

Autism Parents' Handbook

2025 e-Update



A guide to services and support in WA



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A guide to services and support in WA
2025 e-Update

Disclaimer

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this handbook is correct and up to date at the time of publishing (March 2025). However, as services change regularly this cannot be guaranteed. This handbook does not contain all the services available in Western Australia for children on the Autism spectrum or endorse any of the services listed. Please contact each organisation listed for more information to identify if their services meet your needs.

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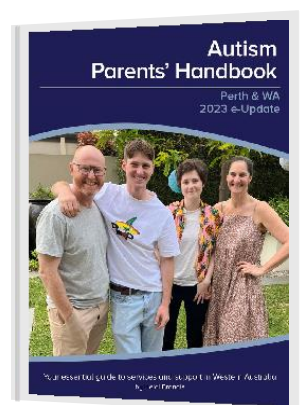
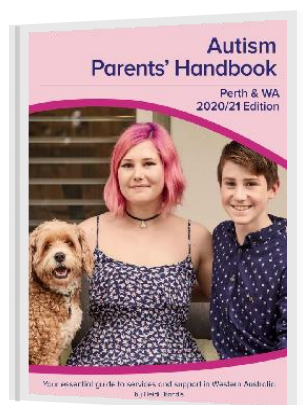
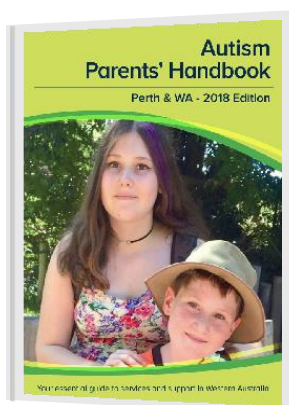
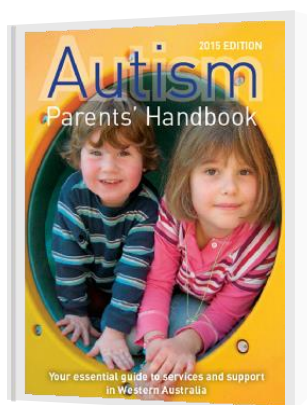
This Handbook was made possible by the generous dedication and knowledge of **Heidi Brandis**, founder of **PDA Training Australia**, who saw a resource gap in the sector and worked determinedly for years to put together and keep updated this guide for families to find support for their children.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Heidi, the original author of the "Autism Parents' Handbook," who wrote four editions of this invaluable resource. Her dedication has provided clarity and support to countless families of autistic children in Western Australia.



As DDWA assumes copyright ownership and the rewriting of the 2025 and future editions. We acknowledge Heidi's foundational work in this comprehensive resource which continues to empower families and support the rich diversity of the autistic community and the variety of support needs, strengths and challenges that are unique to each individual autistic person.

"I have found the Autism Handbook to be a wonderful resource for new parents, there is a wealth of information in one book. I am so appreciative of Heidi for starting this initiative and to her and DDWA for keeping it going. I look forward to seeing this next addition of the Autism Handbook". Bree (parent)



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Autism

Autism Spectrum Disorder (Autism) is the collective term for a group of neurodevelopmental conditions characterised by differences in social-communication skills, repetitive patterns of behaviour and intense or focussed interests and sensory differences. Some of the behavioural features that characterise Autism are often present before three years of age but may not become apparent until the school years or later in life as social and cognitive demands increase. Many autistic people experience co-occurring conditions such as language, learning or attention difficulties.

Many autistic people view Autism as intrinsic to their identity. There is also broad acknowledgement from autistic people and the wider community that they can face substantial barriers including to learning and well-being. Barriers may arise from developmental differences or societal factors. Provision of suitable supports across the lifespan can help autistic individuals acquire skills, increase well-being, minimise barriers and maximise participation. Autistic individuals have enriched every aspect of our community.

Professor Andrew Whitehouse

Professor of Autism Research at both The Kids Research Institute Australia and the University of Western Australia.



Excerpt from the National Autism Strategy 2025-2031

Terms such as 'high functioning', 'low functioning', 'profound', 'severe' and 'mild' autism may be used by some people to describe the challenges and barriers experienced by Autistic people and their families and carers. The Strategy does not use these terms and instead uses the term 'all' Autistic people.

Autism is a lifelong neurodevelopmental difference. Autistic people share common traits that present differently in each Autistic person. As with all people, every Autistic person is unique, and has their own individual diversity, capacity, experiences and aspirations. There is not one universally accepted definition of autism that captures everyone's experience.

The Strategy recognises attitudes, practices and structures in a neurotypical world can create barriers that impact on Autistic people being able to participate fully and equally in the community.

Some Autistic people can live fully independent lives, with adjustments to their environment or routines. Others need a varying intensity of supports with day-to-day activities. Some may have low support needs most of the time but have high support needs at certain times or in certain situations. Some need very high levels of ongoing support with everyday activities or support with decision making.

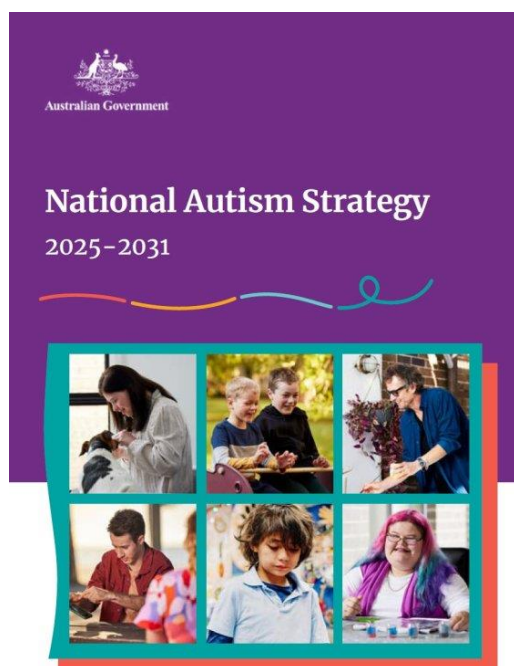
Autistic people process information and communicate in a range of ways, particularly those with complex communication needs, and those who are non-speaking or minimally-speaking. To communicate, some Autistic people use Augmentative and Alternative Communication with assistive devices or technology. Others may use gestures, manual signs, or interpreters and translators. Some Autistic people may use different communication methods at different times, as their support needs change or depending on their energy, stress or life circumstances.

Societal attitudes and individual preferences can result in some Autistic people camouflaging autistic traits or adapting responses to support interactions in social situations. This can take significant effort and for some, can impact mental health or a sense of self-identity.

The Autism Strategy recognises that supports need to be individualised and consider the whole person, and that support needs may change, including during key life transitions and in certain situations or environments.

The Strategy also recognises that all Autistic people should have choice over the communication device(s) and method(s) they use to suit their preferences and needs.

You can access the full document here:
[National Autism Strategy 2025-2031 | Department of Social Services](#)



Talking about language

IDENTITY FIRST (“autistic child”) language has been used throughout the handbook as it is generally preferred within the Autism community to capture Autism as an integral part of a person’s identity.

However, **PERSON FIRST** (“child with Autism” or “child on the Autism spectrum”) language is also used and each person’s individual preference should be acknowledged and respected.

The Clinkids website talks about using language that is neuroaffirming and preferred by the autistic community. You can read about it here:

clinkids.thekids.org.au/information-hub/resources/neuroaffirming-language-preferences

What is Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)?

First identified in the UK in the 1980’s. The key features of PDA include extreme resistance to, and avoidance of, the ordinary demands of everyday life.

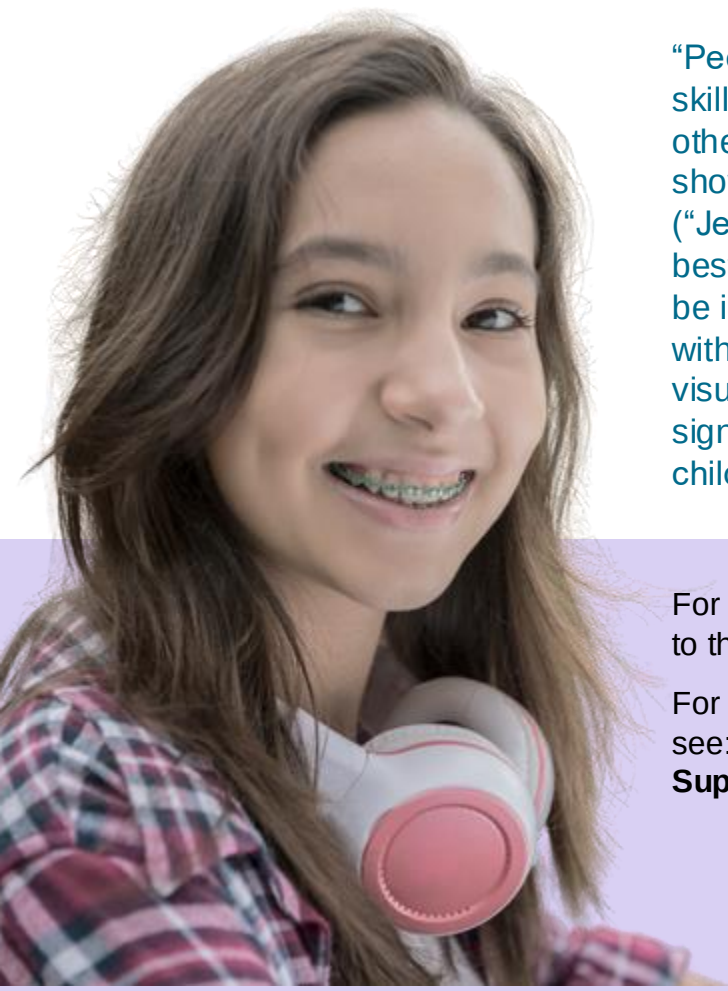
“Pathological Demand Avoidance, or Persistent Drive for Autonomy (PDA), is considered a profile or subtype of autism. It is characterised by an extreme need for control and autonomy driven by high levels of anxiety or an automatic nervous system threat response, which results in demand avoidance, emotional regulation difficulties and a heightened reaction to stress” (from the National Autism Strategy).

Although PDA is not captured within the current DSM5-TR, the PDA Society United Kingdom have developed guidelines to identify a PDA profile.²²

“People with PDA often have greater social skills (good eye contact, very articulate) than others on the spectrum. They frequently show surface sociability and labile mood (“Jekyll and Hyde” type personality). PDA is best understood as an anxiety-driven need to be in control. Typical support strategies used with autistic children (timers, routines, visuals) are counter-productive and may significantly worsen behaviour and anxiety for children with PDA”. (Heidi Brandis)

For more information on effective strategies, go to the **PDA Website**: www.pdasociety.org.uk.

