

Information sheet - Foundational Supports – Thriving Kids

Targeted Earlier Intervention and Family Connect and Support recommissioning

September 2025*

DCJ wants to test the interest of CAFS funded services in delivering Foundational Supports in future.

What are Foundational Supports – Thriving Kids?

DCJ is working closely with the Australian Government and other states and territories to design foundational supports for children under nine with developmental delay or autism and low to moderate support needs, to ensure they and their families can receive the support they need.

For further information please see the following links:

<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/community-inclusion/disability-and-inclusion/foundational-supports-for-children.html>

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/thriving-kids-fact-sheet?language=en>

Who is the Cohort?

Children aged 0-8 years with autism and/or developmental delay and low-to-moderate support needs.

Research suggests the earlier the family, carers or kin of children with developmental support needs are involved in intervention programs, the better the outcomes.

What CAFS service types might be delivered under Foundational Supports?

- Supported Playgroups
- Parenting Programs
- Family Capacity Building

Note – Allied Health Services such as speech pathology, occupational therapy and/or physiotherapy may be a future component of Foundational Supports service delivery in these service types.

What client outcomes will Foundational Supports aim to achieve?

- Social and Community – increased inclusion and participation in community; increased sense of belonging to their community.
- Empowerment - families and carers are empowered and confident to understand and meet their child's development needs.

- Health - improved health and development of children and young people.
 - Education and Skills - reduced number of children starting school developmentally vulnerable in one, or two or more Australian Early Development Census domains.
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