

Q. Is my child too young?

A. No. Interventions are designed for preschool children and include play-based teaching. Hours of intervention can be adjusted up or down based on the child and family's needs.

Q. Can I choose the language for my child's intervention?

A. Services are equally available in French and in English across the province. Each family will be asked to select a Language of Service when enrolling in the program.



### Contact us:

Telephone: 1-844-377-3819 (toll-free)

Fax: 506-462-2104

Email: [Autism.autisme@gnb.ca](mailto:Autism.autisme@gnb.ca)

### Recommended online resources:

Education and Early Childhood Development New Brunswick:  
[www.gnb.ca/education](http://www.gnb.ca/education)

Autism Learning Partnership:  
<https://alp-paa.com/en/resources>

Autism Speaks:  
[www.autismspeaks.ca](http://www.autismspeaks.ca)

Autism Canada:  
[www.autismcanada.org](http://www.autismcanada.org)

Association for Science in Autism Treatment:  
[www.asatonline.org](http://www.asatonline.org)



# Preschool Autism Program



*The New Brunswick Preschool Autism Program provides evidence-based intervention to preschool children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).*

## What you need to know

1. Autism Intervention Services (AIS) provides intervention services to preschool children through the Preschool Autism Program in New Brunswick. AIS is contracted by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to deliver services across all seven school districts in the province.
2. Intervention services are based on Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA). ABA interventions are well researched and can create positive and meaningful outcomes for children with ASD and their families. ABA-based teaching techniques can be used to teach basic and complex skills in the areas of communication, social relationships, play, self-care and skills related to school performance.<sup>1</sup>
3. AIS works with the family to customize an intervention that meets their needs.

## Eligibility

To receive services, a child must:

- be a resident of New Brunswick;
- be diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder by an authorized health professional; and
- be 5 years old or younger and not attending school.

<sup>1</sup> New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, (2020) ASD and Behavioural Interventions: Supporting Preschool Professionals

To enroll in the Preschool Autism Program:

Step 1: The child must receive a diagnosis from an authorized health professional (ex. a clinical psychologist or doctor).

Step 2: The diagnosing health professional will send a confirmation of diagnosis to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD).

Step 3: EECD will contact the family and offer services to begin the enrollment process.

Step 4: The parents/guardians complete the language of service form and the consent form and return them to EECD.

## AIS services

AIS clinical staff and the family develop a Personalized Learning Plan. This plan works on goals that are specific to the child's development and independence or a specific family challenge requiring support.

AIS and the family work together to:

- build a positive relationship between the child and the team;
- develop a personalized learning plan to meet the child and the family's needs. It will include the intervention structure (intervention model, intervention hours, location of intervention, team members, etc.);
- provide intervention or consultation using evidence-based approaches;
- review and adjust the plan often based on the child's progress and changing needs; and
- plan for a transition to school in the year before school.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q.** My child has just been diagnosed. Should I call AIS or do I need to wait for them to call me?

**A.** The Department will contact you first to gather all information and consent forms needed to start your child's file. They will notify AIS that your child has been approved for service. AIS will then contact you to begin the intake process. EECD staff remain available to respond to your questions and may be reached at 1-844-377-3819 or email at [autism.autisme@gnb.ca](mailto:autism.autisme@gnb.ca).

**Q.** How many hours of intervention will my child receive?

**A.** Hours of intervention are based on the child and family's needs as set out in the personalized learning plan. You can set a schedule for the number of hours that works for your family.