For local support and monthly meet ups please see: **PDA Perth WA Parents Community and Support Page** on Facebook.



Autism Diagnostic Process in Western Australia

Traditionally in WA, a multidisciplinary team was required to assess and diagnose Autism, in accordance with the WA Autism Diagnosticians Forum guideline. Until recently, a developmental paediatrician, psychologist and speech pathologist were required to conduct Autism assessments for children under 12 years old, and a paediatrician or psychiatrist, together with a psychologist (and speech therapist optional) for children 12 to 17 years old.

However, across Australia, clinicians are now using the **National Guideline for the Assessment and Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Australia** (2023) which allows for other health professionals to be involved in assessment and diagnosis. This guideline is widely considered to be the gold standard for the assessment and diagnosis of Autism spectrum disorder and has just been updated. See the Autism CRC website to access the document:

Website: autismcrc.com.au/best-practice/assessment-and-diagnosis/second-edition

The National Guideline recommends the following process for assessment and diagnosis in three stages:

Stage 1: **Comprehensive Needs Assessment**, followed by

Stage 2: **Single Clinician Diagnosis**, and may also include

Stage 3: **Consensus Team Diagnosis**, if single clinician diagnosis is not confirmed

Stage 1: Comprehensive Needs Assessment

This consists of :

- a medical assessment conducted by a medical practitioner and
- a functional assessment by either a speech pathologist, occupational therapist, psychologist, social worker, or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist with specialist training.

These professionals seek to understand and identify the impact of the child's signs or symptoms on daily functioning, and the potential benefit of pursuing an Autism assessment. The comprehensive needs assessment is designed to understand the child and their abilities, strengths and challenges, environment and support needs.

Stage 2: Single Clinician diagnosis

The information gathered in the comprehensive needs assessment in stage 1 is provided to a health professional who can diagnose Autism, which may be any one of the following:

- Paediatrician
- Psychiatrist
- Neurologist
- General practitioner with over 6 years experience and training in neurodevelopmental/behavioural disorders
- Clinical psychologist, educational and developmental psychologist, or neuropsychologist.

Currently, registered psychologists without practice endorsement in one of these areas are not able to diagnose Autism independently, only as part of a consensus team.

If the issues identified are straightforward in meeting the diagnostic criteria for Autism spectrum disorder (according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders or DSM-5), any one of these professionals can independently make a diagnosis of Autism spectrum disorder and Stage 3 is not required. However, if further information is needed to clarify or confirm the diagnosis, referral to a broader multidisciplinary team may occur in Stage 3 Consensus Team Diagnosis.

Regardless of whether the diagnostic pathway is public or private, all have long waitlists, so join waitlists as soon as possible

Stage 3: Consensus Team diagnosis

- A range of health professionals may be involved in conducting a consensus team Autism assessment if required. The professionals involved will vary depending on the presenting issues or areas of diagnostic uncertainty; they may include any of the following:
- Paediatrician
- Psychiatrist
- Neurologist
- General practitioner with over 6 years experience and training in neurodevelopmental/behavioural disorders
- Clinical psychologist, educational & developmental psychologist, or neuropsychologist or registered psychologist

The team will review the information from Stages 1 and 2 and may conduct interviews and observations at their clinic/office or child's school or family home. They will also carry out standardised and other assessments and communicate with other relevant people if required (including family, teachers, GP).

Where to get a diagnostic assessment?

Your GP or health professional can refer your child to either the public health system (either Child Development Services or the Department of Communities) or to private medical specialists and therapists/clinicians.

In the public health system, Child Development Services will screen your child to determine if an Autism assessment is required. Alternatively, the Department of Communities – Neurodevelopmental Disability Assessment Service can conduct Autism assessments, however only after assessment and referral from a paediatrician.

In the private system, your medical practitioner can do a medical assessment, and you can then see any of the following for the functional capacity component of the comprehensive needs assessment (before possible referral for assessment and diagnosis): speech pathologist, occupational therapist, psychologist, social worker, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist with specialist training. This may then proceed to Single Clinician or Consensus Team assessment and diagnosis. Alternatively, if your child is aged 13 to 30 years, they may be eligible for the free Youth Autism Diagnostic Clinic at the Autism Association of Western Australia.





What is the cost of a diagnostic assessment?

Diagnostic assessment through the WA public health system is provided at no cost to families. The cost of a private assessment will depend on the fees set by individual practitioners. Families who choose private assessment may be able to recover some costs through Medicare rebates (for paediatrician or psychiatrist) or private health insurance (occupational therapist, speech pathologist, psychologist). Contact your private health insurer to find out more. An Autism assessment and treatment rebates fact sheet is available online from Medicare. More information can be found at the Autism Awareness Australia website: [Medicare and other funding | Autism Awareness Australia](#)

What happens after the diagnostic assessment?

The clinician or assessment team will contact the family to discuss the diagnostic assessment findings and recommendations for intervention if any. Families can then contact an Autism Advisor at the Autism Association of Western Australia and/or book a free Pathway Planning session at Kiind, to obtain information about eligibility and funding for Early Intervention therapy, and other funding and support services. See the next page for more information on what to do after diagnosis.

NOTE: Currently in Western Australia (2025), different services and organisations (eg NDIS, Department of Communities, Department of Education, Catholic Education WA, Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia, Centrelink etc) use varying eligibility criteria to access their services or funding and may recognise different diagnostic pathways. Policies change regularly so please check with each organisation for up-to-date eligibility.

This page is based on information provided by WA Autism Diagnosticians Forum, The Kids Research Institute Australia, Autism Association of WA, Dept of Education and Autism CRC.

Who to Contact Following Diagnosis

The following organisations may be helpful to provide information and support following your child's diagnosis.

Autism Association of Western Australia

Phone: (08) 9489 8900

Website: [Autism WA - Making a difference to the lives of people with Autism](http://AutismWA.org.au)

Following diagnosis, or during the diagnostic process, families and carers can contact an Autism Advisor at the Autism Association of Western Australia at no cost. They provide services to autistic individuals and their families from early childhood through to adult life. Services include advice, early intervention, school-age and adult therapy services, employment, training, post-school options, community living, respite, and intensive family support.

If your child is aged between 0 – 8 years you can access support by attending First Steps Playgroup (no cost).

Email: firststepsplaygroup@Autism.org.au

Website: [Early Childhood - Autism Association of Western Australia](http://EarlyChildhood.org.au)

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS scheme administered by the federal government provides a range of reasonable and necessary supports to Australians under 65 with a permanent disability.

Check www.ndis.gov.au for extensive up-to-date information and to confirm your eligibility.

Kiind

Phone: (08) 6164 9806

Email: support@kiind.com.au

Website: kiind.com.au

Perth Children's Hospital, Family Resource Centre, Kiind supports families raising children with disability, often at the time of a child's diagnosis when families are grappling to understand the implications and the complexities of the health and disability systems. Through one-on-one Pathway Planning sessions, the Kiind Peer Navigators help families to find the answers they're looking for and get the critical supports they need in place quickly. They have a range of information resources to help with this and also connect families to one another. All services are provided free-of-charge.

CliniKids, The Kids Research Institute Australia

Phone: (08) 6319 1133

Website: [Our services | CliniKids \(thekids.org.au\)](http://OurServices.CliniKids.org.au)

CliniKids is the Kids Research Institute Australia's first clinical service, supporting families to plan and implement their support needs in their Autism journey. At your first appointment, a team member will learn about your family and offer advice on appropriate services and supports for you as a family. Clinikids have clinics located in Subiaco and Joondalup.

Positive Partnerships

Website: positivepartnerships.com.au

Workshops and online resources for parents and carers of primary school-aged autistic children.

Autism Services Pathfinder

Website: raisingchildren.net.au

This is a guide to getting a diagnosis, finding service providers, comparison of therapies, medication and other intervention, education, funding and support and helpful information on accessing the NDIS.

Find a Therapist/Psychologist

Your GP or Paediatrician can recommend Occupational Therapists, Psychologists and Speech Pathologists in your area or you can ask for recommendations from other parents, or a support coordinator if you have one.

Autism CRC

Website: autismcrc.com.au

Autism CRC is the independent national source of evidence for best practice in relation to autism across the lifespan and the spectrum. You can read about their research and projects on their website, and also access the new **National Guideline** for the assessment and diagnosis of autism.

Autism Connect

Website: amaze.org.au/autismconnect

Autism Connect is a free, national autism helpline, providing independent and expert information over phone, email and webchat. It supports Autistic people, their families and carers, health professionals, researchers, teachers, employers and the broader community.

Autism Connect advisors offer expert advice in many areas, including:

- exploring autism and Autistic identity
- assessment and diagnosis support
- school and education
- the NDIS
- transition to employment
- behaviour and communication strategies
- referrals to services peer support connections,
- finding autism-friendly places and events, and
- making environments accessible.

South West Advocacy Network (SWAN)

Free information about autism diagnosis and supports available. Office in Bunbury and Busselton.

Email: info@swanautism.org.au

Phone: swanautism.org.au

Website: [SWAN - Support for autistic people and their families](http://SWAN-Supportforautisticpeopleandtheirfamilies.org.au)

Developmental Disability WA (DDWA)

Website: <https://ddwa.org.au>

Phone: (08) 94207203

Email: ddwa@ddwa.org.au

DDWA provide Peer support, workshops, information, advocacy and online resources for parents and carers of children with Autism and other developmental disability.



Funding

State and Commonwealth Government funding might be available to support your family, depending on your child's eligibility. This includes the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Medicare, Centrelink and other sources.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides Australians under the age of 65 who have a disability that is likely to be permanent and significant with the supports they need to live an ordinary life. The NDIS funds supports that are reasonable and necessary for you to achieve your goals. Everyone's needs and goals are different. That's why the NDIS provides you with the flexibility to manage your individual support needs. It also means your experience with the NDIS might be different to another persons.

Supports may include funding for a support worker, daily personal activities, transport, help with household tasks, occupational therapy, speech therapy, psychology, school leaver transition, supported living and accommodation, aids and equipment, home or vehicle modifications, behaviour support and transition to employment, support coordination and specialist support coordination.

Your first plan with the NDIS will give you the support you need now. It will make sure you have time to learn more about all your options with the NDIS and consider your goals for your next plan. The NDIS will support you throughout your life for as long as you need it, so this pathway will continue, and you'll update your plan as your needs change. It is possible to self-manage your funding support or have a Plan Manager or be Agency Managed through NDIA.

