

**Our Vision**  
Transforming children's lives

**Our Mission**  
To help children flourish through  
therapy and family support

### Accessing our services

Families can contact us directly to access most of our therapy services. A referral from a doctor or other allied health professional is not required for our private services, but families need to meet eligibility requirements to access government funded programs.

### Cost of services

The cost of service depends on the funding source, length and type of service required. Some therapy services can be partially claimed through Medicare if a referral for a GP / Team Care Arrangements Plan is made by a GP. Private health rebates may also apply. As a charitable organisation, the cost of Kids Are Kids! services are subsidised to be affordable for all families.

### Payments and cancellations

Payment is required at the time of the service. Payment for assessments is required at the first assessment appointment. The assessment report will be released once full payment has been made. We require 24 hours notice for cancellation or rescheduling of appointments otherwise a 50% fee may apply.

### Enquiries and appointments

We understand that the health system can be complex and we support families to understand which programs and services you may be eligible to receive. For further details about any of our programs or to discuss your child's difficulties and needs please contact us.

## REACHING POTENTIAL TOGETHER

The Kids Are Kids! team is passionate about helping children and families.

Our dedicated team of qualified therapy professionals provide specialist therapy services including:



Speech Pathology  
Occupational Therapy  
Physiotherapy  
Clinical Psychology  
Parent Workshops & Support

Kids Are Kids! is registered to provide supports for National Disability Insurance Scheme participants



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## School Readiness

[www.kidsarekids.org.au](http://www.kidsarekids.org.au)

**KIDS ARE KIDS!**  
THERAPY & EDUCATION CENTRE INC.

## Is your child ready to start school?

Starting school can be a daunting time for both parents and children. As parents and caregivers, you want to make sure your child feels safe, secure and welcomed in their new school.

Most of all, you need to ensure that your child has the skills they need to handle the activities and programs in the classroom.

School readiness is about more than just a child's age; starting school involves a complex interplay between a range of developmental domains.

A child must have developed cognitive (academic) competencies in addition to social, emotional and physical skills.

It's very important to consider a child's overall development before considering if they are ready to start school.

## Your child's social and emotional skills

Children need to develop confidence and resilience to be successful learners and social skills are crucial if a child is to make a successful start at school. Our Therapists can help your child to:

- Improve eye contact when interacting with another person
- Comply with requests; cease activity when requested
- Manage frustration and avoid tantrums
- Develop patience and concentration
- Avoid separation anxiety
- Play co-operatively with peers; sharing and turn-taking
- Understand the needs and feelings of others

## Your child's communication skills

Children need to have communication skills in order to interact, understand and describe events or stories. Communication assists children to thrive in the classroom and playground. Our Therapists can help your child to:

- Initiate and sustain conversations
- Speak clearly and audibly
- Answer inferential questions such as; why?, what's next?
- Describe recent experiences, recite rhymes and sing songs, retell stories
- Understand requests and listen attentively
- Take part in conversation

## Your child's fine motor skills

Fine motor skills involve the small muscles of the body that enable such functions as writing, grasping small objects, and fastening clothing. They involve strength, fine motor control, and dexterity. These skills are important in most school activities as well as in life in general. Our Therapists can help your child to:

- Isolate fingers e.g. to point
- Hold a pencil in an appropriate grip
- Draw recognisable pictures of people
- Copy simple shapes e.g. circle, triangle, square
- Cut along lines and cut simple shapes



### Family Centred Approach

We are a family-centred practice, meaning that families are an integral part of the intervention team, and work with therapists to develop their child's skills together. This approach recognises the expertise of the family who knows their child's needs the best. The family and therapy team work together to set goals based on the family's objectives.

## Your child's gross motor skills

Gross motor skills involve the large muscles of the body that enable such functions as walking, kicking, sitting upright, lifting, and throwing a ball. A child's gross motor skills depend on both muscle tone and strength.

Our therapists can help your child to:

- Manage changes in the environment e.g. stairs, obstacles, uneven ground
- Understand spatial concepts e.g. up/down, left/right
- Catch and throw a ball with a partner
- Kick a ball
- Use a wide range of gross motor equipment

## Cost of services

Families may be able to access school readiness services at no direct cost if they are eligible for a funded program through DSC Early Intervention, DSS Better Start or Helping Children with Autism or NDIS or My Way individual plans. Medicare and Health Fund rebates are also available through a referral from a GP, paediatrician or psychiatrist. Families can also access our services through our Fee for Service Program. This program provides quality therapy services at a subsidised and affordable rate.