

Development Support & Learning Support

1. What is Development Support (DS) & Learning Support (LS)?

Development Support (DS) & Learning Support (LS) is an early intervention programme for existing pre-school children with mild developmental needs.

DS and LS provide targeted short-term interventions within the child's pre-school itself and is run by trained Learning Support Educators (LSEds), clinical professionals and therapists.

Depending on the assessed needs of the child, he/she would be offered either a DS or LS package. A DS package lasts 10 or 15 weeks, and an LS package lasts 6 or 10 weeks.

2. Who is eligible for Development Support (DS) & Learning Support (LS)?

Please refer to the [Development Support \(DS\) & Learning Support \(LS\)](#) page, under the "Who is Eligible" portion.

3. How do I apply for Development Support (DS) & Learning Support (LS) for my child?

Pre-school teachers will flag children with mild developmental needs and refer them to the Learning Support Educators (LSEds). The LSEds will then assess your child through a screening process to determine if they need to be enrolled in the DS or LS. If your child requires DS, he/ she will also be seen by a doctor at KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH) or National University Hospital (NUH).

4. How do I know if my child's preschool is participating in the Development Support (DS) & Learning Support (LS) programme?

DS and LS are currently being rolled out to preschools in phases. Please speak to your child's preschool teachers for more information.

5. What are the fees for the programme?

Fees are charged according to the type of DS and LS package that is offered to the child.

- Learning Support: \$5-\$200*
- Development Support: \$5-\$780*

*After deduction of government subsidies for Singaporeans; excludes GST. Please enquire with your child's preschool directly for the exact fees.

6. Are there any government subsidies that I can tap on?

Yes, government subsidies are available for Singaporean and Permanent Resident (PR) children. Higher subsidies will be given to financially needy families through means-testing.

7. What do the Development Support (DS) & Learning Support (LS) packages consist of?

Please refer to the [Development Support \(DS\) & Learning Support \(LS\)](#) page, under the "Overview of Programme" portion.

8. Will my child have to go to another location for intervention?

No, all intervention programmes will take place at your child's pre-school.

9. My child's pre-school does not deem my child to be suitable for the Development Support (DS) or Learning Support (LS) but I suspect that he/she might be having developmental issues or special needs. What should I do?

You are advised to consult a doctor at a polyclinic or a paediatrician from a Child Development Unit (CDU) at KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH), National University Hospital (NUH) or Singapore General Hospital (SGH).

The doctor will assess your child and advise you on any follow-up actions if necessary.

10. My child seems to have developmental needs, but is not enrolled in a pre-school. Can I still apply for the Development Support (DS) or Learning Support (LS)?

DS & LS are catered to existing pre-school children who have been flagged by teachers and Learning Support Educators (LSEs) as having mild developmental needs. If your child is not enrolled in a pre-school, and you suspect your child of having developmental or special needs, you are advised to consult a doctor at a polyclinic or a paediatrician from a Child Development Unit (CDU) at KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH), National University Hospital (NUH) or Singapore General Hospital (SGH).

The doctor will assess your child and advise you on any follow-up actions if necessary.

11. My child is currently on the Early Intervention Programme for Infants and Children (EIPIC) waitlist. Can I take my child out of the waitlist and enrol in Development Support (DS) or Learning Support (LS)?

EIPIC, DS and LS address different needs. As your child has been assessed by the paediatrician to be suitable for EIPIC, you are strongly advised to follow through with the recommendation to maximise your child's developmental potential. If you feel that your child is more suited for DS or LS, please consult the same paediatrician to assess your child's suitability.

12. My child is currently enrolled in an Early Intervention Programme for Infants and Children (EIPIC) centre. Can I discharge my child from the centre and enrol him in the Development Support (DS) or Learning Support (LS)?

EIPIC, DS and LS address different needs. As your child has been assessed by the paediatrician to be suitable for EIPIC, you are strongly advised to continue with the intervention to maximise your child's developmental potential. If you feel that your child is more suited for DS or LS, please consult the same paediatrician to assess your child's suitability.

13. My child's pre-school teacher has informed me that my child may be suitable for Development Support (DS) or Learning Support (LS). However, I do not want to enrol my child. Is DS or LS compulsory?

Studies have shown that early intervention leads to improved outcomes for children with developmental needs. Nonetheless, DS & LS are not compulsory. Parents' consent is required for the child to be enrolled in the programme.