For more information see the NDIS webpage: Booklets and Factsheets

Website:

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/publications/booklets-and-factsheets#applying-to-the-ndis>

Covered on the webpage:

[Making Connections](#)

[Applying to the NDIS](#)

[Creating your NDIS Plan](#)

[Using your NDIS plan](#)

[More NDIS information](#)



Accessing the NDIS

If your child is 0 – 6 years: The NDIS early childhood approach helps children younger than 6 with developmental delay (without a diagnosis) or children younger than 9 with disability diagnosis and their families to access the right support when they need it. This means your child needs to have a diagnosis before they turn 7 years of age to continue to access support through the early childhood approach., They will continue to receive early childhood services until they transition to NDIS. For more information see the website below:

Website: [Getting help through the early childhood approach | NDIS](#)

The early childhood partner in your area will be your main contact point for the NDIS and will help you understand and access the most appropriate supports for your child.

If your child is aged 7 – 65 years and experiences impairment and disability as a result of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) you will need to provide information about your child's diagnosis to access NDIS. A copy of the diagnosis report will be helpful if available. NDIS will need to know that you have been diagnosed by appropriately qualified health professionals in WA or elsewhere. They need to know about the impact of Autism on your day-to-day life.

You will usually be required to provide up-to- date information about how your disability affects you day-to-day when requesting access to NDIS. It would be helpful to provide reports from an occupational therapist (Functional Capacity Assessment is ideal) and/or other treating health professionals. Many families benefit from working with an advocacy service to assist with the NDIS access process. Please refer to Advocacy Services section.

A **Carer Impact Statement** can also be very beneficial - templates are available online to help you write your own carer impact statement in support of your NDIS application.

[The two local area coordination partners in WA who will assist your family member \(age 9 to 65\) to access the NDIS are listed below.](#)

If eligible for access, you will be allocated a local area coordinator to support you to engage with the NDIS and implement your plan. They will be your main contact point for the NDIS.

Mission Australia (08) 9225 0400

Website: <https://www.missionaustralia.com.au/servicedirectory/187-disability-support>

APM 1300 276 522

Website: <https://apm.net.au/ndis>

Early Childhood Approach (0 – 6 years)

NDIS Partner in the Community for children
(formerly called Early Childhood Early Intervention)

The Early Childhood Approach partner in WA is **Wanslea** who support families to meet children's developmental milestones with:

- Early Connections (referrals to services and practical information)
- Early Supports
- Support to collect evidence for eligibility to access NDIS
- Facilitating NDIS plan after access approved
- Support to implement NDIS plan

Telephone 1300 969 645
Email ndis@wanslea.org.au
Website: wanslea.org.au/programs/early-childhood-approach-eca

NDIS Contact Centre (7– 65 years)

Monday to Friday

8am to 8pm (local time AWST)

Telephone 1800 800 110

Translating & interpreting

For a free-of-charge translator or interpreter

Telephone 131 450

If you have hearing or speech loss

TTY 1800 555 677

Speak and Listen 1800 555 727

National relay service

Telephone: 131 450

Ask to be connected to the NDIS on: 1800 800 110

Email: enquiries@ndis.gov.au

Website: [Contact | NDIS](#)

Early Intervention Therapy Services for Children under 7

Newly diagnosed children aged under 7 can no longer access the former Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) program and families should contact the NDIS Early Childhood Partner (called Wanslea in WA) on 1300 969 645 to determine the child's eligibility for early intervention therapy, now called Early Childhood Approach.

Autism Therapy/Treatment for Children over 7

Newly diagnosed children aged over 7 can no longer access HCWA and families should contact the NDIS on 1800 800 110 to determine the child's eligibility for a range of support and services including occupational therapy, speech therapy, psychology, support worker, domestic support, school leaver support, supported accommodation, support coordinator or specialist support coordinator and others. Helpful publications on accessing the NDIS are available from NDIS, Kiind and the Autism Association of WA.

Better Access to Mental Health (Counselling and Psychology Services)

Medicare rebates are available for up to 20 individual sessions and up to 6 group allied mental health services (psychologists, some social workers and occupational therapists) per calendar year to patients referred by their GP managing the patient under a GP Mental Health Treatment Plan or under a referred psychiatrist assessment and management plan. This can include social skills programs. You can get a Better Access Plan for yourself and/or your child as there are no age restrictions. *Note - You cannot use Better Access Medicare rebate on services funded by NDIS and vice versa.

<https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/better-access-initiative>

Chronic Disease Management Plan (formerly called Enhanced Primary Care Plan)

This Plan allows a GP to coordinate health care of patients with chronic medical conditions, including patients with these conditions who require multidisciplinary, team-based care from a GP and at least two other healthcare providers. Up to five sessions a year are partially covered by Medicare rebate and have no age restrictions.

[Chronic Disease Management plan - Health professionals - Services Australia](#)

NOTE: If you do not have NDIS funding, once the Better Access to Mental Health plan and Chronic Disease Management Plans under Medicare have been exceeded, you may use private health cover to subsidise private OT, speech and psychology services for therapy.

The Payment Finder located on the Centrelink website can help you locate a range of benefits that you may be eligible for, including Family Tax Benefit, Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate, Parent Payment, as well as some or all the following payments, allowances and pensions:

Carer Allowance

A fortnightly supplementary payment for carers who provide additional daily care and attention for someone with a disability. Your GP, Registered Psychologist, Occupational/Speech/Physiotherapist or RN can complete the Medical Report. Eligible if combined annual income is less than \$250,000. NB have to reapply when child is approaching age 16.

Carer Payment

A fortnightly, assets and means-tested income support payment for people who provide constant care for their child with severe disability and are unable to work fulltime as a result. Your GP, Registered Psychologist, Occupational/ Speech/ Physiotherapist or RN can complete the Medical Report.

Annual Carers Supplement

If you already receive the Carer Allowance or Payment, you may be eligible for annual Carers Supplement of \$600 paid around July each year.

Child Disability Assistance Payment

If you already receive the Carer Allowance or Payment and care for a child under 16 years you may also be eligible for annual payment of \$1000 paid around July each year.

Mobility Allowance

Help for people with a disability aged over 16 years who cannot use public transport and need to access work or study/training.

Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme (AIC)

Payment made each term for students who cannot go to an appropriate state school because of geographical isolation, disability or special health needs.

Approx \$800 per term at time of publishing.

Health Care Card

A Health Care Card is automatically issued for your child when you receive the Carer Allowance. It entitles your child to concession rates for prescription medicines and other concessions, such as discounted public transport for some cardholders, bulk billing by selected doctors and higher refunds through the Medicare Safety Net

Carer Adjustment Payment

A one-off payment of up to \$10,000 following a catastrophic event when a child under seven years of age is diagnosed with a severe illness, medical condition or major disability (includes Autism). You have two years following diagnosis in which to apply.

Disability Support Pension

Fortnightly financial support for people aged 16 years and over who have a disability which stops them from working more than 15 hours a week. Check eligibility criteria. Amount varies depending on age. A job capacity assessment may be required.

Pensioner Education Supplement

A small subsidy payment for secondary and tertiary part- time and full-time students who are already receiving a benefit or payment.

Inclusion Support Program Subsidy

Paid to approved childcare services, including out of school hours care and holiday programs, so that they can provide extra care for children with special needs. Your childcare service will need to apply through their Inclusion Support Facilitator. Contact Communicare on 1800 119 247 for more information.

Medicare Safety Net

When you spend over a certain threshold in a calendar year, Medicare will give you a higher rebate (less out of pocket expenses) on GP and specialist bills and some scans / tests. See <http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/> for details on thresholds for individuals and families.



Other Funding Sources

Secondary Assistance Scheme

Phone: (08) 9264 4516

Email: student.allowances@education.wa.edu.au

Website: www.education.wa.edu.au

Available to parents or independent secondary students who hold eligible concession cards. It comprises an Education Program Allowance which is paid to the school, and a Clothing Allowance which is paid to the parent (if students are enrolled in a public school, parents can nominate clothing allowance to be paid to their school). Forms are available at secondary schools.

Variety WA

Phone: (08) 9355 3655

Email: kidssupport@varietywa.org.au

Website: <https://www.variety.org.au/wa/programs/variety-wa-grants/>

Provides grants for practical equipment, resources and experiences for children who are disadvantaged or have special needs.

Keeley's Cause

Email: info@keeleyscause.org.au

Website: keeleyscause.org.au

National charity which assists autistic children with or without intellectual disability to receive an iPad for learning, interacting and communicating.

KidSport

Website: dlgsc.wa.gov.au/funding/sport-and-recreation-funding/kidsport

KidSport enables WA children aged 5 - 18 years with a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card to participate in community sport and recreation by offering up to \$200 / year for club fees (club must be KidSport approved).

Sport Access Foundation Grants

Website: sportaccessfoundation.org.au

Kick Start grant of \$1000 and No Barriers Grant of \$500 available to facilitate participation in sports. See website for eligibility information.

WA Grants Directory

Website:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments-of-communities/community-grants-directory>

WA government directory of grants to help communities source financial support.



Concessions

Accessing services and supports can become expensive. A number of concessions and discounts are available to help ease the financial pressure.

WA Government Social Concessions Portal

Phone: (08) 6217 6888 or 1800 176 888

Website: concessions.communities.wa.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx

Reliable up-to-date information about all social concessions and rebates available through the State Government via a single portal.

Discounts include:

- Cost of Living Assistance example, power, water, rates
- Boarding Away from Home Allowance - Respite

Companion Card Program WA

Phone: 1800 617 337

Email: wacompanioncard@nds.org.au

Website: wacompanioncard.org.au

For people with a significant disability, who always need a companion to provide attendant care support to participate at most community venues and activities.

Companion Card applicants must meet eligibility criteria (see website).

Cardholders present their card when booking or purchasing a ticket from a participating business that will issue the cardholder with a second ticket for their companion at no charge. Participating businesses are available on the website.

Low Income Health Care Card

Website: servicesaustralia.gov.au/low-income-health-care-card

Access to cheaper prescription medicines, and various concessions from state and local government and private organisations including health care services.

Virgin Australia Disability Assistant Concession Fare

Phone: 1300 139 303

Email: va.medical@virginaustralia.com

Contact Virgin Australia Guest Contact Centre. Virgin Australia offers a 50% discount off base fare (not fees/taxes) for a Carer if PWD requires assistance to travel in economy or business class.

Qantas Carer Concession Card (Domestic, Regional and International)

Phone: 1800 422 015

Email: pwd@pwd.org.au

Website: pwd.org.au

Qantas Carer Concession Card program for people with a disability and high-level support needs, who require full-time assistance of a carer while on a plane. 50% discount off base fare (not fees/taxes) for carer and 10% for person requiring care on domestic flights in economy or business class. Card costs \$49.50 and is valid for 3 years.

Education

There are three options in Western Australia for primary and high school: Government public school (Department of Education), private/independent school or home schooling.

1 WA Government Public Schools - Department of Education (DoE)

Local Public Schools

All autistic students have the right to enrol in their local public school. Although other non-mainstream options are available, and may be suggested by the Principal, all children are entitled to enrol and learn in their local public school.

