

Young children who need extra supports at preschool

What if my child hasn't had formal assessment yet?

Families with children aged 0-6 years who have concerns relating to their child's development can access the Child Development Service (CDS). The CDS provides screening, assessment, referral and linkage services. For more information, see the [Child Development Service website](#).

If my child has a developmental delay or disability can I send them to any preschool or school?

All preschool age children, including those with a developmental delay or disability, are able to enrol in preschool. Your choice of school is not limited by your child's developmental delay or disability. The same enrolment procedures and guidelines for ACT public schools apply to all children, regardless of their support needs. All ACT public schools are able to support children with disability to access and participate in school.

Families of children with significant developmental delay or disability are able to enrol in specialist preschools at Malkara or Cranleigh if they meet eligibility requirements.

If you are interested in enrolling your child in a specialist school, you are encouraged to contact the specialist school principal directly. The principal will advise on all eligibility criteria.

Can a child go to preschool if they are not toilet trained or if they require extensive supports?

Yes. A delay in development may include late toilet-training. Under the Australian [Disability Standards for Education](#), children cannot be excluded from education based on a delay in their development or a disability. Adjustments will be made in the preschool to accommodate the child's needs.

What is the Support at Preschool program?

The Support at Preschool Program works with schools to make adjustments required to support the inclusion of children with disability or developmental delay. If you would like further information on how the Disability Education Support at Preschool team can assist, please contact Support at Preschool on (02) 6205 7903.

Who else can assist my child at preschool?

Under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) a range of early intervention services are provided by non-government providers. More information about the services providers registered in the ACT can be found in the find registered service providers' tool available in the NDIS webpage.

[Find registered service providers tool](#)

Links and useful information

Child Development Service:

<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/childdevelopmentservice>

Disability Standards for Education:

<http://www.ddaedustandards.info/>

Community Services Directorate website:

<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/home>

Education Directorate Website:

http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/disability_education