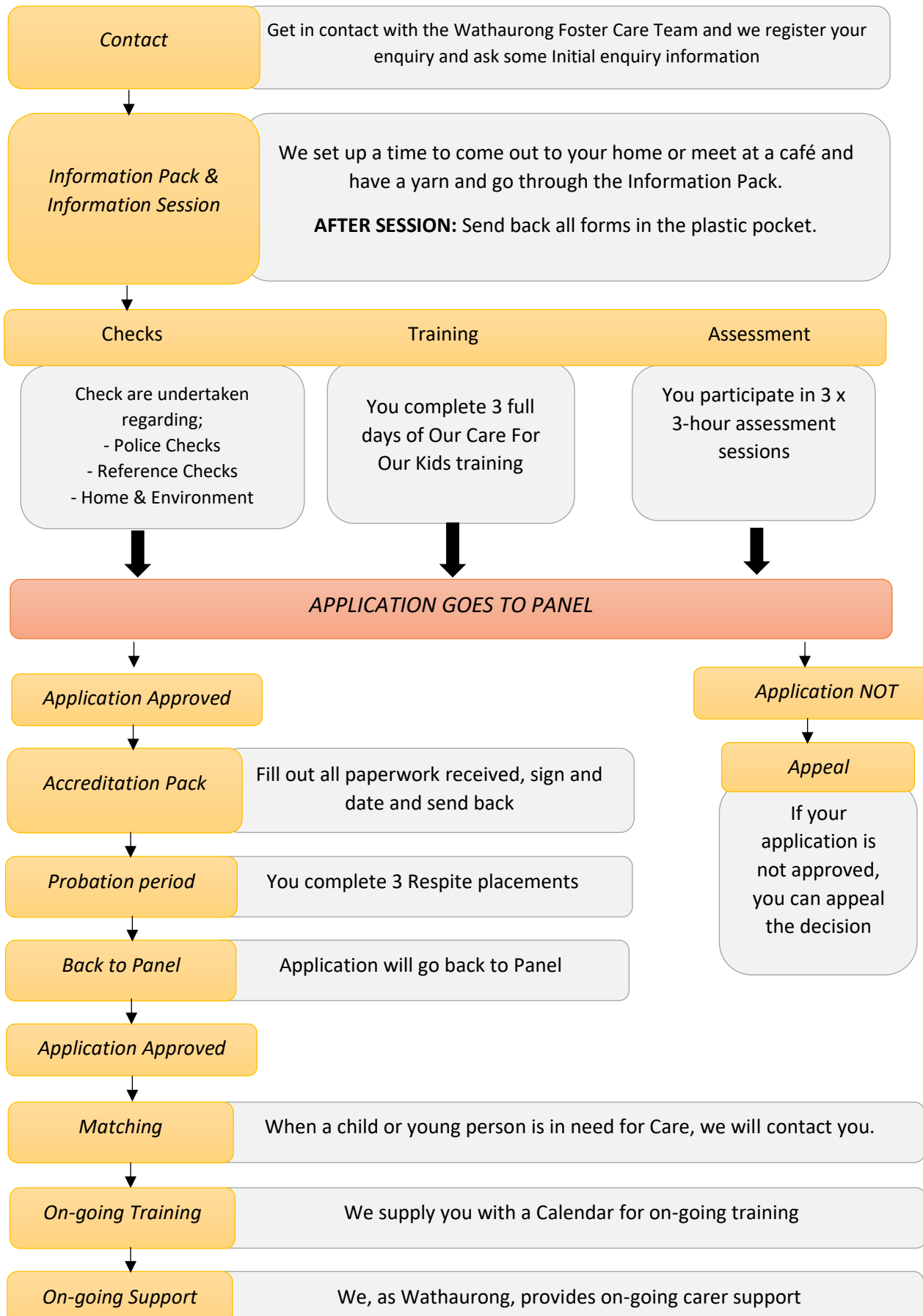




Our Foster Care Process





Our Carers for Our Kids Training Modules

There are eight training modules in total, conducted over three sessions. It is a requirement that all carer applicants complete each training module.

Module 1 – Aboriginal Foster Care in Context

- How and why Aboriginal children come into foster care
- Realistic expectations of the foster carer's role
- The significance of the historical, socio-cultural and political context of Aboriginal fostering

Module 2 - Bonding and attachment

- The process of bonding and attachment
- Identify ways to encourage children's sense of security and trust in their carer
- Discuss the importance of confidentiality

Module 3 – Aboriginal children who have experienced abuse

- Identify different forms of child abuse
- Understand the impact of abuse on children
- Respond appropriately to a child's disclosure of abuse

Module 4 – Grief and Loss

- Identify experiences of loss and grief in their own lives
- Discuss the variety of losses that may be experienced by children who come into care and by family members
- Begin to identify several strategies that promote a child's right to:
 - information about themselves
 - connections to families
 - opportunities to come to terms with loss and grief

Module 5 – Responding to challenging behaviours

- Understanding the impact of abuse, neglect and loss on children and young people, and how this affects their behaviour
- Develop strategies for managing challenging behaviour
- Understanding the importance of carers managing their responses when dealing with challenging behaviours
- Understand that carers need to take care of themselves



Module 6 – Maintaining connections

- Identify the issues related to a foster child's Aboriginal identity
- Recognise the rights and needs of the child or young person's family
- Identify appropriate ways in which foster families can promote contact between children/young people and their birth parent, siblings and significant others.
- Identify tasks carried out by foster cares that relate to health, education, self-care skills and social presentation of the child or young person in their care.

Module 7 – Teamwork

- Describe how partnerships between the foster carer, the birth family, the agency and other key services can work together
- Explain the organisational arrangements relating to fostering

Module 8 – The next step

- Identify the importance of having realistic expectations when a placement is ending
- Identify ways of minimising any upset their own children