

Our Guiding Principles

Inclusion - all children are supported to fully participate in neighborhood child care programs

Family Centered – this means that you, the parent, choose what kind of support you want

Individual Planning – each child's unique strengths and needs are recognized and supported

Child Development – children with developmental needs have access to early intervention and developmentally appropriate supports

Community Based – programs reflect local needs and priorities

Respect for cultural diversity

Support for capacity building in Aboriginal communities

For more information contact

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ABORIGINAL SUPPORTED CHILD DEVELOPMENT



What is Aboriginal Supported Child Development?

Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) is a Provincial program that is designed to specifically meet the needs of children with special needs. ASCD recognizes that inclusion and providing intervention and support in childcare settings during the early stages of development is important.

Who are the Children?

Aboriginal Children who are residents of BC are eligible for ASCDP. Children must meet the following three criteria:

1. *Child must be between newborn to 12 years (services for children 13 to 19 may be provided on an individual basis).*
2. *Child must have a developmental delay or disability in one of four areas:*
 - Physical
 - Cognitive
 - Communicative
 - Social/Emotional/Behavioral
3. *Child requires additional support in a childcare setting because of the developmental delay or disability.*

No diagnosis is required to receive services.

Who are the Families?

Families can include birth, extended, adopted, and foster families. Aboriginal families can be living on or off reserve, working or going to school.

What does support look like?

- Training, support and consultation with the family and childcare centre
- Short term or intermittent additional staffing to support in the child care program
- Ongoing additional staffing, a support worker in the child care program to support a child to be successful

Support takes place in...

- Daycare, family child care or Out of School Care
- In a child's home under exceptional circumstances when a child's support needs otherwise prevent him or her from participating in a childcare program



Services available to families include:

- Workshops for parents and caregivers
- Support in the classroom
- Individual planning
- Training and support for families and teachers
- Assistance accessing other community resources and health professionals
- Doing development screening and assessments at the request of the family
- Toys and equipment lending library
- Infant Massage
- Friends for Life Program

Participation is voluntary