

Helping Children with Autism Program (HCWA)

The Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) package includes:

- Autism Advisors (for ages up to 7years)
- Funding for ASD Early Intervention services (for ages up to 7 years)
- PlayConnect Playgroups*
- Early Days family workshops*
- An ASD website
- Positive Partnerships training (for parents and education staff of school aged children)
- Medicare items (for ages up to 15 years)

*Diagnosis not necessary for PlayConnect and Early Days workshops.

Who funds this package?

HCWA is funded by three Australian Government Departments. Details of these three departments are listed for your reference.

1. **FaHCSIA** (Dept of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs)
<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/disability/progserv/people/HelpingChildrenWithAutism/Pages/default.aspx>
2. **Medicare** (Dept of Health and Aging)
Enquiry Line 132 150 (for providers) or 132001 (for patients)
<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/autism-children>
3. **DEEWR** (Dept of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations)
<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/autism-children>

Where can I find more information about the components of the package?

- The above web links for FaHCSIA, Medicare and DEEWR give a detailed overview of each component.
- More details are included under the “Services” area of the Loddon Mallee ASD website www.clrsasd.org.au
- Professionals can also contact the ASD Case Consultant Practitioner
- Parents can also contact Autism Victoria’s Infoline