



Child Wellbeing Data Asset

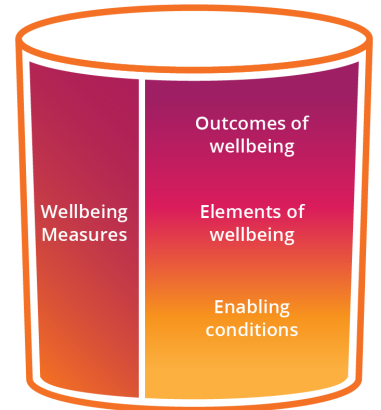
March 2024 update

What is the Child Wellbeing Data Asset?

The Child Wellbeing Data Asset (CWDA) aims to improve outcomes for children and young people by enabling holistic analysis of pathways through government services through **enduring, nationally integrated, child-centred data** across sectors.

The CWDA will:

- provide a system that enables safe, legal and ethical access to a ‘container’ of de-identified data collections that can be combined to **measure different aspects of children and young people’s wellbeing**
- be based on an ecological model with children and young people pre-birth to 24 years at the centre
- help answer persistent questions on how children and young people transition through major development stages, interact with services and move through different systems
- support governments to measure the impact and success of initiatives, implement evidence-based policies and practices and support future investment in better services.



Child Wellbeing Data Asset

The AIHW has responsibility to deliver the CWDA as an initiative under the First National Action Plan of the *National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse* (the National Strategy).

What research areas will the CWDA support?

The AIHW has identified a set of policy priority areas the CWDA will support and an initial set of national data to enable research on these topics.

The priorities are informed by input from government, academic, NGO and peak body stakeholders across 28 consultation sessions conducted by the Social Research Centre between September 2022 and February 2023.

The AIHW are continuing to consider priorities and additional data collections for future iterations of the CWDA.

Priority areas	Data collections (initial iteration)
Child safety	Australian Early Development Census*
Early years	Child Protection National Minimum Data Set
Families	Youth Justice National Minimum Data Set
Mental health	National Community Mental Health Care Database
Student wellbeing	Medicare Benefits Schedule
Youth justice	Pharmaceuticals Benefits Scheme
Closing the Gap	
Priority groups	

* Pending endorsement

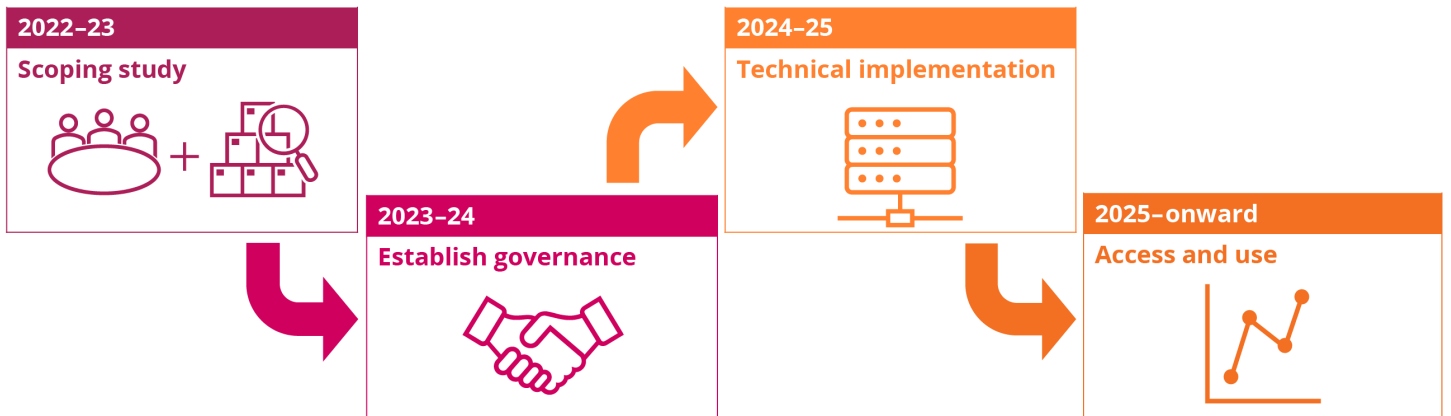
How are decisions on the CWDA's development being made

As an initiative under the National Strategy, formal decisions on key issues are made by National Strategy governance groups.

The AIHW have established 2 CWDA-specific groups to provide advice and guidance on the CWDA's development:

- **CWDA Development Working Group (DWG)**, including Australian, state and territory government agencies, provides guidance on the CWDA's development and recommendations to the National Strategy governance groups.
- **CWDA Advisory Group (CWDA AG)**, including academic, priority groups and sector representatives, provides advice to DWG.

Implementation timeline



Development roadmap

	Next steps (by June 2024)	In development (by December 2024)	In concept (post-2024)
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data owner in-principle agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWDA Governance Framework • AIHW Ethics Committee approval • Data owner authorisations 	
Stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Strategy • Web presence • CWDA newsletter 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWDA Community of Practice
Implementation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data linkage • CWDA project application forms and documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWDA operating procedures
Second iteration planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research questions for CWDA pilot projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWDA pilot projects agreed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting CWDA pilot projects • Data collections for CWDA's second iteration

More information

For more information on the Child Wellbeing Data Asset, contact us at: child.wellbeing@aihw.gov.au