For more information, see the [Education Department Website](#) and their enrolment framework policy [Department of Education Policy](#)

Supporting Schools to Provide Teaching and Learning Adjustments

WA public schools support students with diverse learning needs by implementing teaching and learning adjustments and providing access to accommodations and supports to enable student to access an education on the same basis as their non-disabled peers. Schools have access to a range of support services to assist them to plan and cater for individual students. These include specialist consulting teachers from the Schools of Special Educational Need: Disability, Sensory, Behaviour and Engagement, and Medical and Mental Health (SSEN).

The SSEN provide specialist teacher consultancy and targeted professional learning to build the capacity of teachers to plan and cater for students. Assistive technology and personal care training is also available to help support students access and participate. On-site school psychology services are also available to further support schools to plan and cater for the needs of students. Access to these services is initiated by the Principal. Through the student-centred funding model (allocated to the school budget not individual students), funding to support students with disability falls into two categories:

- **The Educational Adjustment (EA)** is provided to every mainstream school automatically, to allow more intensive and explicit targeted interventions to address the needs of students. No application is required for the EA.
- **The Individual Disability Allocation (IDA)** provides funding to schools to support the classroom adjustments made for students with an eligible disability. The IDA is based on application, approval and review. IDA ASD eligibility is aligned with the National Guidelines for the Assessment and Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Australia which offers two pathways for diagnosis – single clinician pathway and consensus team pathway.

Please see Autism diagnosis page for more details. Schools will require copies of a student's diagnostic reports to enable them to access the IDA. Families can work with schools to achieve this, and interim funding allocations are available while students are on the waitlist for assessment. Schools can use funding in a flexible manner to provide targeted learning programs with specific outcomes for students with disability.

See the DDWA website for more information about Education and advocating for your child here: <https://ddwa.org.au/focus-areas/education/>

School of Special Educational Needs: Disability (SEND)

Phone: (08) 9402 6100

Email: SSEND.Enquiries@education.wa.edu.au

Website: oneclassroom.wa.edu.au

A team of SEND Consulting Teachers with specialised expertise in the area of disability support schools to provide teaching and learning adjustments. Public schools may request assistance from SEND. Consulting Teachers experienced and specialised in supporting Autistic students collaborate with schools to determine the best way to offer support. This may include classroom observations, professional learning, support in the development of documented plans and the provision and modelling of practical resources. Requests for Assistance to SEND are initiated by the school.

Early Intensive Intervention Programs (EIIP)

Early Intensive Intervention Programs are based on the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis for small groups of kindergarten and pre-primary aged children who have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. The program aims to equip these students with the skills necessary for entry into a mainstream Year 1 class. The transition to Year 1 is supported by a shared placement in the Pre-Primary year.

Specialised Learning Programs (SLP)

Specialised Learning Programs (SLPs) provide individualised, *neurodiversity-affirming support that fosters academic growth, social-emotional development, and holistic well-being. By addressing **barriers to learning and engagement, SLPs support each autistic student to achieve positive outcomes throughout their school journey. Enrolment of students within the program is the responsibility of the host school. The programs have a limited number of places and students are assessed on eligibility and suitability for the program. A position within the mainstream class must be available for a position to be offered. In the Primary SLP there are up to 25 students. In the secondary program there are up to 18 students.

For the latest information and location of SLP and EIIP programs, please refer to the SEND Website:

<https://www.oneclassroom.wa.edu.au/ssend/autism-specialist-learning-programs>

Education support programs

Students who require substantial or extensive teaching and learning adjustments may be eligible to attend an education support program. These programs are offered by education support schools, education support centres, and endorsed education support programs located in mainstream schools. Contact your local Department of Education Regional Office to find out the location of education support programs in your area.

For students who experience barriers to traditional schooling, schools like Alta1, St Clare's or the Department of Education CARE schools, offer programs that may be worth considering [Click here for more information](#)

Please note that the Department of Education's eligibility criteria is regularly reviewed and may change at any time. Please consult with school staff to clarify current eligibility requirements.

2. Private and Independent Schools

Association of Independent Schools (AISWA)

Phone: (08) 9441 1600

Suite 3, 41 Walters Drive Osborne Park WA 6017

PO Box 1817, Osborne Park, WA 6916

Email: reception@ais.wa.edu.au

Website: ais.wa.edu.au

AISWA oversees all non-Catholic private and Independent schools in WA. AISWA employs an Inclusive Education team to support independent school students with a disability. Limited funding may be available to support your child at school.

Parents need to discuss supports for their child at school directly with the school Principal. AISWA School Psychology Service (ASPS) provides a specialist psychology-based service to AISWA schools. To request support from the AISWA School Psychology Service, please contact your school Principal.

Catholic Education (CEWA)

Phone: (08) 9380 1800

PO Box 198, Leederville, WA, 6903

Website: cewa.edu.au

Autistic students who are enrolled in a Catholic school receive assistance through a range of options including:

- individualised learning plans
- access to specialised programs, resources and equipment
- small group or individual instruction
- education assistant support.

Education Support Centres have been established in designated primary and secondary Catholic schools for students with disability whose educational needs require the provision of additional support and resources. CEWA Students with Disability Team assists Catholic schools in providing appropriate, inclusive education.

Catholic Education Western Australia Psychology Team The Psychology Team provides assistance to schools in relation to psychological and educational needs; centralised and school-based training in evidence and best practice-based intervention programs; system-level school interventions to address educational behavioural or social and emotional needs; crisis management planning and response. To request support from CEWA Psychology Team, please contact your school Principal.



3 Home Education

Department of Education (DoE)

Prior to home educating your child, Home Education Registration via the department of education is required. Contact the department of education central office and speak with the Home Education Liaison team for more information.

Website: <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/home-schooling>

Home Education WA (formally HBLN)

Website: <https://hewa.wa.edu.au>

facebook.com/hblnpage/

HEWA is a not-for-profit, community-based and volunteer-run organisation dedicated to providing support for home-educating families in WA who advocate for home-educating parents, provide support services such as parent workshops, home education information and publications as well as run classes, activities and special events. Wherever you are on your home education journey, HEWA is here to help.

Southlands Christian College

Phone: (08) 6818 6000

Email: southlands@acc.edu.au

Website: southlands.accde.edu.au

Distance education program which can be purchased for home education, either online or as a hardcopy.

Swan Christian College - online learning

Phone: (08) 9374 8392

Email: swanonline@swan.wa.edu.au

Website: swanonline.wa.edu.au

Swan Online welcomes students from Year 7 – 12.

The online school offers ATAR and non-ATAR subjects in Years 11 and 12, allowing students to pursue careers through university and TAFE.

*This is not an exhaustive list – You can find lots of information about homeschooling on social media platforms and through the internet, for example, Homeschooling Groups on Facebook Groups.

4. Tertiary Education

Many autistic students thrive and succeed in a postschool tertiary environment such as university, TAFE or other tertiary training environments. All institutions have specialised support services available to ensure the accessibility and inclusion of students with disability. Please reach out to your tertiary institution of choice if they are not listed here.

UWA Specialist Mentoring Program

Phone: 6488 4652

Email:

anna.jorgensen@research.uwa.edu.au

Website: uwa.edu.au/students/study-success/uniaccess

The UWA Specialist Mentoring Program supports autistic students throughout the tertiary education journey. Offer one-on-one peer mentoring with an experienced UWA student, social gatherings where you can meet other students on the spectrum, and tutor-led study groups to help build your academic, social and employment skills.

South Metro TAFE

Phone: 1800 001 001

Email:

student.access@smtafe.wa.edu.au

Website: southmetrotafe.wa.edu.au

Student Support Services works across all campuses to coordinate and implement support for students with disabilities whether temporary or permanent. We offer support and arrange reasonable adjustments.

North Metropolitan TAFE

Phone: (08) 9427 1314

Email:

Student.Support@nmtafe.wa.edu.au

Website: northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au

Disability Support coordinates and implements support for students with a disability, mental health or medical conditions. We are committed to ensuring that people with disability have equal access to our services, programs and facilities. Students should contact Disability Support early to ensure supports and reasonable adjustments are in place at course commencement.

UWA UniAccess

Phone: (08) 6488 2423 (to book appointment with disability officer)

Website: uwa.edu.au/students/study-success/uniaccess

UniAccess staff can recommend the best options to enable your participation.

Curtin Accessibility Services

Phone: (08) 9266 7850

Email: access.ability@curtin.edu.au

Website: curtin.edu.au/students/personal-support/disability/

Provide referrals to CSMP (above) and create Curtin Access Plans with accommodations to the university curriculum.

Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program (CSMP):

Phone: (08) 9266 7303 or (08) 9266 7850

Email: Autism.mentoring@curtin.edu.au

Website: curtin.edu.au/students/experience/mentoring/Autism-related-conditions/

Specialist peer-to-peer mentoring available through CSMP supports autistic students to navigate tertiary education at Curtin more successfully. The program fosters the development of academic, employment and social skills in preparation for a more meaningful and engaged life.

Autism Academy for Software Quality Assurance (AASQA)

Phone: 0401 103 460

Email: t.tan@curtin.edu.au

Website: <https://research.curtin.edu.au/research-infrastructure/autism-academy/>

Our mission is to enable autistic individuals to leverage their unique talents through training, educating and mentoring programs, to create pathways to valued, long-term employment; whilst addressing the business needs of the Australian ICT industry facing challenges in attracting and retaining ICT practitioners.

Carers' Agencies

As your child's carer, your ongoing mental and physical health is crucial to you and your family. The following agencies can support you in your invaluable caring role.

Carers WA

Phone: 1300 227 377

Email: info@carerswa.asn.au

Website: carerswa.asn.au

Carers WA offers a range of innovative programs and services aimed at providing practical and emotional support. Assist in helping carers connect, learn about supports available, take a break from their caring role, provide advice, information and resources to link carers to relevant workshops and services, including new commonwealth program "Carer Gateway" services in WA and Young Carers program.

Kiind

Phone: (08) 6456 0035

Website: kiind.com.au/

Address: Perth Children's Hospital Family Resource Centre

Kiind is WA's largest not-for-profit member organisation, supporting families raising children with additional needs. Membership is free and provides parents with practical advice and guidance, information and resources as well as connection to a community of thousands of other parents walking a similar path.

Carer Gateway

Phone: 1800 422 737

Website: carergateway.gov.au

A new national online and phone service providing practical information and resources to support carers.

MyTime

Phone: 1800 111 546 or (08) 9368 9368

Website: mytime.net.au/

MyTime is for parents and carers of children with a disability, developmental delay or chronic medical condition. It's a place for you to unwind and talk about your experiences. It's a world away from appointments and therapy. It's support for you. There are 22 MyTime groups across WA, visit the website to find the group nearest to you.

