



**DPV
Health®**

Early Childhood Development – Group Programs



Our Group Programs focus on building skills and achieving developmental goals in a fun, shared learning environment.

Group programs are a valuable and well accepted support, particularly for families that are less engaged with their communities or feel they currently don't have the capacity to engage with broader early years support services.

- › Groups can provide a space for children to develop targeted skills in a smaller, less overwhelming and highly specialised environment.
- › They provide a strong foundation to develop a supported move into a larger group environment such as kindergarten or child care.
- › Children can access a range of interactive play based activities to build skills such as communication, play, social and movement skills.

Music Therapy Group

The aim of this group is to build communication and social skills. Communication skills are developed by following instructions embedded in songs and making choices; social skills through activities such as sharing and taking turns. The group will use a variety of music therapy methods including, singing familiar songs, exploring musical instruments, movement and music activities.

Lego Therapy Group

This group will involve working together to build a Lego creation, free play and snacks. The Lego Club group requires a 1:3 ratio of therapists/teachers to children to facilitate the group goals. This group aims at helping the child improve their communication skills through meaningful interactions and dialogue, teaching them how to get along with others and work together in a team, follow verbal instructions and most of all, to have fun!

Play & Movement Group

The aim of this group is to build communication, movement and play skills. The group will include welcome/farewell activities, movement-based games, musical-fun, sensory exploration and peer-focussed social activities.

Social Skills Group (ASD)

This evidence-based Social Skills Group is designed for children who have started school or are transitioning to school, including children who may have been assessed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The focus will be on learning successful social strategies that can be generalized into other environments, such as school, home and sporting activities. It will include a range of activities that encourage making choices, teaching parents how to support their child through interest-based learning, strategies to assist children identify and manage their own behaviours, conflict resolution, providing sensory supports and using appropriate social skills.

Feeding Therapy for Fussy Eaters Group

This program focuses on helping kids become comfortable with trying a variety of new foods through food play and exploration. It aims to reduce a child's fears or aversion to food, while creating new positive experiences. The program can be used to assess and treat children with feeding difficulties and poor growth from birth to 12 years, with a particular focus on early intervention in children from 6 months to 6 years. A specially trained team comprising speech pathologists, occupational therapists and an allied health assistant will look at all areas of the child's development to manage their feeding difficulties. Key aspects of this program include - assessments to determine group suitability, evaluating case history, swallowing and oral motor assessment, play-based group assessment and parent information session.

* Current research shows that children learn best in the context of their caregiver and peers, so there is an expectation that a family member/carer support the engagement of the child in the group.