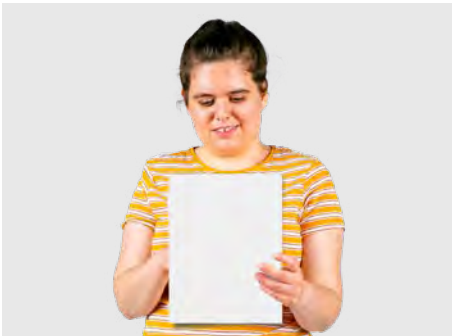


The rights in the Charter



Easy Read

About this information sheet



This information sheet is about the Charter of Rights for parents and carers with disability involved with Child Protection in Victoria.

We will call this the **Charter**.



This information sheet says what rights are in the Charter.



These rights belong to you if

- You are a parent or carer with disability
- You have a child involved with Child Protection in Victoria.



You can ask for support to read this information sheet.

The right to have a say

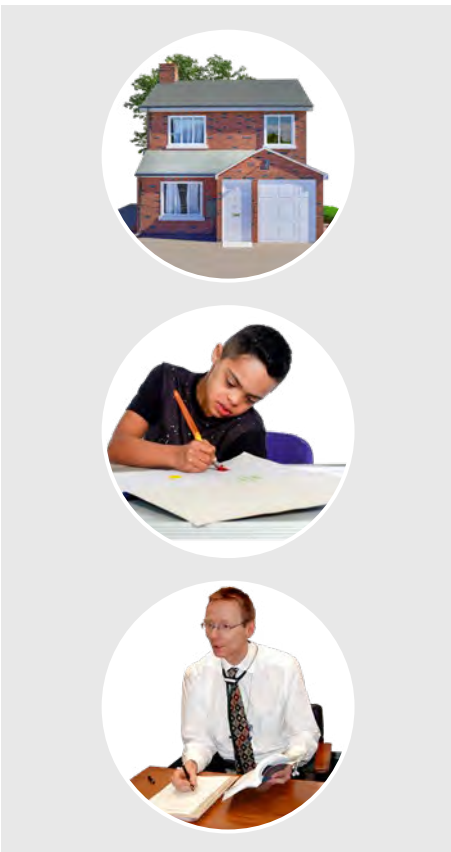


You have the right to have a say as a parent.



When Child Protection makes decisions about your child they should

- Ask you what you think
- Listen to what you say.



This might be decisions about

- Where your child lives
- The school your child goes to
- The doctor your child sees.



You have the right to ask for support.



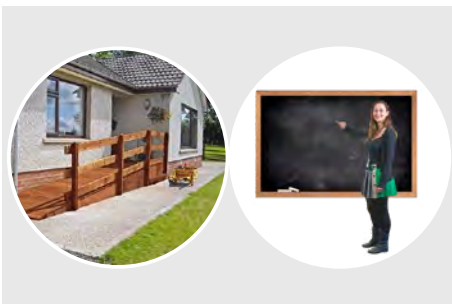
A support person can help you have a say when Child Protection makes decisions about your child.



You have the right to get help to find a support person.



You have the right to know about any changes that happen in your child's life.



This might be if they change where they live or go to school.



Child Protection will decide if it is safe for you to know this.



You have the right to know this as soon as possible.

The right to respect



You have the right to be treated with respect.



This means people accept who you are.



It means people do not treat you different because of your disability.



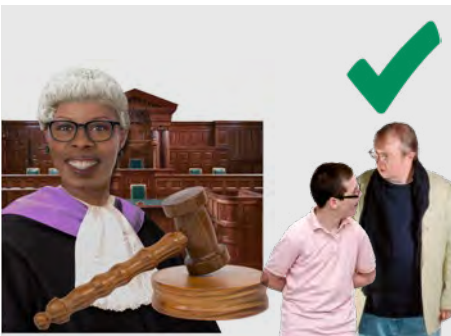
You have the right to be respected as a parent.



Sometimes the court may need to decide if it is safe for parents to speak to or see their child.



You have the right to speak to the court before they decide.



If the court says yes you will have the right to speak to your child.



You have the right to say how you feel.

This might be sad or angry.



You have the right to get support to talk to someone if you need help.



You have right for your **culture** and language to be respected.

Culture means the way you do things because of the place you or your family are from.



Child Protection must think about the culture of your child when they make decisions.



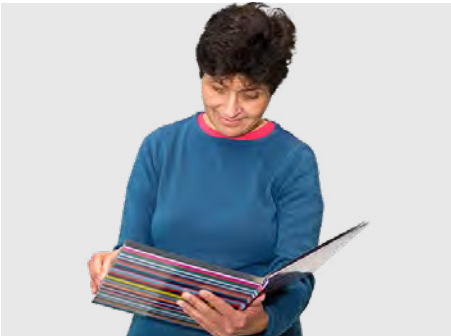
They must help your child stay close to their culture.



This might be

- Help them learn their language
- Help them be with their family and community.

The right to information



You have the right to have information about your child.



This might be information like

- If Child Protection is worried about the safety of your child
- How Child Protection will help keep your child safe
- If Child Protection is going to place your child out of your care.



You must get the information in a way you can understand.



You have the right to get help to

- Understand information
- Give information to Child Protection.



You have the right to get information when
Child Protection has meetings about your child.

This information should be Easy Read.



You should get this information as soon
as possible.



You have the right to know who your Child
Protection worker is.

You must be given their contact information.



If your child is involved with Child Protection you have the right to know

- How they are
- If any changes are made
- Why changes are made.



You have the right to talk to your child after the change to see how they feel.



Child Protection will decide if it is safe for you to know this.

The right to support



You have the right to a support person when your child is involved with Child Protection.



A support person can help you get your rights.

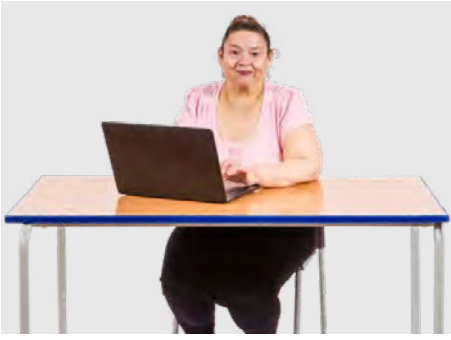


This support person might be

- A disability support worker
- A lawyer
- An **advocate**.



An **advocate** is someone who helps you speak up for your rights.



You have the right to information about where you can get a support person.



You have the right to get support to learn more skills.

These might be skills you can use as a parent.

The right to be treated fairly



You have the right to be treated fairly.



This means you are not treated different because of your

- Disability
- Culture
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Religion.



You have the right to make a **complaint** about Child Protection.

A **complaint** is when you speak up because something is wrong.



This might be if you believe you or your child is not being treated fairly.



You will not get in trouble because you made a complaint.



You have the right to get support to

- Learn how to make a complaint
- Make a complaint.



You have the right for the law to treat you fairly.

This means you get treated like everyone else.



You have the right to speak up if you think something is unfair.



When you speak up Child Protection must

- Listen to you
- Tell you what will happen next.



You have the right to an **interpreter**.

An **interpreter** is someone who speaks the same language as you.

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short. You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document. You can contact CID at business@cid.org.au.