Playgroup (WA) PlayConnect

Phone: 1800 171 882

Email: playconnect@playgrouppaustralia.com.au

Free weekly facilitated playgroup for families of autistic children aged 0 to 5.

Advocacy

An advocate may help you to promote your child's or family's welfare, may offer you support to access funding & services, or speak on your behalf at school meetings or medical appointments.

Developmental Disability WA

Phone: (08) 9420 7203

Email: ddwa@ddwa.org.au

Website: ddwa.org.au

People with Disabilities WA

Phone: (08) 9420 7279

Email: info@pwdwa.org

Website: pwdwa.org

Legal Aid WA

Phone: 1300 650 579

Website: legalaid.wa.gov.au

Future Living Trust

Phone: (08) 9387 0575

Email: info@futureliving.org.au

Website: futureliving.org.au

Citizen Advocacy

Phone: (08) 94459991

Email: admin@capw.org.au

Website: citizenadvocacy.org.au

Kin Advocacy

Phone: 1800 659 921

Email: admin@kinadvocacy.org.au

Website: kinadvocacy.org.au

Disability advocacy for diverse communities

Individual Disability Advocacy Service

Phone: 1300 648 655

Email: idas@sscls.asn.au

Website: sscls.asn.au/post/individual-disability-advocacy-service-idas

Midlas

Phone: (08) 9250 2123

Website: midlas.org.au/services/disability-advocacy/

Your Say - Uniting WA

Phone: 1300 663 298

Website:

unitingwa.org.au/services/advocacy/

Your Way Personal Coaching Services

Sarah MacDermott

Phone: 0439 865 400

Email: sarah@cassavah.com.au

NDIS Planning Meeting Assistance

Youth Disability Advocacy Network

Email: hello@ydan.com.au

Website: www.ydan.com.au

SWAN (South West Advocacy Network)

Email: info@swanautism.org.au

Phone: 0499 819 038

Website:

<https://swanautism.org.au/about-swan/advocacy-peer-support/>



ADVOCACY

Support Groups for Parents

Agency-Run Support Groups:

Developmental Disability WA - Side By Side

Email: ddwa@ddwa.org.au.

Website: ddwa.org.au/our-projects/family-peer-support-side-by-side/

Facebook: facebook.com/share/g/N496VxTYfX68YtD/

Side by Side offers support for families who have a child who has an intellectual or developmental disability and who has behaviour which can be described as challenging.

Dads Autism Connect – Autism Association of WA

Phone: (08) 9489 8900

Email: Autism.Dads@Autism.org.au

Website: Autism.org.au/parent-support-groups/dads-support-groups/

A specific social group on weekends for dads and other father-figures in WA. Chat, share and support each other and be the best dad you can be – join the Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/AutismanddadsWA

Autism Association of Western Australia

Phone: (08) 9489 8900

Email: Autismwa@Autism.org.

Website: Autism.org.au

Weekly coffee groups around metro area including weekend group specifically for dads and male carers. These are run by experienced parent support facilitators; and provide an opportunity to meet other families, share stories and support, and take a break! Play leaders are available to supervise children aged six and under.

CliniKids, The Kids Research Institute Australia

Phone: (08) 6319 1133

Website: clinikids.thekids.org.au

CliniKids offers a range of workshops and programs for parents/carers to understand and support their child on the spectrum. Programs are run by allied health professionals.

Spectrum Space

Phone: (08) 9431 2111

Email: info@spectrumspace.org.au

Website: spectrumspace.org.au

Works with children and adults delivering strengths-based social groups; runs a youth advocacy council; invests in skills development, community education and raising awareness. Also runs annual conference and school holiday groups.



Support Groups for Parents

Online Support Groups:

There are many local, national and international online support groups relating to parenting autistic children. Search on Facebook for more.

Autism Awareness Australia (national)
[facebook.com/AutismAwarenessAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/AutismAwarenessAustralia)

Kiind Families Facebook Network (WA)
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/3AruaTigBYnh6zcf/>

Perth Autism Dad's Support
[facebook.com/groups/2203590513211683](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2203590513211683)

PDA Perth WA Parents Community & Support
[facebook.com/groups/1452074971989082/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1452074971989082/)

Camp Autism WA Inc Support Group (WA)
[facebook.com/groups/CAWASupport/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CAWASupport/)

Perth Parents of Kids with Autism
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/VTiw4N23GMMQKaXd/>

Autism Parent's Perth WA
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/mRUqrdVhWdmvgHY/>

Yellow Ladybugs (parents of girls with ASD)
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/Z1eMA9UPNv3CnEnd/>

Parent-Run Support Groups:

Eastern Suburbs Autism Network
Kelly Arfuso | **Phone:** 0409 774 972
Email: kellyarfuso@gmail.com
[facebook.com/groups/534279353310658](https://www.facebook.com/groups/534279353310658)

Be My Koorda Aboriginal Support Group
Evelyn McKay | **Phone:** 0426 863 198
Email: bemykoorda@gmail.com
Website: bemykoorda.org.au
Supporting First Nations Youth and their families in the South West.

Joondalup Autism Carers Support Group
Helen Owen | **Phone:** 0413 123 615
Email: helenpark279@yahoo.co.uk

Mandurah Neurodiversity Centre
Natalie Garmson | **Phone:** 0411 615 641
Email: mandurahndcentre@gmail.com .
Website: mandurahndcentre.com
Autism Support Specialist. Online and in-person sessions, supporting autistic girls and women, as well as neurodivergent families, pre and post diagnosis, support accessing the NDIS.



Respite – taking a break

Caring for your children takes its toll. When you need extra support, a break or some time for yourself (or you and your partner) the following agencies can help. Your child may also attend Respite services.

Carer Gateway - Australian Government

Phone: 1800 422 737

Website: carergateway.gov.au

Carers can get a wide range of help – from counselling and peer support groups to respite care, home help and equipment. Carer Gateway will assist you to reach service providers in your local area and access the support and services you need.

Autism Association of Western Australia

Phone: (08) 9489 8900

Email: autismwa@autism.org.au

Weekend and school holiday breaks for autistic children from 5-18 years of age. Short Breaks (respite) services are provided in several homes throughout the metropolitan area. Children are carefully matched based on age, gender and support needs to ensure each child enjoys their stay.

Community Vision Child and Youth Respite

Phone: 1800 968 754

Email: info@communityvision.asn.au

Website: communityvision.asn.au

Supports children and youth with disabilities, who are under 18 years of age, and their families. Activities include weekend and school vacation support recreational activities for small groups of teenagers with disabilities and one-to-one support in the home or the community.

Strive Community Services

Phone: (08) 9206 3400

Email: info@strive.org.au strive.org.au

Provides in-home respite services or various accommodations around Perth.

INKA Respite

Phone: 0424 646 983

Email: contact@inkarespite.com

Website: inkarespite.com

A home-stay style farm in Lake Clifton, approximately 1.25 hours drive south of Perth, for children, teenagers and adults with special needs (primarily autism spectrum disorder). Usually 6-8 people at a time. 24 hour carer support and accommodation, and day visits. Recreational activities, independent living skills, and community access. NDIS funding may cover costs.

Identity WA

Phone: (08) 9474 3303

Email: admin@identitywa.com.au

Website: identitywa.com.au

Provides a range of support services, including school holiday camps, in-home respite and recreation programs. Two children's respite houses provide care for up to six children.

Wanslea

Phone: 1800 444 262

Email: inhomecare@wanslea.org.au

Website: wanslea.org.au/early-learning-and-development/in-home-child-care

In-home care is a flexible option which offers childcare in your own home. Care is provided by approved educators who will endeavour to fit in with your family's special circumstances. May be eligible for Child Care Benefit/Rebate.

Unique Support Services Pty Ltd

Phone: (08) 9404 6947

Email: admin@uniquesupport.com.au

Website: uniquesupport.com.au

Unique Support is a Perth based organisation that provides a range of services to support participants of the NDIS. Services include assistance with daily living, community and social participation, in-home respite, supported independent living, support coordination and plan management.

Carers WA

Phone: 1300 227 377

Email: carersretreat@carerswa.asn.au

Website: carerswa.asn.au

Anne Bluntish Carers Retreat: 2-bedroom apartment in South Perth. Carers/Parents can access the retreat for a maximum of 3 nights after completing a planning assessment. Pembroke Court: 5 beds, 3 bath house in Warnbro. 3 nights max. Tel 1800 422 737 for eligibility assessment.

Spectrum Space

Phone: (08) 9431 2111

Email: info@spectrumspace.org.au

Website: spectrumspace.org.au

Run Telethon Holiday Makers Program during school holidays, providing incursions, excursions and activities based on participants' interests. Run by qualified professional staff with Autism experience.

WA Families and Disability Support Workers Job Network

facebook.com/groups/181116518735285

A networking group on Facebook for families to advertise for suitable disability care workers and family support workers or respite for their family members in their private homes or helping their loved one participate in community activities.

Support workers can also advertise their availability, location, qualifications and experience.

Support Workers, Carers and Families in Perth

facebook.com/groups/348046945404021

A networking group on Facebook for families to advertise for suitable disability care workers and family support workers or respite for their family members in their private homes or helping their loved one participate in community activities.

Support workers can also advertise their availability, location, qualifications and experience.

Siblings Groups and Resources

“While siblings face lots of challenges, if they are supported adequately, then there are lots of positives they will also gain from having a sibling with autism. They can become more compassionate, more tolerant, more responsible and tend to have stronger family relationships.

Siblings need information about the disability, to feel listened to and understood, able to express a range of feelings, to feel special themselves, to feel competent and valued, not have too much responsibility, strategies to deal with difficult situations, contact with siblings in similar situations, social support, help with independence. They can be vulnerable to range of emotional and mental health issues.

Most children will cope better with stress if they feel listened to, understood and supported by caring adults. The grief you may have experienced will also be felt by them, to a different degree. Isolation is one of the biggest issues faced by siblings of children with disability.

It can be very helpful to have contact with others who have similar issues.”

Kate Strohm (Siblings Australia)

Siblings Australia

Phone: (08) 8253 4936

Website: siblingsaustralia.org.au

A national organisation which solely supports the siblings of people with disabilities or chronic illness. The sibling relationship can be one of life's longest and supporting that relationship is at the core of what Siblings Australia do. Through provision of their programs and supports, they help to maximise the well-being of siblings and build their capacity to navigate life's journey as a sibling. Delivering programs and supports to children, teens and adults across Australia.

CliniKids, The Kids Research Institute Australia

Phone: (08) 6319 1133

Website: clinkids.org.au

CliniSibs Program: Siblings of autistic children can meet to share their experiences and feel supported to learn new ways of coping. This is a group program facilitated by experienced Clinical Psychologists.

