



Information for families

Child Development Service

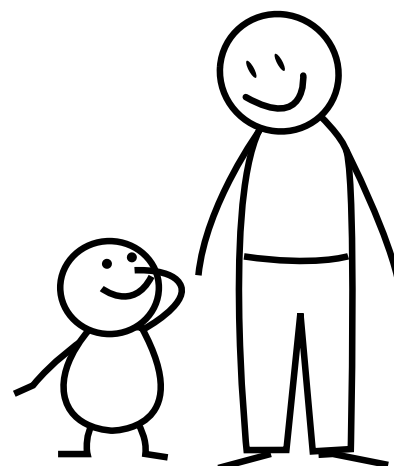
Your child has been referred to the **Child Development Service** for help with skills they may have difficulties with, like crawling and walking, writing and drawing, talking, getting dressed, playing or dealing with feelings. This service is free.

Working together with your family

You are the most important person when it comes to supporting your child and their development.

We will work with you to:

- **plan services and set goals** based on your concerns and priorities for your child
- find ways to **support your child's development** in everyday activities with their strengths and interests in mind
- plan how you can keep supporting your child's progress when our services finish.



Before your appointment, it may be helpful to write down goals and concerns you may have relating to your child to discuss at your appointment.

What services will my family receive?

During your first appointment we will focus on understanding your child and family, talk about your concerns, and develop a plan for your child.

This plan may include:

- home activities
- parent information workshops
- therapy appointments – individual or group
- information on community programs
- referral to another service.

The number and type of appointments your child is offered will depend on your child and family's needs. Most appointments will be at one of our centres, but sometimes we might arrange an appointment in your home, school or day care.

Our staff are professionally trained and experienced in working with children and families in different areas of child development – you may see one or more of our team, depending on your child's needs.

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Can we choose private services?

Some families choose to pay for private therapy instead of, or sometimes as well as, using our services. For more information please speak to our staff.

Leaving and re-accessing our service

You can leave our service for a range of reasons, such as:

- you are happy with the progress you're making with your child
- you no longer want our services
- you are referred or transferred to another service
- your situation changes and you are no longer eligible for our services.

Our services may end and you may need a new referral if:

- you miss an appointment without contacting us
- you don't respond to appointment invitations
- you change your phone number and/or address without telling us and we can't contact you.

If you are concerned about your child after you leave our service, you can contact us anytime. We will talk to you about how you can access our services again.

What can I do now to help my child?

Here are some ideas that can help your child's development:

- Limit screen time – TV, mobile devices, computers
- Read books, talk and play games with your child every day
- Join a parent's group, children's sports program, or visit the local library. Contact your local council to find out what's available.



Where else can I get help and information?

- **Crisis Care 9223 1111**: if you need urgent counselling or help
- **Ngala Parenting Line 9368 9368** / ngala.com.au: parenting support for families with babies and children 0 to 18 years
- **Playgroup WA 1800 171 882** / playgroupwa.com.au: to find your local playgroup
- **Raising Children Network** raisingchildren.net.au: for child development and parenting information

**For more information about the metropolitan Child Development Service
phone 1300 551 827 or visit www.health.wa.gov.au/cach**

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

This publication is provided for general education and information purposes.
Contact a qualified healthcare professional for any medical advice needed.

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