



Autism
Association of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

School age *Services for* the school years

**Services for children and
adolescents ages 8 to 17 years**



About Us

The Autism Association is one of Australia's largest Autism specific service providers, and the only specialist organisation providing a full range of services for children and adults in Australia.

Our focus is on excellence in providing services to people with Autism and their families. We are deeply committed to enhancing the quality of life of every individual with Autism and passionate about supporting them to live their best life possible.

Our services are person-centred and based on leading international peer-reviewed research in the field of Autism.

It is important to us that you have options and that the support you receive from us is relevant to you and your families needs while adding value to your life.

We are a registered provider for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in Western Australia.

You can talk to our Autism Advisors to find out about the options available so we can help you achieve your NDIS plan goals and make sure you are accessing all funding available for you and your family.

This information can be translated into different languages or produced in different formats upon request.

Autism Diagnosis

A diagnosis provides children with Autism access to the support they need to overcome difficulties in education, giving them the skills to reach their full potential.

We provide specialist diagnostic services for children from the age of 2. We also provide a Specialist Youth Diagnostic Clinic for individuals from 13 years to 30 years old.

The specialist assessment team includes a consultant Paediatrician or Psychiatrist, Psychologist, and Speech Pathologist.

School Age Therapy Service

The School Age Service provides a comprehensive range of intervention, therapy and support to school age children between 8 and 17 years.

Our multidisciplinary team of Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists and Teachers work together to respond to the needs of each individual child and their family.

Our service is to the child and is family centred. Working collaboratively with the schools, other community services and the family to maximise the educational and social progress of each child.

Each family is assigned a Therapist as a key contact who partners with them to develop individual therapy plans that are tailored to the needs of each child.







Our Services Include:

- A custom therapy plan for your child once we have assessed their strengths, needs and goals through a functional assessment.
- One-on-one therapy sessions.
- Therapy provided across different locations including in your home, at your child's school or in the community.
- Transition support for when your child is moving to a new school or new support setting.
- Personalised visual resources to assist your child's independence and communication when at home, at school or in the community.
- A range of holiday group therapy programs over the January and July school holidays.

Our Social Adventurer Therapy Groups:

- We offer a range of social skills groups based on our own dedicated curriculum designed to develop social and emotional skills for school age children. Including self-awareness, understanding others, communication and friendships.

Access to Specialised Therapy Teams:

- Positive Behaviour Support to encourage lasting, positive behaviour and improve quality of life.
- Specialist communication assessment for assistive technology.
- Mealtime management involving a Specialist Therapist assessing and providing recommendations on mealtime safety, participation and enjoyment.

Parent Support

Our support groups are tailored to the family's journey and focus on needs at different stages of life. We invite you to join one of our Autism specific support groups!

Weekly MyTime Groups

Supported by an experienced facilitator, our MyTime groups allow parents and caregivers to have some downtime and talk with other families while their children are supervised by play leaders.

Dads Autism Connect Group

Our Dads Autism Connect group provides a relaxed, casual atmosphere for dads, step-dads and father-figures to chat, share and support each other to be the best dad you can be.

Parent Training

Parent training workshops are designed to provide information, practical strategies and resources to support families in managing everyday situations. These sessions can be delivered as part of a group, one-on-one in the family home, or online through webinars.

Regional Outreach

We offer a range of services to families living in regional and remote areas through our regional support and consultancy program.

This program includes Therapists providing individual support to families and their support networks via teletherapy, telephone and email consultation.

When our Regional Therapy Team are not traveling to various regional towns to provide training and support, online webinars are provided to families and professionals alike.

School Holiday Program

Families also have the option to travel to Perth during school holidays to participate in our Regional Intensive Holiday Program.

Short Breaks

Everyone needs a break at times.

Our Short Breaks Program, also known as Respite, provides a home away from home with fun-filled activities for children ages 6 to 18 years old.

Children can stay on weekends or school holidays to do the things they enjoy, explore friendships, and build confidence and independence.

Short breaks are provided in a range of ways, either at one of our homes in the suburbs, at the child's own home or through our community support programs.



Employment Placement and Support

There are two different ways to access specialist employment supports at the Autism Association.

When employment support funding is provided as part of your NDIS plan, supports are provided by the Individual Options community-based team.

When you are linked with us through the Department of Social Services (CentreLink), you will be supported by our Disability Employment Service (DES). You can also approach us directly for this service.

These services work together to ensure people with Autism receive support specific to their interests and needs to reach their employment goals.

Depending on your funding and individual circumstance, you may be able to be supported by both of these employment services.

AIM Disability Employment Service (DES)

Our AIM Employment service is the only Autism Specialist government contracted DES provider in Australia.

Our AIM Employment Program is a highly regarded specialist service focusing on finding employment for people with Autism. As the only specialist Autism DES provider in

Australia we can provide a wide range of supports to you to find a job that matches your goals, skills and abilities.

We also work together with employers who want support to recruit someone with Autism or who may already have an employee with Autism who needs some assistance in their job. Employment opportunities cover a range of work settings. In this program you will be provided on-the-job training and continuing support tailored to your needs.

NDIS Individual and Employment Options

When individuals have Employment Support funding in their NDIS plan, employment goals are tailored to each individual. We help you to find your employment pathway by researching and linking you in with suitable educational and vocational courses and building your employability skills. We can also help you develop your cover letter, resume, application and interview skills.

Our Employment Team also work with businesses and potential workplaces to find you suitable work experience or volunteer work.

Individual Options

Independence is different for every person.

There are a range of support services that can be chosen by the individual and their family to assist them to participate in the community as well as at home.

We work closely with each child to identify the support that best suits them. Our aim is to provide the support the person wants, at the time they want it and in ways that meet their needs. This can include developing a range of new skills and lifelong learning initiatives towards independence, further education, volunteering or pre-employment assistance.

Information and Advice

If you are looking for support or specialist advice, our Autism Advisor Team are here to help!

Our Autism Advisors provide support and Autism specific advice to individuals, families, carers and community members throughout WA.

The Advisor Team can address any questions and provide you with support, advice and information to link you into services and support options.



The Autism Association of WA offers a wide range of services across all stages of life

Services include:

- Diagnosis
- Autism Advisors and family support for newly diagnosed children
- Early childhood services
- School support service and therapy services for school age children
- Therapy and clinical services for adults with Autism
- Community living support: shared and individual homes
- Short Breaks (Respite)
- Individual support programs tailored to individual needs, including post school options
- Employment placement and support program
- Professional development and training services
- Regional support
- Parent training and support groups



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