Autism Awareness Australia

Phone: 1300 900 681

Website: autismawareness.webflow.io/therapies/sibling-support

Charity organisation providing information and resources on our website.

Carers WA – Young Carers

Phone: 1300 227 377

Email: youngcarers@carerswa.asn.au

Website: carerswa.asn.au/our-services/young-carers/

A young carer is aged between 8-25 years-old and provides unpaid care / support to family members with disability, mental illness, chronic conditions. We provide support to young carers through activities and events, peer support groups, workshops/ talks in education facilities, individualised outreach support, counselling and financial support through annual Young Carers Bursary.

Recreation

Each month new recreation options become available for those on the spectrum. It's impossible to keep this listing up to date as a result. Keep an eye on Inclusion WA, WADSA, Kiind Facebook page or subscribe to Kiind's weekly eNews, for information about events and activities.

Australian Sports Commission - Safe and Inclusive Sport

Email: dei@ausport.gov.au

Website: sportaus.gov.au/integrity_in_sport/inclusive-sport

Creating positive, inclusive experiences for everyone to participate in sport.

Spectrum Space

Phone: 9431 2111

Email: info@autismwest.org.au

Website: spectrumspace.org.au

B Block, Ground Floor, 2 Alma Street
(Corner of Alma Street and South Terrace),
Fremantle Strengths based social groups
including school holiday programs providing
social interaction, engagement and fun.

WA Disabled Sports Association Inc.

Phone: (08) 9470 1442

Email: reception@wadsa.org.au

Website: wadsa.org.au

The Leisure Life Centre, Corner Kent and
Gloucester St, East Victoria Park, WA 6101
Focused on ensuring all levels of ability are able
to engage in sports and recreation. WADSA
provide sport, recreation, adventure and nature
activities and camps. WADSA offers a range of
services including weekly come and try activities,
state sporting championships, adaptive equipment
loan or get aways on one of our 3 night
Xperiences.

WA All Abilities Football Association

Email: info@waaafa.org.au

Website: allabilitiesfooty.com.au

The WA All Abilities Football Association exists
to provide the opportunity for people living with a
disability to be involved and participate in
Australian football, like every other Australian.
Through the Perth Football League Integrated
Competition, the association provides an
environment to ensure everyone can participate
safely and feels supported, welcome and
included in a team and club.

iFit, Thriving, Unigym, Minigym and KIDDO

Phone: 6488 2361

Email: pep-sseh@uwa.edu.au

Website: uwapep.com/our-programs/

Range of fun exercise programs for children
and adolescents to assist with physical
fitness, health and participation in sport. For
enquiries visit the website.

High Flyers Indoor Trampolining Centre

Phone: (08) 9309 3500 Jacci

Phone: 0401 220 706 Tony

Email: admin@highflyerswa.com

Website: highflyerswa.com

48B Luisini Rd, Wangara, WA 6065
Offer Special Needs or Integrated classes in
Trampolining and Gymnastics.

Ocean Heroes

Phone: 0431 452 514

Website: oceanheroes.com.au
facebook.com/OceanHeroes/

Free and paid lessons and surf sessions most
months. Check Facebook page for date and
location updates and registrations.

Disabled Surfers Association of Australia

Phone: 0408552071

Email: [secretary-
perth@disabledsurfers.org](mailto:secretary-perth@disabledsurfers.org)

Website: disabledsurfers.org/our-branches

Inclusion WA

Phone: (08) 9201 8900

Email: info@inclusionwa.org.au

Website: inclusionwa.org.au

Support for people to become valued
community members through facilitating
involvement in leisure, recreation, sport,
education volunteering and employment. We
also assist people to develop the skills they
need to live independently in their own home.

HorsePower Australia (Formerly Riding for the Disabled Association of WA Inc. RDAWA)

Phone: (08) 9296 4655

Email: admin@horsepower.org.au

Website: horsepower.org.au

PO Box 211 KWINANA WA 6167

8 centres around Perth and regional WA.

HorsePower Australia aims to enrich the lives of people living with disabilities through the provision of therapeutic and recreational horse activities.

Starkick – All Abilities Football

Phone: (08) 9381 5599

Email: starkick@waaafa.org.au

Website: starkick.com.au

Starkick is an award-winning AFL program for children 5 to 17 years of age and runs from 30 locations across metro and regional WA. Children who may be unable, or unwilling to join a traditional sporting environment, are provided the support and resources they require to participate and most importantly - have fun. Starkick aims to support all disabilities and runs with a simple yet powerful mantra - "If you want to play, we'll find a way."



Autism In Cricket - Autism Association

Phone: (08) 9489 8900

Email: autismincricket@autism.org.au

Website:

autismincricket.com.au

. Support to join and play or to become a part of your club community in other roles. Program includes access to Come and Try days, e-newsletters, Autism in Cricket Facebook group, access to downloadable resources, training to local and regional clubs.

Fremantle Leisure Centre

Phone: (08) 9432 9541

Email: info@fremantle.wa.gov.au

Website: fremantle.wa.gov.au/community/fremantle-leisure-centre/swim-school-and-squads/access-all

8 William Street, Fremantle

Access for all - swimming lessons for children and adults with special needs.

DADAA (Disability in the Arts, Disadvantage in the Arts, Australia)

Phone: (08) 9430 6616

Email: info@dadaa.org.au

Website: dadaa.org.au

21 Beach Street, Fremantle, WA 6160 Fremantle, Lancelin and Midland

arts and cultural programs and workshops for all ages. Artlink, our inclusive children and young people's workshop program, is designed to facilitate social participation and artistic skill development.

City of Melville Active Link

Phone: (08) 9364 0666

Email: activelink@melville.wa.gov.au

Website: melvillecity.com.au

Activelink supports eligible City of Melville residents of all abilities to participate in sport, recreation, hobbies (such as creative art classes, library activities or programs or dance classes)

Beatty Park Swim School

Phone: (08) 9273 6080

Website: beattypark.com.au

Beatty Park Leisure Centre, 220 Vincent Street, North Perth, WA 6006

Angelfish Program for special needs.

Sensory Friendly Movie Nights

www.facebook.com/pg/sensoryfriendlyflicks

Camps

Camp Autism WA Inc.

Phone: 0412 724 093

Email: enquiries@campautismwa.org

Website: campautismwa.org

Throughout the year camps are organised where the whole family can attend. These camps are educational, relaxing and fun.

Cahoots Org

Phone: 1300 1038 880

Email: info@cahoots.org.au

Website: cahoots.org.au

Cahoots creates inclusive opportunities for children and young people living with disability and others that face exceptional challenges to develop friendships, skills and confidence.

INKA

see Respite section

WA Disabled Sports Association Inc.

see Recreation section

Therapy Dogs

Assistance Dogs Australia

Phone: (02) 9548 3355

Email: info@assistedogs.org.au

Website: assistedogs.org.au

PAWS (Parents Autism Workshops and Support) brings together parents of children diagnosed with autism, with qualified dog instructors to explore the different avenues and benefits a trained dog can offer within their families, from their own pet dogs to purposely trained dogs for autism. They also offer occupational and animal assisted therapy.

Guide Dogs WA

Phone: (08) 9311 8202

Email: info@guidedogswa.com.au

Website: guidedogswa.com.au

Guide Dogs WA Guide Dogs WA's Autism Assistance Dog (AAD) program provides highly trained dogs to families of children with autism. Our AADs are trained locally over a two year period, and after a careful matching process, handler training is provided to the parent/s. Ongoing after-care visits provided.



Continence, Sexuality and Sleep

Continence

Perth Children's Hospital

Phone: (08) 6456 0358

Website: pch.health.wa.gov.au/Our-services/Continence

15 Hospital Avenue, Nedlands, WA, 6009

Alarm blanket treatment program takes approximately six to eight weeks. Child should be 5.5 years upwards and must be referred by their GP.

Therapy Focus

Phone: 1300 135 373

Email: enquiries@therapyfocus.org.au

Website: therapyfocus.org.au

Therapy Focus provides specialist advice and support for children with autism who experience bladder and bowel health issues, incontinence and toileting challenges.

Continence Aids

Website: health.gov.au/our-work/continence-aids-payment-scheme-caps-~:text=The CAPS payment rate for,of an Australian bank account

Payment Scheme - CAPS (Commonwealth) A yearly non-taxable payment to cover some of the cost of products that help you manage incontinence. Eligibility criteria listed on website for product subsidy. May be ineligible if receiving NDIS funding.

Incontinence Pad Scheme IPS -Children (WA)

Website:

www.independenceaustralia.com.au/funding-schemes/ips/

A product subsidy of up to \$490 per year is available to assist families with meeting the cost of continence products for their children. Eligibility criteria listed on website. May be claimed at same time as CAPS scheme above. May be ineligible if receiving NDIS funding.

Sexuality

SECCA

Phone: (08) 9420 7226

Email: admin@secca.org.au

Website: www.secca.org.au

Address: 2 Delhi Street, West Perth, WA 6005

Provides education and training, counselling and consultancy services regarding sexuality and disability.

Sexual Health Quarters

Phone: (08) 9227 6177

Email: support@shq.org.au

Website: shq.org.au/disability

70 Roe Street, Northbridge WA 6003

Counselling & educating people with disability in sexuality, relationships & protective education, along with parents, carers and service providers.

PASH Consultancy

Phone: 0459 939 689

Email: info@pashconsultancy.com

Website: pashconsultancy.com

Puberty and sexual health consultancy for people in the disability sector.

TransFolk of WA

Email: admin@transfolkofwa.org

A peer support service for transgender people and their loved ones in Western Australia.

Sleep

There are a variety of sleep centres located in WA. Please ask your Child Health Nurse, GP or paediatrician for a referral and further information. Melatonin and Circadin are also widely used to assist with sleep in children with autism. Please discuss with your General Practitioner to see if appropriate for your child.

Ngala

Phone: (08) 9368 9368

Website: ngala.com.au

Family support services including workshops, day stays and overnight stays, specialise in supporting families of babies and young children on a range of issues particularly sleeping and feeding. Helpline is available 8am-8pm, 7 days a week.

Training, Workshops and Seminars

"The key is to prepare for the process as well as you can. When you come across a challenge, try to stay positive, keep asking questions and focus on what you can do next or learn next to help things along".

www.raisingchildren.net.au

Developmental Disability WA

Website: ddwa.org.au

Workshops on a range of topics including autism, challenging behaviour, education, complex communication and self advocacy.

Autism Association of Western Australia

Website: autism.org.au/training

Provides a range of Autism-related courses for parents and professionals. All parent training workshops are designed to provide information, practical strategies and resources to support families in managing everyday situations.

Spectrum Space

Website: spectrumspace.org.au

Organiser of annual conference. Runs life skills, autism awareness and employment workshops and delivers autism awareness assemblies to schools.

