

<b>Title</b>	<b>Describe attachment for a child or young person in care</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is intended for people whose activities bring them into contact with children or young people or who work with children or young people in care.</p> <p>A person credited with this standard can describe, for a child or young person in a care setting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attachment and its importance;</li> <li>• factors that influence a child or young person’s ability to form attachments; and</li> <li>• how a therapeutic approach will enhance attachment with a child or young person.</li> </ul>
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<b>Classification</b>	Social Services > Care of Children and Young Persons
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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**Guidance Information**

- 1 Range  
Care settings may include – whānau, kin, and foster care; respite care; residential care.
- 2 Definitions  
*Approved agency* is an agency approved under the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 s396(8).  
*Attachment* is a special and enduring emotional relationship that exists between a child and their primary carer which brings safety, comfort, security and reliability to both parties.  
*Carer* is a person who is a custodial carer providing care for a child or young person from their own whānau or family, or a person who provides foster, respite, or residential care for a child or young person placed with them by an approved agency or the Ministry of Justice. In the context of this unit standard, carers do not include adoptive parents or birth parents.  
*Child* means a person under the age of 14 years.  
*Young person* means a person of or over the age of 14 years but under 18 years and has an extended meaning that includes some young adults for certain purposes under the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 s386AAA.
- 3 Legislation relevant to this standard may include but is not limited to:
  - Care of Children Act 2004;
  - Children’s Act 2014
  - Crimes Act 1961;

- Family Proceedings Act 1980;
- Family Violence Act 2018;
- Human Rights Act 1993;
- Oranga Tamariki Act 1989;
- Oranga Tamariki (National Care Standards and Related Matters) Regulations 2018;
- Privacy Act 2020;
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi.

#### 4 References

Pawson, M. (2010). *Youth and the law 2010: A comprehensive guide to the law relating to youth, from birth to adulthood*. Wellington: Educational Resources for Legal Resources Trust.

New Zealand. Ministry of Health/Manatū Hauora. (2020). *Te Whare Tapa Whā: Māori health model*. Available at <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/populations/maori-health/maori-health-models/maori-health-models-te-whare-tapa-wha>.

New Zealand. Ministry of Health/Manatū Hauora. (2020). *Treaty of Waitangi principles*. Available at <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/populations/maori-health/he-korowai-oranga/strengthening-he-korowai-oranga/treaty-waitangi-principles>.

New Zealand. Ministry of Social Development/Manatū Whakakiato Ora. (2020). *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*. Available at: <https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/monitoring/uncroc/>.

## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Describe attachment and its importance for a child or young person in a care setting.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 The concept of attachment is described in terms of the relationship between a child or young person and an adult and how this is created.
- 1.2 Reasons for the importance of a positive attachment relationship are described in terms of the impact on a child or young person.
- Range evidence of three reasons is required.
- 1.3 Attachment disorders are described in terms of their types.
- Range evidence of three types is required.
- 1.4 Consequences of a negative attachment relationship are described in terms of the impact on a child or young person.
- Range evidence of three consequences is required.

1.5 Dimensions a carer uses to build a secure base for relationships are described in terms of the relationship with a child or young person.

Range evidence of three dimensions is required.

1.6 Carer tasks that will enable a child or young person to build a secure attachment are described in terms of the impact on behaviour.

Range evidence of five tasks is required.

**Outcome 2**

Describe factors that influence a child or young person’s ability to form attachments in a care setting.

Range evidence of three factors is required and must include loss and grief.

**Performance criteria**

2.1 Factors that influence how a child or young person views their world are described in terms of what they think about themselves and others.

2.2 Factors that influence how a child or young person views relationships are described in terms of the influence on their behaviour.

2.3 Factors that will enable a child or young person to build a secure attachment are described in terms of the influence on their behaviour.

**Outcome 3**

Describe how a therapeutic approach will enhance attachment with a child or young person in a care setting.

Range must include approaches that will lead to – meeting individual needs, an increase a care-experienced child or young person’s resilience; evidence of three approaches is required.

**Performance criteria**

3.1 The link between the key features of the therapeutic approach and the impact on a child or young person is described.

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<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2023
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 April 2015	31 December 2019
Review	2	1 November 2018	N/A
Revision	3	27 May 2021	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0024
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This CMR can be accessed at <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact Careerforce [info@careerforce.org.nz](mailto:info@careerforce.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.