# **Northern Mallee**

**Autism Spectrum Support & Evaluation Team (ASSET)** 

# **Post Diagnostic Resource**

# **Resource List**

### Information about ASD

#### Amaze (Formally known as Autism Victoria)

Amaze is an excellent source of reliable information about Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Among other things, Amaze can provide info about the Helping children with Autism initiative, about Early Days workshops, other upcoming workshops and speakers, and detailed reading lists for parents, children, siblings and professionals. Members can borrow books from their extensive library and receive a quarterly newsletter called 'The Spectrum'. Non-members can register for an e-newsletter.

www.amaze.org.au ph. 1300 307 909.

#### Loddon Mallee Autism Awareness

Information relating to autism services, workshops and information for the Loddon-Mallee region can be located on the ASD Case Consultant Practitioner's website <a href="https://www.clrsasd.org.au">www.clrsasd.org.au</a>

#### Raising Children Network

For information, practical guidance and tips about raising a child with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). There is also has a section which offers reliable information about a wide range of therapies and interventions for children with ASD. Each guide gives an overview of the therapy, what research says about the therapy and the approximate time and costs involved.

www.raisingchildren.net.au.

#### Autism Spectrum Australia (ASPECT)

ASPECT provides information and advice about ASD. Regular *Positive Behaviour Support workshops* are delivered by ASPECT. Information regarding upcoming workshops can be found by contacting ASPECT on <a href="https://www.autismspectrum.org.au">www.autismspectrum.org.au</a>

#### Autism Help website

This website has strategies for managing difficult behaviours for early years, primary school age, adolescence and adults.

https://www.autismhelp.info/

#### <u>Positive Partnerships</u> (school age)

The positive partnerships program is aimed at supporting school aged students on the autism spectrum. It delivers professional development for teachers and offers workshops and information sessions for parents and carers. Both components incorporate an Online Learning Portal where teachers and parents can access learning modules, resources, fact sheets, workshop content and support material. <a href="https://www.autismtraining.com.au">www.autismtraining.com.au</a>

#### ■ *The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)* (School age children)

DEECD has set up an Autism-Friendly website www.education.vic.gov.au/autism

#### ■ The Association for Children with a Disability (ACD)

This website provides information about disability, including a booklet entitled Through the Maze: a guide to

benefits and services for families of children with a disability. [ph 9818 2000] <a href="https://www.acd.org.au">www.acd.org.au</a>

#### The Early Days workshop

This is for parents and carers of young children *under school age* who have recently had a child diagnosed on the autism spectrum, or referred for an assessment. The workshop is for parents who are in the "early days" of their journey through the assessment and diagnosis process. The introductory workshop covers what your child's autism means for you and your family, how the everyday things you do as a parent can make a difference to your child's development, why it's important to support your child's development as early as possible, how to get the most out of services for children with autism and make decisions about which interventions will best support your child's development. In addition to the introductory workshop, Early Days also run a number of skills workshops that cover topics such as behaviour management strategies or developmental concerns. Workshops are run throughout Victoria however for those who have difficulties attending in person, there are also telephone and online workshops on offer.

Phone 1300 307 909 www.amaze.org.au

- The **new ASD & Disability app** is free and designed to help parents find the services and information they need to best meet the needs of their children. It includes:
  - A service pathfinder to guide parents through the process of connecting with support, including
    financial assistance, and the services they can access at each stage before and after diagnosis. It
    also introduces them to key specialists and professionals that they will encounter along the way.
  - A service mapping tool allowing parents to locate services anywhere around Australia via postcode and service type.
  - Videos with parent stories, tips, reassurance and ideas.
  - Links to articles for parents about common disability and ASD topics including diagnosis, early intervention, learning and development, social challenges, communication, thinking and learning strengths, later diagnosis of ASD and choosing interventions.

You can download the free Raising Children with ASD and Disability app from <u>iTunes for iOS</u> or <u>Google Play for Android</u>.

# **Local Support Groups**

The Sunraysia Autism Spectrum Support Group (SASSG Inc'), consists of parents/carers within the Sunraysia district who care for a child and/or adult or both, or they themselves are on the autism spectrum. SASSG runs a number of social events for parents/carers throughout the year. SASSG also has family fun days and other events throughout the year for those who are on the Autism Spectrum. To find out more, go to <a href="www.sassg.org.au">www.sassg.org.au</a>, and for membership look under the 'Contact Us' tab for more information. Our Facebook page is 'Sunraysia Autism (SASSG Inc')'. Please note that SASSG Inc' is not a referral service, we are a support group.

