



# CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

## WHAT DOES THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE DO?

The Child Development Service (CDS) assists families who have concerns about their child's development by providing developmental assessments, referrals, and information.

Concerns may include a child developing skills more slowly than their peers in the following key areas:

### Talking, Understanding, or Feeding

- Talking
- Listening/Understanding
- Speaking clearly
- Speaking without stuttering
- Feeding, chewing, and swallowing (for children over 8 weeks of age)



### Movement

- Rolling, sitting, crawling
- Walking, jumping, running, climbing
- Balance



### Play Skills and Self Care

- Playing with small toys
- Drawing
- Dressing, using buttons and zips
- Using a spoon, drinking from a cup
- Toileting



The Child Development Service may also assist families by linking them into other services and programs, such as playgroups, parenting programs, and health or allied health services.

**\*The Child Development Service does NOT offer assessment for non-developmental concerns such as musculoskeletal concerns, injuries, talipes or head shape.**

**\*The Child Development Service is not an intervention service and cannot provide ongoing therapy services.**

## AUTISM ASSESSMENTS

The Child Development Service also provides Autism assessment for children aged up to 12 years.

A paediatrician or child psychiatrist can refer children to the Child Development Service for assessment where there are concerns regarding a child's social communication and interaction, including restricted or repetitive behaviours that may be indicative of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Children from birth up to and including 6 year old's, who reside in the ACT, and who are NOT eligible for supports through the NDIS or their partner in the community, EACH, are eligible for CDS services.

Additionally, children up to 12 years old, who are ACT residents may be referred by a paediatrician or child psychiatrist, for Autism Assessment with CDS.

## HOW DO I ACCESS THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE?

Parents, guardians, or other referrers (with parent/ guardian permission) who have concerns about a child's development may:

### Telephone

- Call the Child Development Service Intake Line on 6207 8884

### Email

- Email us at [child.development@act.gov.au](mailto:child.development@act.gov.au)

### Drop-in Clinics

- Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy Drop-In Clinics are held at the Holder Centre and the Child and Family Centres at Gungahlin, West Belconnen and Tuggeranong.
- Information about dates and time of drop-in clinics can be found on the CDS website: [www.communityservices.act.gov.au/childdevelopmentservice](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/childdevelopmentservice)
- **\*Assessments for feeding concerns are not available at drop-in clinics.**

### Online Referrals

- Submit an online referral form via our website: [www.communityservices.act.gov.au/childdevelopmentservice](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/childdevelopmentservice)

