



Support Available for Young Children with Additional Education Needs

The Ministry of Education, Special Education; Ohomairangi Early Intervention Trust; and CCS Disability Action provide support for children with additional education needs in Auckland. Early Intervention Service provides specialist support for children who have a developmental or learning delay, a disability, a behaviour difficulty or a communication difficulty that impacts their ability to participate and learn at home or at an early childhood education service.

Early Intervention staff can work with you, your child and your family/whānau, and your child's early childhood education service at any time from birth until your child starts school/kura. The service is

funded by the Government and is free.

Early Intervention staff might work with you and your child at home or work with your child and your child's teachers at their early childhood education service.

They aim to make sure your child has the same opportunities to play, learn and develop as other children.

They can make this happen by:

- working out what type and how much support your child needs
- working with you to develop a programme to provide that support
- keeping an eye on the programme to make sure it helps your child over time
- helping plan a transition to an early childhood setting and later, help plan for school.

“As a parent you should be aware that resources are not endless. Don't let that stop you from believing in your child and continuing to be their voice if you feel you need to. You are their best advocate.”

20 Hours ECE

All educator-led early childhood education services, Kōhanga Reo and Playcentres can offer 20 Hours early childhood education (ECE) funded by the Government. It is available to all three, four and five year old children.

If you're interested in a particular early childhood education service, ask if they offer 20 Hours ECE.

Some centres choose not to.

You will need to complete and sign an enrolment agreement. Your early childhood service should give you this shortly before your child turns three or when you enrol and they can help you complete it. You may also be entitled to further financial assistance from Work and Income New Zealand. (See page 68).

Pointers From Parents

Much of your child's learning will take place at home. Look for an early childhood education service that encourages your involvement in your child's learning and that builds links with you in your child's development. No matter how the service is delivered, a setting should reflect the way you want to see your child encouraged to grow and learn.

