

# Child protection notification—course of action, code N

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# Child protection notification—course of action, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Notification course of action
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	Notification assessment decision
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	455327
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Children and Families</a> , Standard 22/11/2016 <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Recorded 19/08/2011 [Non Dictionary]
<b>Definition:</b>	A determined course of action in response to a child protection notification, as represented by a code.

## Data element concept attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Data element concept:</b>	<a href="#">Child protection notification—course of action</a>
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	558907
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Children and Families</a> , Standard 22/11/2016 <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Recorded 28/01/2014
<b>Definition:</b>	A determined course of action in response to a child protection notification.
<b>Object class:</b>	<a href="#">Child protection notification</a>
<b>Property:</b>	<a href="#">Course of action</a>

### Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
<b>Steward:</b>	<a href="#">Australian Institute of Health and Welfare</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Value domain:</b>	<a href="#">Child protection notification course of action code N</a>
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	455325
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Children and Families</a> , Standard 22/11/2016 <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Recorded 19/08/2011
<b>Definition:</b>	A code set representing a determined course of action to be taken based on an assessment of a child protection notification.

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	Number
<b>Format:</b>	N
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1

Value	Meaning
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<b>Permissible values:</b>	1	Investigation required and commenced
	2	Investigation required but not yet commenced
	3	Other intervention required
	4	No further action/no issue
	5	Advice/referral to another agency required
	6	Assessment decision in process

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** CODE 1 Investigation required and commenced

Where there are significant concerns regarding harm or risk of harm to warrant an investigatory response, and the investigation commenced within the reference period. An investigation is the process whereby the Department responsible for child protection seeks to obtain more detailed information about a child who is the subject of a notification and makes an assessment about the harm or degree of harm to the child and their protective needs. An investigation includes the interviewing or sighting of the subject child where it is practicable to do so.

CODE 2 Investigation required but not yet commenced

Where there are significant concerns regarding harm or risk of harm to warrant an investigatory response but the investigation has not commenced at the end of the reference period.

CODE 3 Other intervention required

This is where there is a low risk of harm and a non-investigatory response is required. This may include: where low level harm or risk of harm has occurred and immediate assistance is given and recorded; where the family needs are still assessed and a case plan is developed; where children are assessed as low risk but still in need; where there are parenting issues or one-off incidents; and where the notification is referred to another section of the Department responsible for child protection because the Department is already working with the child.

CODE 4 No further action/no issue

This category includes notifications to the department where there are concerns about children but there is no risk of harm/actual harm and no departmental action is required. This may include notifications that: are police initiated but there are no care and protection issues, the family has moved interstate; the notification is historical in nature and there is no longer contact between the parties; where it is from the family court and the department is already involved.

CODE 5 Advice/referral to another agency required

This category includes referrals outside the jurisdictions' child protection section. This can include other sections within the Department responsible for child protection and child protection services in other jurisdictions. It can also include brief advice and telephone counselling.

CODE 6 Assessment decision in process

This category is to be used for notifications for which an assessment decision has not been made at the end of the reference period.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Steward:** [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)

# Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** This data element is used to determine the course of action on the level of intervention that the department responsible for child protection should provide in relation to a child who is the subject of a child protection notification.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
**Steward:** [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)  
**Origin:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2013. Child protection national minimum data set, data collection manual 2012-13. Canberra: AIHW.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Child protection notification—assessment decision type, code N](#) [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 30/04/2008  
See also [Child protection notification—course of action decision date, DDMMYYYY](#) [Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 19/08/2011  
See also [Child protection notification—investigation status, code N\[N\]](#) [Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 19/08/2011  
See also [Child protection notification—notification date, DDMMYYYY](#) [Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 19/08/2011

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) DSS Pilot 2010](#) [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 19/08/2011  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 22/11/2016  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 09/10/2014  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2011  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2013  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 22/11/2016  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2012  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2014  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 22/11/2016  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2013  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2015  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/04/2018  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2014  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2016  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/01/2021  
**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2015  
**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2017  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Standard 11/05/2023  
[Notifications, investigations, and substantiations \(NIS\) file cluster](#) [Children and Families](#), Superseded 11/05/2023

