

Frequently Asked Questions -



Welfare responsibility (parents are onshore)

Department of
Education and Training

Question:

In relation to a provider's welfare responsibility for a student (i.e. where a CAAW has been issued), if the child's parents arrive onshore, is it correct to say that they hold the welfare?

If the parents also advise that they are on a bridging visa and are applying for a guardian visa, do we still need to have a CAAW attached to the student?

Response:

If the parent or legal guardian is onshore and has taken over the care of their child from the school, then it is the parent who holds the welfare responsibility - even though a CAAW has been issued.

If the parent's substantive visa is not one that provides some form of residency status in Australia, it is recommended the provider leave the CAAW in place until evidence of this is provided. So, for example, if the parent came to Australia on a Tourist or Visitor's visa and has now applied for a Guardian visa, then leave the CAAW in place until the Guardian visa is confirmed.

Once the parent provides evidence that the Guardian visa (or other visa with long term residency status) has been secured, the CAAW can be cancelled.