Research **Agenda**
2016–19

Strategic area 1: Building safe, supportive communities for children and/or families

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Community members more likely to offer and ask for help when they need it	What are the risk and protective factors that may make parents seek help and be confident in their parenting?	🟢
	How does the presence of DFV influence help seeking behaviour for Queensland parents?	🟢
	How does cultural connection influence help seeking behaviour for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Parents?	🟢
Effective support services	What are the characteristics of effective family support services and early interventions? What feature of successful initiatives is crucial for success? Which interventions work for different people, with different needs, and in different circumstances?	🟣

Strategic area 2: Reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children cared for safely at home or with kin	What are the views and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children within the Child Protection System	🟠
	How do the trajectories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care compare to those of non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children in care? Which interventions have positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and what works to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and families across the system?	🟣
	How can Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kinship carers be better supported?	🟣
	What is the level of over representation in the Child Protection System within Queensland, as compared to other jurisdictions across Australia?	🟠
	What are the views and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families across all aspects of the child protection system?	🟣

🟢 Completed by QFCC	🔵 In progress by QFCC	🔵 In progress by other agency
🟠 Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers	

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Strategic area 3: Improving out of home care

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Reduced numbers of children missing from care	What are the views of children and young people with an experience of running away/being absent without notice from their placement?	🔵 In progress by QFCC
	What are the experiences of foster carers in supporting children and young people who run away?	🔵 In progress by QFCC
	What are the predictors of a young person self-placing? What are the outcomes of young people who self- place? What are their needs, and how can they be better supported, particularly where there have been multiple placement breakdowns, or they are unable to return safely to home and are unable to live independently?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers
Greater stability for children in contact with the child protection system	What are the long term outcomes for children and young people following reunification? What factors predict successful outcomes and what are the most effective supports to assist reunification? What are the risk factors for failed reunification?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers
	What are the long term outcomes for children and young people based on the stability of their care? What are the predictors of placement stability? What is the likelihood of placement breakdown based on the number of prior placements? In what circumstances does contact undermine, disrupt or support placement stability?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers
	What are the systems and processes that impact on placement stability?	🟠 Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17
Greater understanding of the wellbeing of children in care	What are the views and experiences of children with mental health issues across all aspects of the child protection system?	🟠 Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17
	What is the impact of departmental interventions on a broad range of children's outcomes (including safety, health, wellbeing and life outcomes)? What are the effective processes, and what mechanisms promote success?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers
	What are the appropriate measures of the outcomes of primary, secondary and tertiary interventions? What are the appropriate tools to measure those outcomes?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers
	How do we improve the educational outcomes for young people in care? How can we keep young people engaged in education?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers
	What is the research that underlies the specific policies in place in Queensland?	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers

🟡 Completed by QFCC   🔵 In progress by QFCC   🔵 In progress by other agency

🟠 Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17   🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers

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Strategic area 3 (continued):

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Understanding trajectories	What is the extent of overlap of the involvement of families and young people, across multiple (legal/administrative) systems, including child protection, family law, criminal justice (including domestic violence)? How can we use this to better support families and young people early on?	● (purple)
	How do the trajectories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care compare to those of non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children in care? Which interventions have positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and what works to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and families across the system?	● (purple)
Improved outcomes for young people who have transitioned from care	What are the views and experiences of children transitioning from OOHC?	● (orange)
	What is the impact of departmental interventions on a broad range of children's outcomes (including safety, health, wellbeing and life outcomes)? What are the effective processes, and what mechanisms promote success?	● (purple)
	How do we improve the educational outcomes for young people in care? How can we keep young people engaged in education?	● (purple)
	What are the long term outcomes for children and young people in the child protection system compared to those not in the system? How do they fare once they leave care, and what contributes to positive outcomes? What is the general picture of the differing experiences of young people in the system across time, and how does this relate to their life experiences?	● (purple)
	What are the long term outcomes of children who disengage from the education system, and what are the best ways to identify children early on? What is the relationship between disengagement and involvement in the child protection system?	● (purple)
	What are the post care outcomes of young people leaving care? What factors promote successful transitions to independence? How can we support the transition to independence better, and what are the views of young people as to how they could be better supported? Is the current duration of case management sufficient? Are there alternative transition models that could be explored?	● (purple)

