Foster and Kinship care covering all of NSW. By supporting the network of adults surrounding each child or young person, OurSPACE helps them to better understand and address unmet trauma needs from the past, allowing for healing in the present. Recognising that trauma-based behaviours can challenge carers, the program offers therapeutic approaches that not only ease the impact of trauma on the child or young person but also alleviate carer stress, increasing the chances of continuous and stable care.



Our aim is to support the relationships around children and young people so that they can live with the same carers for as long as they need to.



We provide outreach specialist support to children, young people, and their carers in order to help children begin to heal from the trauma they may have experienced.



We draw from different trauma sensitive therapies to match the healing needs of each child or young person referred to our service.



To support a sense of connection and safety, our therapists can continue to see children and young people even when placements move to different areas, so long as this is in NSW.



We support carers in building their understanding of complex trauma, as well as their confidence in responding to the trauma-based needs of the child or young person they are caring for.



We value the network of important people supporting the child or young person, such as their case worker, their teacher, and others. We work collaboratively to build the knowledge and confidence of this helping team to plan and respond to the ongoing needs of the child or young person.



We provide a mix of in-person support and counselling, as well as phone and video calls to flexibly meet the needs of children, young people, and their carers.



We have Aboriginal therapists on our team to help support the needs of Indigenous children referred in a culturally strong and trauma informed way.



We have created special culturally safe therapeutic resources and tools which we use to make sure that the cultural needs of children and young people are integrated into their counselling and support.

For referrals or general enquiries please email intakeourspace@childhood.org.au or call 1300 381 581



Communities
& Justice



Australian
Childhood
Foundation

OurSPACE

Intake Process

intakeourspace@childhood.org.au

1

Email Intake at intakeourspace@childhood.org.au

2

Our Intake team will send a copy of our **referral form**, which will step you through our **eligibility criteria**:

- Children or Young Person aged 15 years old or younger.
- Reside in NSW on NSW PRM Orders (Including Interim).
- Experience placement instability
- Be in a foster or kinship care placement.

3

Complete and return the referral form. The intake team will **review** it, and contact you if they require additional information. If you have any questions or would like support completing it, please let the Intake know and they will assist you.

4

Intake will let you know if the referral has been accepted, and it will then be added to our **waiting list**. Our waiting times may vary depending on location and service demand.

5

When a Therapeutic Specialist has capacity, your referral will be **allocated**. They will contact you to organise an initial **Care Team Meeting**.

6

OurSPACE will begin direct outreach therapeutic support with the child/young person, carers, and care team. This will include **OurSPACE Assessments**.

7

After 6 months (or if required prior) our Therapeutic Specialist will reach out and let you know that our therapeutic work will be **closing**. We will provide a **closure summary** for you regarding our work and any remaining issues and recommendations.