



# About the Parents and Carers Reference Group

## Easy Read



# About this fact sheet



This sheet is by the Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS).



It tells you about the Parents and Carers Reference Group (PCRG).



The sheet explains the work the group will do.



This is an Easy Read summary of the full document.



You can find the full document on the DSS website at

[www.dss.gov.au/PCRG](http://www.dss.gov.au/PCRG).

# About the PCRG



The government is starting a new Parents and Carers Reference Group.  
We call it PCRG for short.



Most of the PCRG members will be parents and carers from around Australia.



They will tell the government about what is important to them.



They will have a say on how the government supports young children and their families.



The PCRG is an important tool to help the **Early Years Strategy 2024 – 2034**.

We call it the Strategy.



The Strategy is a plan for how the government will support young children and families.



The PCRG makes sure that the government listens to the voices of children and their families.



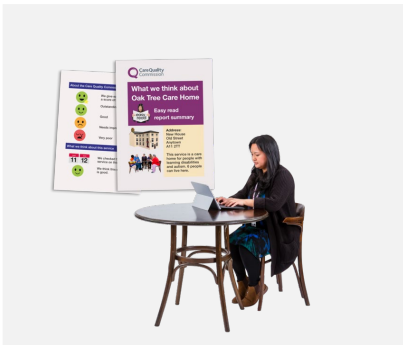
The PCRG will start meeting in 2024.



# What PCRG members will do



PCRG members will meet at least 3 times a year.



Between meetings they may also

- look at information
- say what they think about it.



Members will share their experience and knowledge.

They will help us understand:



- what children under 12 years need
- how the government can help children and families.



This will help the government to give better support to children and families.

# About the PCRG members



20



The PCRG will have around 20 members from across Australia.



Most of the members will be parents and carers.



The members will have different backgrounds and experiences.

This includes:



- people from regional or remote areas who live far from cities and towns



- people from different cultures
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



- single parents
- foster parents



- people with disability or who have a child with disability.



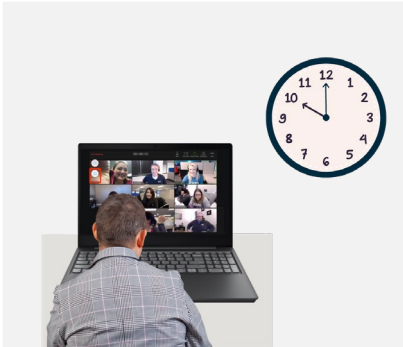
Some members will be people who work with children and families.



We want to hear from lots of different people.

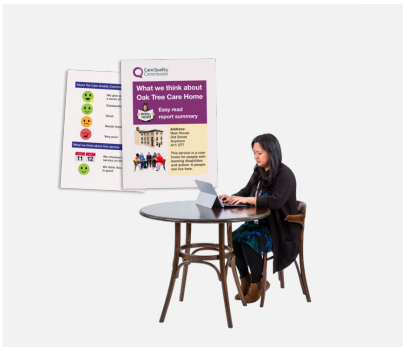


Members will be part of the PCRG for up to 2 years.  
Then they will change so new people can join.



We will pay parents and carers for:

- the time they spend in meetings



- work they do to get ready for the meetings



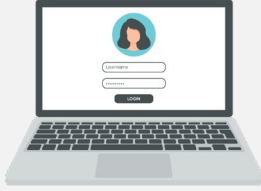
- travel to get to face-to-face meetings.



We will not pay the people who work with children and families.



# For more information



To apply for the PCRG, use the online form at  
[www.engage.dss.gov.au/PCRG](http://www.engage.dss.gov.au/PCRG)



If you have questions, email PCRG at  
[PCRG@dss.gov.au](mailto:PCRG@dss.gov.au)



Visit our website at  
[www.dss.gov.au/PCRG](http://www.dss.gov.au/PCRG)



**Early Years Strategy**  
2024–2034

Australian Government  
Department of Social Services  
August 2024



This Easy Read document was made by  
[Easy to Read.](#)