## **Respite Services and Recreation**

- Respite [giving you a break] can include in-home or out of home care, before and after school programs, camps and holiday programs, recreation and leisure activities. *CareLine* [a Commonwealth government program] co-ordinates respite. *Phone* 1800 059 059 [24 hours a day, every day].
- Mildura Rural City Council: Respite Care is available for people who care for a person with a disability who cannot be left alone. The service enables a carer to take a break from their caring duties. It also provides the person being cared for with a break without their usual carer. Respite can be provided regularly or occasionally as arranged. Fees range from \$3.40 to \$34.70.

**Contact**: Phone (03) 5018 8234 or discuss in person at Council's Deakin Avenue Service Centre (78-84 Deakin Avenue, Mildura)

# **List of Services in the Sunraysia Region**

Speech & Language Therapy						
Provider	Services Provided	Address	Phone	HCWA funding	Fees	
Brooke Gibbons Speech Pathology	<ul> <li>1:1 therapy remediating speech, language, literacy and swallowing/feeding issues</li> <li>Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)</li> <li>Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)</li> <li>Small groups – social skills, early language</li> </ul>	112 Walnut Ave, Mildura. Office at the rear of the property	0419 346 315 brooke@bgspeec h.com.au	Yes	Contact provider	
Mildura Kids Clinic (Linda Phillips)	Developmental/ Social Learning; Therapy-based.  Refer to <a href="http://www.mildurakidsclinic.com.au">http://www.mildurakidsclinic.com.au</a> for more information, including fee schedule.	181 Walnut Avenue, Mildura	50 21 5569	Yes	Contact provider	
In Leaps and Bounds	Speech pathology assessment and therapy Groups for social skills and language stimulation	125-127 Pine Street, Mildura	50 22 9663	Yes	Contact provider	
Amber Baird Speech Pathology	Providing in-clinic and outreach services for assessment and evidence-based interventions for speech and language skills, social communication and social cognition skills, skilled in AAC and assistive communication technology assessment and intervention	33 Darling Street, Wentworth NSW 2648	0428 272 271	Yes	Contact Provider	
Sunraysia Community Health Service	<ul> <li>1:1 and group therapy for children prior to attending school. HCWA funding can now be used at SCHS.</li> <li>The child cannot be eligible for or accessing: <ul> <li>Mildura Early Childhood Intervention Service</li> <li>Private providers for speech therapy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Must live in Victoria to access this service.</li> </ul>	Corner Thirteenth Street and Deakin Avenue, Mildura	50 22 5444	No	Contact provider	
Robinvale District Health Services	Speech pathology assessment and intervention.	Dareton Primary Health Centre	50 51 8160	No	Nil	

	The child must live in NSW to access this service.  A child is not eligible if accessing another service, including Early Intervention or private therapy.	42-44 Tapio Street, Dareton, NSW 2717.			
Mallee Family Care Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECIS)	A coordinated services approach to: therapy, parent support, educational & development programs support with inclusion in education settings in the home/community/office.  Individual Speech pathology service can be purchased with HCWA funds. Refer to HCWA website.  The child must meet specific criteria to access this service. Contact provider to discuss eligibility.	53 Eighth Street, Mildura	50 51 0980	Yes	Nil
Therapy Connect	Speech pathology via Skype. Trial consultation is available.	All rural & regional Victoria	Sue Cameron 0427 465 820	Yes	Contact provider

Occupational Therapy					
Provider	Services Provided	Address	Phone	HCWA funding	Fees

In Leaps and Bounds	Occupational therapy Group activities, social skills building	125-127 Pine Street, Mildura	50 22 9663	Yes	Contact Provider
Mildura Kids Clinic	Individualised services addressing fine motor skill development, school readiness, sensory assessment and intervention, and play skills development.	181 Walnut Ave, Mildura VIC 3500	50215569	Yes	Contact Provider
Sunraysia Community Health Service	Individual and group therapy from birth. Cannot be eligible for or accessing Mildura Early Childhood Intervention Service or engaged with private providers for occupational therapy.  HCWA funding can now be used at SCHS.  A child must live in Victoria to access this service.	Corner Thirteenth Street and Deakin Avenue, Mildura	50 22 5444	No	Contact Provider
Mallee Family Care Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECIS)	Fine motor / sensory assessment and developmental programs in the home or on site.  The child must meet specific criteria to access this service. Contact provider to discuss eligibility.	Eighth Street, Mildura	5022 9038	Yes	Nil
Inspiring Possibilities	Occupational therapy via Videolink	Rural & regional Victoria	1800 845 863	Yes	Contact Provider
Robinvale District Health Services	Occupational therapy assessment and intervention. A child is not eligible if accessing another service, including Early Intervention or private therapy. NSW clients only.	Dareton Primary Health Centre 42-44 Tapio Street, Dareton, NSW 2717.	(03) 50 51 8160	No	Nil
Therapy Connect	Occupational Therapy via Skype.	All rural & regional Victoria	Simone Dudley 0438 881 747	Yes	Contact provider

