

When you have questions about your child's development.. there are people who can help!

New Westminster has many services to offer children who may have needs that require extra supports and their families. As a community we aim to offer services that are inclusive in nature and where all children, are welcome, included and valued.

If you have question about your child's development, there are many services available to help.

There are many community resources that you will find for your child and family in this booklet. Some of these programs and services provide a unique or more specialized service for children who may need help in one or more areas of their development and their families.

If you are unsure which services would be the most appropriate please feel free to contact any one of these programs or the New Westminster Children's Centre at 604-521-8078.

These programs and services are available at NO COST to families.



Concerns about overall development...

	<p><u>A Public Health Nurse (PHN)</u> can help you or your family with health concerns, parenting, and child growth and development questions.</p>	<p>The Public Health Nurse can be reached at 604-777-6740.</p>
<p>New Westminster Children's Centre</p> <p>Operated by </p>	<p><u>The Infant Development Program (IDP)</u> is a support program for families of children birth to 3 years. The children have, or are at risk of having, a developmental delay or a diagnosed disability. An IDP Consultant will meet with you in your home and help you to learn more about your child's development, build strategies to encourage your child's growth, and provide information about useful community resources the family can participate in.</p> <p><u>The Supported Child Development (SCD) Program</u> is for families whose children require support in their preschool or child care setting. This Program is for children from birth to 19 years of age. An SCD Consultant assists the family and child care providers with goals for the child's development, resources, strategies, and activities. The Consultant will visit in both the home and child care setting. The SCD Program also assists families who have concerns about their child's growth and development, and the placement of their child in a child care program.</p> <p><u>Family and Individual Support Program</u> can provide families with a wide range of resources related to parenting a child, youth or adult who requires extra support due to a disability including contacts for respite caregivers, advocacy support, transition planning, regular newsletters and workshops.</p>	<p>Referrals for these services can be made by parents, doctors, preschool teachers, child care providers and consultants. For additional information please call</p> <p>The New Westminster Children's Centre at 604-521-8078.</p>

Services that are more specific include...

<p>New Westminster Children's Centre</p> <p>Operated by  <small>THE SIMON FRASER SOCIETY FOR COMMUNITY LIVING</small></p> <p>Therapy Services Delivered by  <small>SHARE FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES</small></p>	<p><i>Early Intervention Therapy Services provides therapy services to children birth to school entry age and their families who reside in New Westminster.</i></p> <p><i><u>Occupational Therapists</u> help children develop self-care skills, such as dressing, feeding, toileting. They also help with play skills, small motor development and sensory development. Therapists may recommend special toys or equipment to help with this development.</i></p> <p><i><u>Physical Therapists</u> assess and help children improve their strength, balance and coordination. Therapists may suggest equipment to help a child develop his/her motor skills.</i></p> <p><i><u>Speech-Language Therapists</u> assess the communication abilities of infants and young children. They provide suggestions, strategies and/or therapy to help children's communication skills develop. These services can take place in the family home or child care setting.</i></p>	<p><i>Referrals for these services can be made by parents, doctors, preschool teachers, child care providers and consultants. For additional information please call</i></p> <p><i>The New Westminster Children's Centre at 604-521-8078.</i></p> 
 <p><small>Better health. Best in health care.</small></p>	<p><i><u>Speech Language Therapy</u> is also available through the local Health Unit. These services take place at the Health Unit.</i></p>	<p><i>For additional information call the New Westminster Speech and Hearing Clinic at 604-777-6855 or The New Westminster Children's Centre at 604-521-8078.</i></p>
	<p><i><u>Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH)</u> services are available for children 0 to 6 years of age when parents or service providers have concerns about a child's healthy emotional development. Early signs include not bonding with parents or having a very difficult temperament. Clinicians work with families and focus on reducing symptoms, increasing positive parent-child interactions, and supporting parents emotional needs of their child. Sessions may be with a child alone and/or with the child and parents together.</i></p>	<p><i>Any person can initiate a referral for ECMH services by phoning 604-660-9495 and asking to speak with the Mental Health Intake Clinician.</i></p> <p><i>The referred child must be living in New Westminster.</i></p>
	<p><i><u>Western Society for Children</u> is an agency of hope that enhances the lives of challenged children and their families. Our charity offers individualized direct services or funding support and advocacy for the daily living needs of families of children with disabilities. Parents may self-refer if any disability or developmental challenge is present in their child. Every child deserves a chance.</i></p>	<p><i>Call 604-515-0810 for more information.</i></p>