

# APPENDIX 2 *to the Homeschooling* PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES Manual

Non School-Based Supports for Children *and* Youth

UPDATED MAY 2024



Ministry of  
Education and  
Child Care



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# Purpose

## Introduction

This Appendix was created to augment the [Ministry of Education and Child Care's Homeschooling Procedures and Guidelines Manual](#) (*published in 2021*) by providing a summary of non school-based supports and services provided to children and youth (*including registered homeschoolers*) by other Ministries. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all Ministries' potential supports and services.

The information in the tables provided was collated by the Ministry of Education and Child Care in 2023 through outreach to partner Ministries. For the most up-to-date information, please review each Ministry's website.

## Partner Ministries

- » Ministry of Children and Family Development
- » Ministry of Health
- » Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
- » Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
- » Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General



## MINISTRY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES

MINISTRY	SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORTS & SERVICES	WHERE TO FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
<b>Ministry of Children and Family Development</b>	<b>1. Foundational Programs</b> Infant Development / Aboriginal Infant Development Programs, Supported Child Development / Aboriginal Supported Child Development Programs, Early Intervention Therapy (EIT).	A variety of service providers across BC, including Indigenous organizations are contracted to provide early childhood intervention services for infants and young children who show signs of – or who are at risk of having – a developmental delay or disability. These services are tailored to the specific needs of each child and family with the goal of enhancing the child’s foundational development. Children and families can be referred to these programs by their public health nurse or physician; families may also connect with a local service provider directly to find out if they may be eligible.	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/assessing-child-development-38610">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/assessing-child-development-38610</a>
	<b>2. Family Support Services</b> Respite, child and youth care workers, behavioural supports, parent education and training, counselling, household management, and life skills for children and youth with support needs.	These programs are subject to specific eligibility criteria and funding availability. Some services may be subject to waitlists. Priority waitlists for programs vary depending on availability, the needs of the child/ youth, the situation of the family and their existing supports.	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/support-needs">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/support-needs</a>
	<b>3. Specialized Provincial Services</b> Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Community Brain Injury Program, Provincial Outreach and Professional Supports, Autism Funding Program, At-Home Program (AHP) (Medical Benefits and Respite), School-Aged Therapy (SAT), School-Aged Extended Therapy (SAET).	Families with children or youth who may meet eligibility requirements for any of the children and youth with support needs (CYSN) services would be able to request services by contacting their local CYSN office. Assessments and/or diagnostic reports are required to confirm eligibility for access to family support services, and certain specialized services (AHP, SAT, SAET, Autism Funding Program).	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/support-needs">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/support-needs</a>

## MINISTRY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES (CONT'D...)

MINISTRY	SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORTS & SERVICES	WHERE TO FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
<p><b>Ministry of Children and Family Development</b></p>	<p><b>4. Family Connection Centres (FCCs) and Disability Services</b>                      MCFD is piloting a service approach in four areas of the province, Kelowna, Prince Rupert, Terrace and Smithers. Pilot family connections centres (FCCs) and MCFD Disability Services are a complimentary suite of services to support children/youth with support needs and their families.</p> <p>Family connection centres are operated by contracted community agencies and provide a range of voluntary services, delivered by multidisciplinary teams, that can be accessed by children, youth and families.</p> <p>The pilot family connections centre will provide services and supports like physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language services, behaviour supports, inclusive child care supports, child and youth care workers as well as family education and coaching.</p> <p>Children/youth who require additional support beyond the family connections centre may be referred to Disability Services where eligibility is determined by a functional assessment.</p>	<p>Families located in areas delivering pilot Children and Youth with Support Needs (CYSN) services can connect with the local family connections centre (FCC) for developmental and goal focused services. Children who have functional assessments that indicate moderate or significant support needs may be eligible for Disability Services (DS) through CYSN and can request a referral to be sent by the FCC to inquire about eligibility.</p>	<p><a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/support-needs/pilot-family-connections-centres-in-four-communities">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/support-needs/pilot-family-connections-centres-in-four-communities</a></p> <p><a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/children-teens-with-support-needs/2_cysn_framework_-_family_connections_centres.pdf">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/children-teens-with-support-needs/2_cysn_framework_-_family_connections_centres.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Ministry of Health</b></p>	<p><b>Nursing Support Services (NSS)</b>                      A provincial program operated by the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) through the BC Children's Hospital (BCCH). NSS provides support to families/guardians of children with chronic, complex health conditions (birth to 19 years) who require the knowledge, judgement/skill of a licenced nurse.</p>	<p>Families receive a referral from a physician for NSS services.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.bcchildrens.ca/our-services/sunny-hill-health-centre/our-services/nursing-support">http://www.bcchildrens.ca/our-services/sunny-hill-health-centre/our-services/nursing-support</a></p>