● Completed by QFCC   ● In progress by QFCC   ● In progress by other agency

● Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17   ● Seeking interest from other researchers

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Strategic area 4: Reducing young people's involvement with the youth justice system

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Young people have improved support to reduce the likelihood that they will enter, or re-enter the youth justice system	What are the views and experiences of children within the youth justice system?	🟠
	What is the extent of overlap of the involvement of families and young people, across multiple (legal/administrative) systems, including child protection, family law, criminal justice (including domestic violence)? How can we use this to better support families and young people early on?	🟣
	What is the prevalence of young people in residential care that enter into the youth justice system? How can they be better supported to stay out of the youth justice system? What regulatory or behaviour management systems could improve outcomes for young people and prevent the criminalisation of behaviour? What are young people's views as to the best ways to respond to behavioural issues in residential care facilities?	🟣
	What is the research that underlies the specific youth justice policies in Queensland?	🟠

Strategic area 5: The workforce is developed and supported to meet the needs of children and families into the future

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Improved workforce planning and support	What is the profile of the current workforce across the child and family services sector?	🟡
	What are the cultural conditions within the working environments for stakeholders across the sector?	🟡
	What are the necessary skills (generic or specialist), qualifications and personal attributes of all those involved in either a direct care role, or are frontline case workers? What skills of practitioners are associated with better outcomes for children? Which factors predict staff resilience?	🟣
	What models are used in other jurisdictions which facilitates smaller agencies having access to Senior Practitioners?	🔵
	How can agencies get more of their cohort group (carers or those with long term involvement in the child protection system) into the formal workforce?	🟠

🟡 Completed by QFCC	🔵 In progress by QFCC	🔵 In progress by other agency
🟠 Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17	🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers	

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Strategic area 6: Reducing the likelihood of child deaths

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Reduced likelihood of preventable child deaths	How can we reduce the likelihood of preventable child deaths?	🔵

Strategic area 7: Improved outcome measures

Outcomes	Areas of inquiry	Project Status
Improved ways of measuring outcomes	What are the benefits and challenges in implementing a computer game measuring child social and emotional wellbeing in secondary support services?	🔵
	How can a continuous culture of feedback and evaluation be encouraged and supported across the sector? What are the barriers to the use of research findings to support practice? How do we encourage cultural change in relation to the use of evidence?	🟣
	What are the appropriate measures of the outcomes of primary, secondary and tertiary interventions? What are the appropriate tools to measure those outcomes?	🟣
	How can individual agencies, particularly NGOs, access de-identified sector wide data (e.g. as available in aged care) for research or benchmarking, to assist in informing their practices and to understand the changing needs of the system sector wide?	🟣

🟡 Completed by QFCC   🔵 In progress by QFCC   🔵 In progress by other agency

🟠 Planned as QFCC work in 2016-17   🟣 Seeking interest from other researchers

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Appendix

Research Projects Completed or In Progress

By organisation or researcher responsible

Strategic area 1: Building safe, supportive communities for children and/or families

Completed:

- Talking Families Baseline Research of Parents and Non-Parents (by QFCC)
- Help Seeking, DV and Indigenous Families (by QFCC)

In Progress:

Strategic area 2: Reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system

Completed:

- Talking Families Baseline Research of Parents and Non-Parents (by QFCC)
- Help Seeking, DV and Indigenous Families (by QFCC)

In Progress:

Strategic area 3: Improving out of home care

Completed:

In Progress:

- Hearing Our Voices Project – (Collaboration between QFCC, CREATE and Foster Care Queensland)

Strategic area 4: Reducing young people's involvement with the youth justice system

Completed:

In Progress:

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Strategic area 5: The workforce is developed and supported to meet the needs of children and families into the future

Completed:

- Workforce Profile Survey (QFCC)
- Talking Families Baseline Research of Stakeholders (QFCC)

In Progress:

- Models of Access to Senior Practitioners

Strategic area 6: Reducing the likelihood of child deaths

Completed:

In Progress:

- Child Death Annual Report 2015-16 (by QFCC)

Strategic area 7: Improved outcome measures

Completed:

In Progress:

- Rumbles Quest Trials (by QFCC)

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