Compass Seminars

Website: compassaustralia.com.au/autism-adhd-and-neurodiverse-training

Offers professional training seminars on autism, behaviour, disability.

Positive Partnerships

Website: positivepartnerships.com.au

Evidence-based materials and practical resources published online and delivered nationally through training for teachers and other school staff, and workshops for parents and carers of primary school aged children with autism. Part of Commonwealth Helping Children with Autism package.

Behaviour Help Pty Ltd.

Phone: 0423 293 254

Email: dolly@behaviourhelp.com

Website: behaviourhelp.com

NDIS Registered Specialist Behaviour Support Practitioner and Speech Pathologist who provides consultancy, training, online courses, books and apps focused on positive behaviour support.

CliniKids, The Kids Research Institute Australia

Website: clinkids.org.au

CliniKids offer a wide range of workshops, training opportunities, guest speakers and events. These are regularly updated on their website.

Dr Tony Attwood

Website: tonyattwood.com.au

International speaker. Brisbane based Clinical Psychologist. Delivers seminars in Perth every one to two years.

Dr Wenn Lawson

Website: buildsomethingpositive.com/wenn/

A published autistic psychologist, parent to four children, Wenn travels internationally delivering autism workshops.

Kristy Forbes

Website: kristyforbes.com.au

Australian-based autism and neurodiversity support specialist. Runs online training programs, podcast, Facebook page, InTune Pathways parenting program.

Sue Larkey

Website: suelarkey.com

An Australian teacher and author with extensive experience and research into education for autistic children. Delivers seminars in Perth annually. Online training package available.

Also worth googling:

- Autism Awareness Australia
- iCan network,
- The Kidd Clinic,
- Yenn Perkis,
- PDA Society UK

Research

CliniKids, The Kids Research Institute Australia

Phone: (08) 6319 1133

Website: clinkids.org.au/research

Led by Professor Andrew Whitehouse, the CliniKids team is dedicated to deliver world-class research and translate research into practice while providing families with access to individually tailored, holistic supports and the very best evidence-based therapies.

The team's research is focussed around four main areas; young children showing developmental delay, children on the autism spectrum, adolescent and adult outcomes and autism policy and biological markers. CliniKids research is regularly updated on website.

Autism CRC

Email: Sonya.Girdler@curtin.edu.au

Website: autismcrc.com.au

The Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism (Autism CRC) is the world's first national, cooperative research effort focused on taking a "whole-of-life" approach to autism focusing on diagnosis, education and adult life.

The Curtin University Autism Research Group (CARG)

Website: <https://carg.curtin.edu.au/>

CARG supports research programs for individuals on the autism spectrum, to facilitate independence, autonomy and engagement with family, peers and the community. You can read more about CARG's research and resources on the website or contact CARG to get involved in a program, are a parent or teacher, or would just like to find out more.



Technology and Driving Resources

Technology

TADWA

Phone: (08) 9379 7400

Regional Phone: 1300 663 243

Email: enquiries@tadwa.org.au

Website: tadwa.org.au

371 Collier Rd, Bassendean WA 6054

Whatever your goals, TADWA can help find a solution for you with assistive technology, home modifications (minor and complex), vehicle modifications, Freedom Wheels bikes, occupational therapy, assessments, workplace modifications, technology and computer purchase and support. 9am – 4pm M-F.

Indigo (formerly Independent Living Centre WA)

Phone: (08) 9381 0600

Email: help@indigosolutions.org.au

Website: indigosolutions.org.au

Aim to achieve greater independence and inclusion for all through allied health and assistive technology solutions. Services include occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech pathology, education and training and home modifications. Experience in the assessment, fit and use of assistive technology, with many items available to view or trial at Nedlands Experience Centre. Services also available via videoconferencing and home visits as well as specialised services within schools. NDIS registered.

AT Chat

Phone: (08) 6202 4700

Email: AT.Chat@ilaustralia.org.au

Website: atchat.com.au

AT Chat is a peer-led, co-designed community for assistive technology (AT) users to share information and lived experience about AT.

Driving

Drive - Perth's Driving School

Phone: 0400 205 420

Email: lessons@driveperth.com.au

Website: driveperth.com.au

Automatic and manual driving lessons for people of all abilities in Perth, Joondalup, Canning Vale and between. Highly effective teaching methods, patient, friendly, male and female driving instructors. NDIS registered.

Intelife Keys for Life

Phone: (08) 6169 1100

Email: centralreception@inteliflife.org

Website: Inteliflife.org

Programs to support learner drivers with disabilities to learn the Keys for Life information. Metro and regional locations.

Sensory

Karen's Autism and Kidz Items

Phone: 0488 083 633

Email: karensautismandkidz@bigpond.com

Website: [karens-autism-and-kidz-items facebook.com/KarensAutismItems](http://karens-autism-and-kidz-items.facebook.com/KarensAutismItems)

Offers autism awareness items like jewellery, badges, hair accessories, lanyards, silicone bands. Resources and sensory items to help kids e.g. Chewelry for people who like to chew, sensory bracelets, hand and eye coordination items, learn to blow items, visual Items, no tie shoelaces, anchor laces, and many different fidget Items and stress toys.

Skillbuilders Therapy

Phone: (08) 9332 2223

Email: info@skillbuilders.com.au

Website: skillbuilders.com.au

Australia's biggest online range of resources for children. Available to view in-store at the Canning Vale therapy centre location.

Sensory Resources

Paint Me a Rainbow

Email: paintmearainbow@outlook.com

Website: paintmearainbow.com

Autism awareness program for primary schools, parent support group, kids' yoga, sensory products online store.

Calming Kids Australia

Phone: 0456 988 586

Email: info@calmingkids.com.au

Website: calmingkids.com.au

9 Hulme Court Myaree

Sensory and educational resources including weighted vests, blankets and lapbags. We also stock a variety of fine motor and gross motor items as well as Lycra products, SAM sensory clothing and more.

Kites Children's Therapy

Phone: (08) 9311 8222

Email: hello@kitestherapy.org.au

16 Sunbury Road, Victoria Park WA 6100

Kites Children's Therapy delivers NDIS funded therapy services for children with disability and developmental delay. Kites is one of WA's only Dog-Assisted Therapy providers, partnering with Guide Dogs WA to deliver Occupational Therapy with the support of a Therapy Dog. Kites provides a range of therapy services face-to-face, online, and through group programs, as well as support for parents.

Skillbuilders Therapy

Phone: 9332 2223

Email: info@skillbuilders.com.au

Website: skillbuilders.com.au

Australia's biggest online range of resources for children. Available to view in-store at the Canning Vale therapy centre location.



Support and Services across Regional WA (State-wide)

“The sense of isolation expressed by many parents of a child with autism can be even more intense for parents living in regional WA. It does not have to be this way. Support is available and, so often, from people who have walked the same path”.

Mary Butterworth, Developmental Disability WA

Developmental Disability WA (DDWA)

Phone: (08) 9420 7203

Website: ddwa.org.au

City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St, West Perth WA 6005.

Developmental Disability WA (DDWA) is a source of independent information, advocacy, education and support for people with intellectual and other developmental disability, their families and the people who support them.

Activ Foundation

Phone: (08) 9387 0555

Email: hello@activ.asn.au

Website activ.asn.au/locations

Activ offers a range of services for people living with disability, their family, and carers across Perth and regional WA centres. Services include accommodation, training, community-based support and clubs, employment, and allied health.

Autism Association of Western Australia

Regional Callers Phone: 1800 636 427

Email: regionalthrapy@autism.org.au

Website autism.org.au

Families living in regional areas can access a range of services from the Autism Association of Western Australia. These include a therapy consultation program, regional intensive holiday programs in Perth, access to online parent training, regional visitation, face-to-face training and workshops for family, childcares and the general community.

Kiind

Phone: (08) 6164 9806

Email: support@kiind.com.au

Website: kiind.com.au

Families living in regional and remote WA are welcome to book a free Pathway Planning session with the Kiind Peer Navigators for help to find the most appropriate supports and services for their child and family. Kiind also has an online peer support group dedicated to connecting families living in these areas. Join here:

facebook.com/groups/kiindfamiliesrr/

RuralLink

Phone: 1800 552 002

Website: mhc.wa.gov.au/getting-help/helplines/rurallink/

A specialist after-hours mental health telephone service for the rural communities of WA. Operates 4.30pm to 8.30am Monday to Friday and 24 hours on weekends and public holidays. During business hours you will be connected to your local community mental health clinic. Crisis support, mental health advice for PWD and carers/family members.

Skillbuilders Therapy

Phone: (08) 9332 2223

Email: info@skillbuilders.com.au

Website: skillbuilders.com.au

Registered NDIS provider for both therapy services and resources for children. Australia's biggest online range of resources. Offer Telehealth therapy services for regional families.

PWDWA

Phone: 1800 193 331

Email: info@pwd.org.au

Website: pwdwa.org.au

Advocating the rights and empowering the voices of people with disability in Western Australia.



Support and Services - Regional WA

Peel

Peel Autism Network (PAN)

facebook.com/groups/539227009456118/

Parent-run support group for families in Mandurah and across the Peel Region.

Down South Therapy Services

Phone: 0404 698 218

Email: sarah.brewster@downsouththerapy.com.au

Website: downsouththerapy.com.au

Engaging social skills, school skill booster groups and school readiness groups for children of all ages.

Mandurah Neurodiversity Centre

Natalie Garmson | **Phone:** 0411 615 641

Email: mandurahndcentre@gmail.com

Website: mandurahndcentre.com

Autism Support Specialist. Online and in-person sessions, supporting autistic girls and women, as well as neurodivergent families, pre and post diagnosis, support accessing the NDIS including autistic goals, parent/carer psychoeducation, Autism Women online sessions and the Autistically YOU! program, art n craft for tweens/teens/adults.

AVIVO

Phone: (08) 9582 4800

Email: hello@avivo.org.au avivo.org.au

Unit 1, 98 Pinjarra Road, Mandurah, WA 6210

Local teams provide visiting supports to people in their own homes and communities to enable meaningful lives.

Kin Advocacy

Phone: 0477 442 770, Tues, Wed, Thu

Email: Sharlene@kinadvocacy.org.au

Website: kinadvocacy.org.au

Mandurah Lotteries House, Suite 4, 7 Anzac Place Mandurah WA 6210 Advocacy organisation for people with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in WA. Kin advocate in areas such as the justice system, healthcare, education, childcare, employment, housing and others.

South West

Enable WA

Phone: (08) 9792 7500

Email: reception@enablewa.org.au

Website: enablewa.org.au

Provides support to children and adults with autism, including community access, in-home, therapy and positive behaviour.