## MINISTRY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES (CONT'D...)

MINISTRY	SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORTS & SERVICES	WHERE TO FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
<p><b>Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions</b></p>	<p><b>1. Integrated Child &amp; Youth (ICY)</b></p> <p>ICY teams are community-based, wraparound and integrated mental health and substance use services and supports for children &amp; youth including those with different abilities, backgrounds and situations.</p> <p>ICY Teams serve all children, youth and families who live within the local school district, including those attending First Nations-operated schools, independent schools, alternative school environments, or those not in school.</p> <p>Additional team members may be included, such as family physicians, social workers, coaches, support people, Elders, other counsellors / professionals, based on the child or youth's needs (not additional funding).</p>	<p>ICY Teams receive referrals from other service providers such as early years services, school staff, primary care, mental health and substance use services, Foundry centres and organizations who support First Nations, Métis and Inuit young people. Children, youth and families can self-refer when the teams are fully staffed and operating. Access to care that upholds traditional relational structures in Indigenous communities are also important and could include a referral from a Hereditary Chief or the child / youth's Nation. ICY teams work closely with schools, early years services, and primary care, and connect children and youth to specialized and higher intensity services when needed.</p>	<p><a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/about-the-bc-government/mental-health-and-addictions-strategy/integrated-child-youth-teams">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/about-the-bc-government/mental-health-and-addictions-strategy/integrated-child-youth-teams</a></p>
	<p><b>2. Youth Substance use beds and services</b></p> <p>Substance use services in B.C. are delivered as part of a broad continuum of care that includes case management services, outreach programs, community counselling, day treatment, home and community-based withdrawal management (detox), harm reduction services</p>	<p>Youth Substance Use Beds and Services: Youth, families and caregivers may reach out directly to most health authority youth substance use programs (see "Services in health authority regions" at <a href="http://gov.bc.ca/youthsubstanceusecare">gov.bc.ca/youthsubstanceusecare</a>). Referrals to services can also be made by primary care clinicians or Ministry of Children and Family Development Child and Youth Mental Health clinicians.</p>	<p><b>Youth Substance Use Beds in B.C.</b> <a href="http://gov.bc.ca/youthsubstanceusecare">gov.bc.ca/youthsubstanceusecare</a></p>

## MINISTRY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES (CONT'D...)

MINISTRY	SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORTS & SERVICES	WHERE TO FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
<p><b>Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions</b> <i>(Continued...)</i></p>	<p>and supports, crisis intervention services, medication-assisted treatment as well as bed-based services. Services support youth and young adults to meet their substance use treatment goals. Some programs may also address concurrent mental health challenges and/or provide wraparound supports, such as life skills training and housing supports.</p>		
	<p><b>3. Foundry Centres and Virtual Services</b></p> <p>Foundry makes it easy for young people ages 12-24 to find youth-friendly, welcoming and appropriate services. They can simply walk into their local Foundry centre or access province-wide virtual services through the Foundry BC App. Services offered include mental health and addiction supports, as well as physical and sexual health care, youth and family peer support and social services. A team works together with each young person to form a plan to meet their needs.</p>	<p>The goal of Foundry is to remove barriers to care. No appointment is necessary during walk-in hours and young people can self-refer to the centre. In addition, young people can also be referred by anyone, such as a physician, emergency department, friend, school or family member. A Foundry staff member will ensure youth get connected with the right service provider inside or outside the centre.</p> <p>Youth who do not have a Foundry centre in their community can connect with Foundry's provincial virtual services.</p>	<p><a href="https://foundrybc.ca/">https://foundrybc.ca/</a></p> <p><a href="https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/">https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/</a></p>

**Foundry Virtual Services** can be accessed via web browser or via smartphone app (Apple and Android).

*Youth can pre-book virtual appointments by selecting timeslots in advance.*

**Drop-in Support** (virtually through Foundry BC app)

**Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2 - 6pm**

Youth without internet access can call:

**1-833-308-6379** or email [online@foundrybc.ca](mailto:online@foundrybc.ca)

## MINISTRY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES (CONT'D...)

MINISTRY	SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORTS & SERVICES	WHERE TO FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
<p><b>Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General</b></p>	<p><b>1. Police-based and community-based victim services programs</b></p> <p>160+ programs across B.C. that provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma.</p>	<p>Information on police-based and community programs and Programs for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence (PEACE) including how to access services.</p> <p><a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/victim-services-directory">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/victim-services-directory</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/public-safety-solicitor-general">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/public-safety-solicitor-general</a></p>
	<p><b>2. Programs for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence (PEACE)</b></p> <p>Provides group and individual counselling for children ages 3 – 18 who have witnessed abuse, threats or violence in the home. Over 80 programs across the Province that are specifically aimed at supporting children and youth.</p>		
	<p><b>3. VictimLink BC</b></p> <p>A toll-free multilingual, confidential phone, email and text service available across BC and the Yukon 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing information and referral services to all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.</p>	<p><b>VictimLink BC</b></p> <p>Accessed by calling or texting:  <b>1-800-563-0808</b>                      or by email: <a href="mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca">VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca</a></p>	

## MINISTRY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES (CONT'D...)

MINISTRY	SUPPORTS AND SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORTS & SERVICES	WHERE TO FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
<p><b>Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General</b> <i>(Continued...)</i></p>	<p><b>4. Child and Youth Advocacy Centres</b> Centres specifically aimed to support children and youth</p>	<p><b>Child and Youth Advocacy Centres</b> <a href="https://www.bccyac.ca">https://www.bccyac.ca</a></p>	
	<p><b>5. Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP)</b> A financial benefits program to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime. Benefits include counselling, protective measures, and income support.</p>	<p><b>Crime Victim Assistance Program</b> <a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/financial-assistance-benefits">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/financial-assistance-benefits</a></p>	