Our new social skills group program consists of two groups:

- **Social Sparkles** – 4-6 year olds
- **Social Stars** – 7-10 year olds

Our **Social Lights** group for **11-14 year olds** is currently under development, but open for expressions of interest.

**How Many Sessions?**
8 sessions – 1.5 hours each (12 hours total)

**What Do the Sessions Involve?**
Each session has 3 parts:

1) **Joint Activity**: Children and their parents are introduced to the skill being taught that day and participate in a joint activity to demonstrate this.

2) **Group Learning**: Parents leave the room. Children learn about skills through different activities and then practice these skills with their peers. We use the Seesaw app to take pictures/videos of what happens in the session so parents can see what happens during the group.

3) **Re-join**: Parents return to group and are briefed. Parent handouts provided.
What Skills Are Covered?

- Greetings
- Expected/Unexpected Behaviours
- Whole Body Listening
- Personal Space
- Friendships
- Getting Along With Others/Winning and Losing
- Thoughts and Feelings
- Flexible Thinking
- Friendships
- Asking Others to Play/Joining In

The program is partly based on the *We Thinkers! Series* (Social Explorers and Social Problem Solvers curriculum), which is designed to be used with both typically developing children and those with social learning challenges.

How Much Skill Practice with Peers is Involved?

Practicing skills learnt with their peers is the most important part of social learning. We use a large range of different activities (role plays, hands-on activities, videos, books) to teach the concepts and why that particular skill is important. In each session we incorporate ‘structured play’ where the skills learnt are practiced while the children do different activities together (e.g., playing a game, doing a team scavenger hunt). Being part of the group serves as a useful social learning experience and opportunity to practice skills being taught. The interactions between the children are monitored and supported by the therapists throughout the whole group, and used to create ‘in the moment’ learning opportunities.

How Do We Sign Up?

Email expressions of interest to info@kidsarekids.org.au

If you are a current client, you can talk to your key therapist about signing up.