

# Winha-nga-nha List

## Factsheet



### What does Winha-nga-nha mean?

Winha-nga-nha (pronounced Wi-nun-ga-na) is a word from the Wiradjuri language meaning to 'know, think, remember'.

In the context of care proceedings in the Children's Court it is to:

**Know** - the Aboriginal people, their families, children, community, their culture and what has brought them to where they are today

**Think** – about how we can better support families and their children in a culturally appropriate court setting

**Remember** – always remember the past and where we have come from.



### What is the Winha-nga-nha List?

The Winha-nga-nha List is a dedicated court list for Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander families involved in care and protection cases at Dubbo Children's Court.

The Winha-nga-nha List aims to:

- Ensure that cultural considerations are meaningfully explored in the court process
- Improve outcomes for Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander children in care proceedings
- Increase participation of parents and, where appropriate, children in the court process
- Improve the engagement of family members and their community with the Children's Court
- Improve confidence and connection with the court system by improving transparency of the court process.





## How is the Winha-nga-nha List different?

- Includes family and community members in the court process to support the parents and children involved in the proceedings
- Provides more time to listen, talk and think about what is important for the children
- Provides an Aboriginal Court Liaison Officer as a point of contact for families coming to court
- Provides Aboriginal staff to help people better understand the court process
- Ensures there is oversight of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Principles in the application of the Children and Young Person (Care and Protection) Act 1998.



## Who is involved in the Winha-nga-nha List?

The following people will be at court:

- Magistrate
- The child(ren)'s parents and their lawyers
- The lawyer(s) for the child(ren)
- Representatives for the Department of Communities and Justice and their lawyer
- Aboriginal Court Liaison Officer
- Aboriginal staff working with the lawyers to help explain the court process.

Other people that may be at court include:

- Aboriginal Elders and or respected community members when invited to attend by the family
- Other support people nominated by the family
- Extended family when invited to attend.

## Further information

If you have any questions, please contact the Winha-nga-nha List Liaison Officer Dale Bonham on 0456 914 985 or by email at [dubbocare@justice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dubbocare@justice.nsw.gov.au).

## Artwork element meanings



Culture



Healing



Family



Meeting

