

# Living arrangements for children under care (LA) DSS Pilot (2010)

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# Living arrangements for children under care (LA) DSS Pilot (2010)

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Data Set Specification

**METEOR identifier:** 433761

**Registration status:** [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 19/08/2011

**DSS type:** Data Set Specification (DSS)

**Scope:** The Living arrangements for children under care (LA) Data Set Specification (DSS) contains information about the history of living arrangements for children under the care of the relevant Department (i.e. children on orders who are not in funded out-of-home care and children in funded out-of-home care placements regardless of whether they are on an order). This includes living arrangements recorded during the reference period and also those from previous years.

Children on orders are those children subject to the care and protection orders/arrangements included in the scope of the 'Care and protection orders (CPO) DSS'.

Funded out-of-home care placements are defined as out-of-home overnight care for children and young people aged less than 18 years, where the state makes a financial payment or where a financial payment has been offered but has been declined by the carer. This includes placements with relatives (other than parents) where the state makes a financial payment or where a financial payment has been offered but has been declined by the carer. It should be noted that children in funded 'out-of-home care' include children in both legal and voluntary placements and placements made for the purpose of providing respite for parents. It does not include placements solely funded by disability services, psychiatric services, specialist homelessness services, juvenile justice facilities, or overnight child care services.

Pre-approved, short breaks in living arrangements whereby the child is not at their usual place of residence but the intention is for the child to return to the original living arrangement (i.e. their room and most of their substantial possessions remain in the original home environment) should not be recorded as a new living arrangement in the file. Approved breaks include: scheduled respite, hospital admissions, periods of time spent in juvenile detention centres, holidays, school camps and excursions. Any break of 2 months or more is deemed to be an exit from out-of-home care.

For family group homes, if the carers leave the home for more than 2 weeks at a time (e.g. annual leave), this should be recorded as a new living arrangement in the file.

Each new living arrangement a child has will be a new line in the file, delineated by a start and end date.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** A living arrangement is always defined by an entry date and an exit date. Each living arrangement of the child is counted. This includes when a child moves from one type of care to another, e.g. foster care to residential care, and within types of care, e.g. from one relative to another relative.

**Comments:** The 2010 unit record collection is a pilot test, therefore the implementation of the unit record data collection across all jurisdictions has not been finalised. The pilot test is a non-mandatory data set specification, rather than a national minimum data set specification, and is subject to change. A final unit record child protection NMDS will be developed when the results from the pilot/dress rehearsal testing are obtained and evaluated.

## Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	Performance and Data Working Group
<b>Steward:</b>	<a href="#">National Community Services Information Management Group (NCSIMG)</a>
<b>Origin:</b>	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2010. Child protection and support services National Minimum Data Set, data collection manual for the 2010 pilot collection. AIHW: Canberra.
<b>Reference documents:</b>	AIHW 2011. Child protection Australia 2009-10. Child welfare series no. 51. Cat. no. CWS 39. Canberra: AIHW.  Council of Australian Governments 2009. Protecting Children is Everyone's Business. National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020. FACHSIA. Viewed 18 March 2011,  <a href="http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/families/pubs/framework_protecting_children/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/families/pubs/framework_protecting_children/Pages/default.aspx</a>

## Relational attributes

<b>Implementation in Data Set Specifications:</b>	<a href="#">Child protection and support services (CPSS) DSS Pilot (2010) Community Services (retired)</a> , Recorded 19/08/2011
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## Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Child protection notification—identifier, NX[X(13)]</a>	Conditional	1
	<b>Conditional obligation:</b>  Only applicable if the jurisdiction records a notification identifier.  <b>DSS specific information:</b>  This data element should align with the identifier recorded in the Notifications, investigations, and substantiations (NIS) DSS.  This not a mandatory field and there will be cases where children are on an order or in funded out-of-home care placements without a preceding notification.		
-	<a href="#">Child—care arrangement end date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Mandatory	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>  In the Living Arrangements DSS, this refers to the date the living arrangements ended for a child under the care of the Department responsible for child protection.		
-	<a href="#">Child—care arrangements, child protection code N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—out-of-home care exit status, code N[N]</a>	Conditional	1
	<b>Conditional obligation:</b>  Conditional on the child being in an out-of-home placement.		

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Person (address)—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}</a>  <i>DSS specific information:</i> The postcode of the child's living arrangement.	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person (address)—suburb/town/locality name, text A[A(49)]</a>  <i>DSS specific information:</i> The suburb/town/locality name of the child's living arrangement.	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—care arrangement start date, DDMMYYYY</a>  <i>DSS specific information:</i> In the Living Arrangements DSS, this refers to the date the living arrangements started for a child under the care of the Department responsible for child protection.	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—geographic location (LGA), code (ASGC 2010) NNNNN</a>  <i>DSS specific information:</i> The local government area of the child's living arrangement.	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—Indigenous status, code N</a>  <i>DSS specific information:</i> In the Living arrangements for children under care DSS, this metadata item refers to the Indigenous status of the child and the carer.	Mandatory	2
-	<a href="#">Person—person identifier, child protection NX[X(11)]</a>  <i>DSS specific information:</i> This data element is collected twice in the Living arrangements for children under care DSS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for the child within a state or territory's child protection system and</li> <li>• for the carer, i.e. an individual that provides funded out-of-home care within a state or territory's child protection system</li> </ul>	Mandatory	2
-	<a href="#">Person—relationship to reference person, relationship of carer to child code N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service episode—financial payment indicator, out-of-home placement code N</a>  <i>Conditional obligation:</i> Conditional on the child being in an out-of-home placement.	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—Indigenous specific organisation indicator, code N</a>  <i>Conditional obligation:</i> Conditional on the child being in an out-of-home placement.  <i>DSS specific information:</i> In the Living arrangements DSS, the metadata item is used to determine whether the organisation provides funded out-of-home care placements specifically for, and by Indigenous people.	Conditional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<p data-bbox="231 156 1173 190"><a href="#">Service provider organisation—Indigenous specific site indicator, code N</a></p> <p data-bbox="263 224 542 257"><b>Conditional obligation:</b></p> <p data-bbox="263 280 917 313">Conditional on the child being in an out-of-home placement.</p> <p data-bbox="263 336 574 369"><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p data-bbox="263 392 1173 492">In the Living arrangements DSS, the metadata item is used to determine whether the physical location of a funded out-of-home care placement is provided specifically for, and by Indigenous people.</p>	Conditional	1
-	<p data-bbox="231 515 1173 548"><a href="#">Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, child protection NX[X(13)]</a></p> <p data-bbox="263 582 542 616"><b>Conditional obligation:</b></p> <p data-bbox="263 638 917 672">Conditional on the child being in an out-of-home placement.</p> <p data-bbox="263 694 574 728"><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p data-bbox="263 750 1173 817">In the Living arrangements DSS, the organisation identifier refers to the organisation that provides funded out-of-home care within a state or territory.</p>	Conditional	1
-	<p data-bbox="231 840 1173 873"><a href="#">Service provider organisation—site identifier, child protection NX[X(13)]</a></p> <p data-bbox="263 907 542 940"><b>Conditional obligation:</b></p> <p data-bbox="263 963 917 996">Conditional on the child being in an out-of-home placement.</p> <p data-bbox="263 1019 574 1052"><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p data-bbox="263 1075 1173 1142">In the Living arrangements DSS, the site identifier refers to the physical location where funded out-of-home care is provided within a state or territory.</p>	Conditional	1