

# Abuse in care

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# Abuse in care

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**METEOR identifier:** 748916

**Registration status:** [Children and Families, Standard 03/11/2021](#)

**Definition:** In the context of the Australian child protection systems in operation in each state and territory, abuse in care refers to instances of abuse of children in [out-of-home care](#), on third party parental orders, or on other orders that transfer full or partial parental responsibility for the child to an authority of the State. It can involve physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect.

Abuse in care includes instances where the [person held responsible](#) is:

- a) the [approved carer](#)
- b) another person [living in the household](#) or care facility, including other children
- c) an [employee of the responsible care service/agency or government department](#)
- d) a person not living in the household, where a person in (a) or (c) above failed to protect the child, or the action or inaction of a person in (a) or (c) contributed to the abuse.

**Context:** Child protection

## Source and reference attributes

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

**Origin:** AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2018. Child protection national minimum data set, data collection manual 2017-18. Canberra: AIHW.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Abuse in care](#)  
[Children and Families, Superseded 03/11/2021](#)

**Metadata items which use this glossary item:** [Person held responsible \(Child protection\)](#)  
[Children and Families, Standard 03/11/2021](#)

[Safety in care \(SC\) file cluster](#)  
[Children and Families, Standard 11/05/2023](#)

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