Psychology						
Provider	Services Provided	Address	Phone	HCWA funding	Fees	
Mildura Kids Clinic (Kate French: clinical psychologist)	Refer to: <a href="http://www.mildurakidsclinic.com.au">http://www.mildurakidsclinic.com.au</a> Behavioural, developmental / social learning, family-based	181 Walnut Ave, Mildura VIC 3500	50 02 0460	Yes	Contact Provider	
In Leaps and Bounds	Child psychology counselling and assessments	125-127 Pine Street, Mildura	50 22 9663	Yes	Contact Provider	
Psychology & Well Being Worx	Child psychology, counselling and assessments	195 Thirteenth Street MILDURA, 3500, VIC	5022 1247	No Yes NDIS	Contact Provider	
	Couns	elling				
Dowdy's Wellbeing Centre	Counsellors and psychologists	233 Deakin Ave, Mildura	50 21 4749		Contact Provider	
	Relationship Development	Intervention (RDI) Ther	ару			
Connect & Relate for Autism (Donna Milne)	RDI Therapy Travelling service	181 Walnut Ave, Mildura	0438 056 471	Yes	Contact provider	
Connect & Relate for Autism (Renee Dela Cruz)	RDI Therapy	Mildura	0417 393 876	Yes	Contact Provider	

Physiotherapy						
Provider	Services Provided	Address	Phone	HCWA funding	Fees	
Sunraysia Community Health Service	Individual and group therapy from birth Cannot be eligible for or accessing Mildura Early Childhood Intervention Service (HCWA) funded programs or engaged with private providers for physiotherapy. Victorian clients only.	Corner Thirteenth Street and Deakin Avenue, Mildura	50 22 5444	No	Contact Provider	
Robinvale District Health Service (RDHS)	Physiotherapy assessment and intervention NSW clients only.	Dareton Primary Health Centre 42-44 Tapio Street, Dareton, NSW 2717.	RDHS 50518160	No	Nil	
Rowena Keenan	Physical/sensory/psychomotor development	232 Thirteenth Street Mildura VIC 3500	0437 144 090	No	Contact Provider	
	Diet	etics				
Sunraysia Community Health Service	Individual therapy for children with nutritional issues including failure to thrive and selective, restricted or fussy eating. Victorian clients only.	Corner Thirteenth Street and Deakin Avenue, Mildura			Contact Provider	
Robinvale District Health Service (RDHS)	Dietitian assessment and intervention. NSW clients only.	Dareton Primary Health Centre 42-44 Tapio Street, Dareton, NSW 2717.	RDHS 50518160		Nil	

	Podic	atry			
Sunraysia Community Health Service	Individual treatment for children with issues related to walking, running, co-ordination and footwear.	Corner Thirteenth Street and Deakin Avenue, Mildura		Cont	tact Provider
Robinvale District Health Service	Podiatry assessment and intervention. NSW clients only.	Dareton Primary Health Centre 42-44 Tapio Street, Dareton, NSW 2717.	RDHS 50518160		Nil
	Other S	ervices			
Mallee Family Care Early Intervention Service – Multidisciplinary intervention development	Initial assessment designed to support developmental programming for the child across disciplines, enhances strengths and determines areas for development.  Multi-disciplinary consists of: key worker, OT, preschool field officer / early childhood teacher.	53 Eighth Street, Mildura	50 51 0980	Cont	tact Provider
Mytime group	MyTime groups are peer support groups which provide an opportunity for people who are supporting children with disabilities to share their experiences and support each other.  Two MyTime groups run in Mildura on Mondays and Tuesdays.	53 Eighth Street, Mildura	Jane Collins or Maree Winslade 5022 9038	Со	ntact Provider

Note/Comments	

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ASSET: Northern Mallee Autism Spectrum Support & Evaluation Team