



Australian Government

Department of Families,  
Housing, Community Services  
and Indigenous Affairs

## Helping Children with Autism package



For further information visit

[www.fahcsia.gov.au/autism](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/autism)

<http://raisingchildren.net.au/autism>

or email [asd@fahcsia.gov.au](mailto:asd@fahcsia.gov.au)

# Helping Children with Autism

## Parents & Carers: General Enquiries

### 1. Raising Children Network Autism website:

Provides impartial and evidence based information, online resources and interactive functions to support parents, families, carers and professionals.

[www.raisingchildren.net.au/autism](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au/autism)

### 2. FaHCSIA website:

Provides an overview of the Helping Children with Autism package and information about FaHCSIA Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) policy.

[www.fahcsia.gov.au/autism](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/autism)

### 3. Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) – Medicare Enquiry:

The Department of Health and Ageing has made new Medicare items available for children aged under 13 years (for diagnosis and treatment planning) and under 15 years (for treatment).

[www.health.gov.au/autism](http://www.health.gov.au/autism)

[epc.items@health.gov.au](mailto:epc.items@health.gov.au)

DoHA helpline: (02) 6289 4297

Medicare Australia: 132 011

### 4. Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR):

DEEWR is delivering initiatives to help improve the educational outcomes for school aged children with ASDs.

[www.deewr.gov.au](http://www.deewr.gov.au)

Australian Autism Education and Training Consortium (AAETC):

[www.autismtraining.com.au](http://www.autismtraining.com.au)

Improving the lives of Australians

## 5. Autism Associations

Following diagnosis, families are able to contact an Autism Advisor to access local information, advice and practical help. The Autism Advisors can be contacted through the lead agency associations listed below:

NSW	Autism Spectrum Australia	1300 978 611	<a href="http://www.autismspectrum.org.au">www.autismspectrum.org.au</a>
VIC	Autism Victoria Inc	(03) 9657 1600	<a href="http://www.autismvictoria.org.au">www.autismvictoria.org.au</a>
WA	Autism Association of WA	(08) 9489 8900	<a href="http://www.autism.org.au">www.autism.org.au</a>
QLD	Autism Queensland Inc	(07) 3273 0000	<a href="http://www.autismqld.com.au">www.autismqld.com.au</a>
ACT	Autism Asperger ACT Inc	(02) 6140 1061	<a href="http://www.autismaspergeract.com.au">www.autismaspergeract.com.au</a>
NT	Autism NT	1300 288 476	<a href="http://www.autismnt.com.au">www.autismnt.com.au</a>
TAS	Autism Tasmania Inc	1300 288 476	<a href="http://www.autismtas.org.au">www.autismtas.org.au</a>
SA	Autism Association of SA Inc	1300 288 476	<a href="http://www.autismsa.org.au">www.autismsa.org.au</a>

## 6. PlayConnect Playgroups, provided by Playgroup Australia:

The Autism Spectrum Disorder Playgroup Program targets children aged zero to six with ASDs or ASD like symptoms. Children will not require a formal diagnosis of an ASD to attend a playgroup.

[www.playconnect.com.au](http://www.playconnect.com.au)  
[info@playgroupaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@playgroupaustralia.com.au)  
1800 790 335

## 7. Helping Children with Autism Enquiry Line:

For more information about the Helping Children with Autism package please contact the enquiry line or the ASD Inbox.

1800 289 177 (TTY 1800 260 402)  
[asd@fahcsia.gov.au](mailto:asd@fahcsia.gov.au)

## 8. Early Days Workshops:

The Early Days Workshops are aimed at equipping parents and carers of children with ASDs or ASD like symptoms to more effectively manage the pressures they face in raising their children at home.

[www.earlydays.net.au](http://www.earlydays.net.au)  
1800 334 155

## 9. Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres

Six Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres are being established. They will provide early learning programs and specific support for children with ASDs.

[asdchildcare@fahcsia.gov.au](mailto:asdchildcare@fahcsia.gov.au)