TADWA

Phone: (08) 9379 7400

Regional Phone: 1300 663 243

3 Parade Road South Bunbury WA 6230

Website: tadwa.org.au

Helping you do what's important to you. Whatever your goals, we can help find a solution for you with assistive technology, Home modifications (minor and complex), vehicle modifications, Freedom Wheels bikes, occupational therapy, assessments, workplace modifications, technology and computer purchase and support.

South West Autism Network (SWAN)

Phone: 0499 819 038 or 0476 315 694

Email: info@swanautism.org.au

Website: swanautism.org.au

Facebook: facebook.com/SWANAutism/

Disabled Persons and Families Organisation providing information, resources and peer support on all aspects of NDIS, disability and mainstream services.

Advocacy WA

Phone: (08) 9721 6444

Email: admin@advocacywa.org.au

Website: advocacywa.org.au

4 Plaza St South Bunbury, WA, 6230.

Empowering people with disability.

Advocacy WA provide support and advocacy services across the southwest region of WA.

Enable WA Rotary Sail into Life Initiative

Phone: (08) 9792 7500

Email: reception@enablewa.org.au

Aims to provide everyone with the opportunity to experience the joy and freedom of sailing, regardless of their abilities. The program has sailing dinghies which are designed to be sailed to accommodate people with disabilities. A hoist is available for those requiring assistance to get from the jetty into the dinghy, and trained volunteers are always on hand to help.

Activ Foundation

Phone: (08) 9726 0190

Email: hello@activ.asn.au

Website: activ.asn.au

Activ offers a range of services for people living with disability, their family, and carers in the South West. Services include accommodation, training, community-based support and clubs, employment, and allied health.

Support and Services - Regional WA

Great Southern

Community Living Association (CLA)

Phone: (08) 9842 3855

Email: reception@mycla.org.au

Website: mycla.org.au

CLA provides high quality support to people with disabilities (aged 7-65) in the Lower Great Southern region. We help people to actively participate in the community, live independently and develop workplace skills. Services include Supported Living, Accommodation Support, Community & Social Support, Respite and Host Families, Support Coordination, Positive Behaviour Support and Occupational Therapy.

Fellowship House

Phone: (08) 98429 221

Website: rw.org.au/our-services/outreach-services/albany-fellowship-house/

23 Stead Road, Albany, WA 6330

Support and companionship for people with mental health issues to help improve and maintain a good quality of life. Support is also available for carers of individuals with autism.

Escare Inc.

Phone: (08) 9071 3110

Email: megs@escare.org.au

Website: escare.org.au

Address: Unit 8 Balmoral Square, 53

The Esplanade, Esperance, WA, 6450

My Time program is a Local Support Group for parents and carers of children with a disability or chronic medical condition.

Activ Foundation

Phone: (08) 9841 4411

Email: hello@activ.asn.au

Website: activ.asn.au

Activ offers a range of services for people living with disability, their family, and carers in the Great Southern. Services include accommodation, training, community-based support and clubs, employment, and allied health.

Southern Agcare

Phone: (08) 98271552

Email: admin@southernagcare.org.au

Website: southernagcare.org.au

A not-for-profit body that has been operating for 28 years in the Great Southern region. There are four counsellors who offer a free, mobile, and confidential family counselling service.



Support and Services across Regional WA

Gascoyne, Mid West and Goldfields

Midwest Community Living Association (MWCLA)

Phone: (08) 99211 505

Email: admin@mwcla.org.au

Website: midwestcommunityliving.org.au

75 Marine Terrace Geraldton, WA, 6530

Assist people to be able to live independently in their homes or with their family across the Gascoyne and Midwest regions.

AVIVO

Phone: (08) 9920 7600

Email: hello@avivo.org.au

Website: avivo.org.au

114 Sanford Street, Geraldton, WA 6530

Local teams provide visiting supports to people in their own homes and communities to enable meaningful lives.

Activ Foundation

Phone: (08) 9944 9013

Email: hello@activ.asn.au

Website: activ.asn.au

Activ offers a range of services for people living with disability, their family, and carers in the Geraldton area. Services include accommodation, training, community-based support and clubs, employment, and allied health.

ATLAS (Access to Leisure and Sport)

Phone: (08) 9956 2180

Email: atlas@sportshouse.net.au

Website: atlas.asn.au

Provides person-centred community support, leisure and sport buddy programs.

Full Circle Therapies Inc.

Phone: (08) 9022 9881

Email: Admin@fullcircle.org.au

Website: fullcircle.org.au

Full Circle Therapies Inc is a Paediatric Allied Health Therapy centre for all children based in Kalgoorlie- Boulder and surrounds, providing a range of services from individual and group therapy, playgroups, parents workshops and family support.

Goldfields Individual & Family Support Association (GIFSA)

Phone: (08) 9091 4356

Email: admin@gifsa.org gifsa.org

Supported accommodation, post school options, Alternatives to Employment (ATE) community living initiative, support for young people in residential aged care, Swimability Esperance, school holiday program (Kalgoorlie), Saturday morning club (Kalgoorlie), respite and brokerage funding for respite, mobile respite service in the Ngaanyatjarra region.

Goldfields Special Families

facebook.com/groups/442805365791606/

Life Without Barriers

Kalgoorlie - Phone: (08) 9092 2900

Suite 8, 35 Brookman Street, Kalgoorlie WA 6430

Esperance - Phone: (08) 9072 0715

Address: 63a Dempster Street, Esperance WA 6450

Website: lwb.org.au

Provides care and support services across more than 250 urban, rural and remote communities across Australia.

Pilbara

WA Country Health

Karratha Health Campus

Phone: (08) 9144 7777

Email: khc.outpatients@health.wa.gov.au

Population Health Phone: 91447833 (for those without NDIS funding)

Provides a wide range of primary health services and programs for Pilbara children with special needs network

Kin Advocacy

Phone: (08) 9175 0032 or 1800 870 467

Email: Kda@kinadvocacy.org.au

Website: kinadvocacy.org.au

2 and 3, 15 Iron Ore Parade, Newman WA 6753

Advocacy organisation for people with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds living within the East Pilbara and Western Desert Region of Western Australia. Kin advocate in areas such as the justice system, healthcare, education, childcare, employment, housing and others.

Support and Services across Regional WA

Wheatbelt

Accessibility WA Inc

Phone: (08) 9881 4557

114 Federal Street, Narrogin

Email: admin@accessability.org.au

Website: accessability.org.au

NDIS registered provider of; daily living supports, community Inclusion & participation supports, Supported Independent Living (SIL), Individual living options (ILO), Therapy (general and early childhood), support coordination, and plan management.

Essential Personnel Lifestyle Services

Phone: 1800 875 432

Email: teeny@essentialpersonnel.org.au

Website: essentialpersonnel.org.au

Supported learning, recreational and social support, mentoring, domestic assistance, support in personal care, supported living, overnight support away from home, support to stay in the family home, including time with a host family, support service coordination. With offices and facilities in Northam and Merredin.

Wongan Hills Therapy Group

Phone: 0428 711 531

Address: 22 Elphin Crescent, Wongan Hills 6603

Email: wonganhillstherapygroup@gmail.com

Website: wongancc.com.au

Provide support and therapy-based programs for kids with special needs and create a space for like-minded parents to unwind and connect with each other.

Senses Australia

Phone: 0407 683 658

Email: tatianna.dupre@senses.org.au

Website: senses.org.au

Our Wheatbelt team works with clients, their families, carers, and other health professionals to manage clients' disability support services, deliver the right support, and help people achieve their meaningful and achievable goals. Provides therapy services, social work services, respite and short-term accommodation.

Wheatbelt Agcare Community Support Services

Phone: (08) 9046 5091

Email: wheatbeltfamily@wn.com.au

Agcare family counsellors provide free and confidential advice to families, couples and Individuals.

Avon Community Services

Phone: (08) 9622 2612

Email: administration@avoncs.org.au

Website: avoncs.org.au

Mentoring services, housing and support for aboriginal and at-risk youth aged between 12 and 21 throughout Northam, Merredin, Narrogin and Moora. Cultural programs and drop-in after school services for youth aged between 12 and 21.

AVIVO

Phone: (08) 9621 7900

Email: hello@avivo.org.au

Website: avivo.org.au

PO Box 956, Northam, WA 6401

Local teams provide visiting supports to people in their own homes and communities to enable meaningful lives.



Books and Journals

Jessica Kingsley Publishers (JKP)

Website: jkp.com

Independent UK based publisher has an extensive range of books on autism, ADHD, Pathological (Extreme) Demand Avoidance, neurodiversity and mental health.

The New Australian Autism Handbook

The essential guide for parents of children with autism by Benison O'Reilly and Seana Smith.

Autism Aspergers Digest

Website: fautism.com/autism-aspergers-digest/

American bi-monthly magazine created to meet the needs of teachers, therapists and family members affected by autism.

Cochrane

Website: cochranelibrary.com

Medical research findings to facilitate evidence-based choices about health interventions – search term “autism”.

Autism Parenting Magazine

Website: autismparentingmagazine.com

Provides latest research and professional guidance for families.

Autism Discussion page on Facebook

facebook.com/autismdiscussionpage

Bill Nason is the author of 3 books and the Autism Discussion page on Facebook.

Good Reads books

Website: goodreads.com/list/show/113806.

Over 300 books by autistic authors

Notanautismmom.com

Over 100 books on autism, including many written by autistic authors

ADHD Magazine

Website: ADDitudemag.com

Comprehensive website on ADHD, print and online magazine subscription available.

PDA Society UK

Website: pdasociety.org.uk/resources/resource-category/books/

Your local library may be able to order in books for you on autism, ADHD, PDA

Helplines

Autism Connect (free national helpline) 8am – 7pm, M – F	1300 308 699
Carers WA - Counselling Line (accessed through Carer Gateway) 8am – 5pm, M – F	1800 422 737
Parenting WA Line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.	6279 1200 1800 654 432
MensLine Australia 24 hours a day, 7 days a week	1300 789 978
Kids Helpline Ages 5 to 25 years, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week	1800 55 1800
Crisis Care – Department for Child Protection 24 hours a day, 7 days a week	1800 199 008
Mental Health Emergency Response Line	1300 555 788
Lifeline Crisis Support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week	13 11 14
Beyond Blue (depression and anxiety)	1300 224 636
Family Relationship Advice Line (family separation issues)	1800 050 321
Anglicare WA - Counselling for Carers	9263 2050
Ngala Parenting Line	1800 111 546
Autism Advisory and Support Service (Australia wide) 24-hour Autism Hotline staffed by volunteer autism parents	1300 222 777

Notes.....





City West Lotteries House
2 Delhi Street, West Perth, WA 6005

Phone: 08 9420 7203
Email: ddwa@ddwa.org.au
Web: www.ddwa.org.au
ABN: 61 889 503 484



Developmental Disability WA