

VOOHC Supervision

If a child or young person is in VOOHC for 90 days or more in any 12-month period, they must be placed with a designated agency or have their placements supervised by a designated agency registered with the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) to provide supervision.

The role of supervision

Children and young people who spend more than 90 days in a 12-month period away from the family home require additional planning and support to ensure they are provided the opportunity for continued skill development. Supervision allows agencies who have been accredited to provide long term statutory out-of-home care to support registered agencies to provide such care.

The VOOHC agency providing care is to use the VOOHC placement history function to monitor the number of days a child or young person is in care. If the VOOHC agency providing care identifies a child or young person has been in VOOHC for over 90 days without supervision being arranged, the VOOHC agency is to advise the OCG.

Arranging supervision

When a child or young person has been in care for 60 days in a 12-month period, the designated supervising agency will contact the VOOHC providing agency to discuss whether the child or young person is likely to reach 90 days in care. If it is confirmed that this is likely:

The designated supervising agency will:

- arrange a meeting with all VOOHC agencies involved in the care of the child or young person before the 90-day timeframe.
- draft a supervision agreement which includes roles, responsibilities and review dates prior to the 90-day timeframe.
- determine who is the principal care agency if there are multiple agencies providing VOOHC
- enter the supervision notification on the VOOHC Register within 5 days of commencing supervision.
- Send all agencies involved a copy of the finalised supervision agreement.

The VOOHC providing agency will:

- participate in the supervision meeting and sign the supervision agreement.
- ensure the parent/s of the child or young person is aware of the supervision arrangement.

Responsibilities within the supervision agreement

Both the designated supervision and VOOHC providing agency will:

- participate in supervision meetings.
- keep records of supervision meetings, discussions and correspondence.
- continue to monitor the number of days a child or young person spends in care to ensure that case planning commences prior to the child or young person being care for more than 180-days in a 12-month period (see Case Planning Fact Sheet for more information).