

## **Early Childhood Special Education Services**

Under current Alberta Education policy, children identified with disabilities/delays are eligible for up to three years of ECS programming, depending on the age, severity of the disability/delay and its impact on the child's learning and development. Children with severe disabilities/delays are eligible for 3 years of programming prior to Grade 1. Children with mild/moderate disabilities/delays are eligible for two years of programming prior to Grade 1.

Peace Wapiti School Division # 76 offers programming for special needs children who meet the Alberta Education funding guidelines.

Children are often referred through Early Intervention Programs or by qualified professionals from the Regional Health Authorities. Once the child is enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program the school jurisdiction is responsible for coordinating service delivery. School jurisdictions receive funding from Alberta Education to provide relevant supports and services to create a developmentally appropriate education program. (Program Unit Funding for children with severe disabilities and Mild/Moderate funding for children with mild/moderate disabilities.)

In consultation with parents programming is developed to meet the developmental needs of the child. Consultation from Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and Educational Psychologists may be accessed. Programs are developed in each community based on the resources and programs available.

Information about program availability in Peace Wapiti School Division #76 should be addressed to:

Peace Wapiti School Division No.76 at 780-532-8133

Alberta Education Early Childhood Services Information

<http://education.alberta.ca/parents/ecs.aspx>

The following website provides a chart that outlines the services available from four ministries: Children's Services, Education, Health and Wellness, and Seniors and Community Supports.

[http://education.alberta.ca/media/511321/linked\\_services.pdf](http://education.alberta.ca/media/511321/linked_services.pdf)

Raising Children website

[www.programs.alberta.ca/Living/13294.aspx?N=770+13250](http://www.programs.alberta.ca/Living/13294.aspx?N=770+13250)

[https://sharepoint.pwsd76.ab.ca/records/Student Services Special Education 58200/Early Childhood Brochure.doc](https://sharepoint.pwsd76.ab.ca/records/Student%20Services%20Special%20Education%2058200/Early%20Childhood%20Brochure.doc)