



Children's Therapy

& FAMILY RESOURCE
CENTRE

School-Aged Therapy Program



Kamloops Location

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TEL (250) 371-4100 - FAX (250) 371-4120**

Merritt Location

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info@kamloopschildrenstherapy.org**

What is the School-Aged Therapy Program?

The School-Aged Therapy Program provides Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy services to school-aged children.

Who Can Benefit?

Students who have trouble doing activities at school, home, or in the community may benefit from Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy. For example, children who have difficulties participating in:

- Physical activities (like P.E. or playground time)
- Self-care activities (like eating, dressing, toileting)
- Classroom activities (like circle time, crafts, projects, writing)
- Play activities and transitions between activities



What Does a PT or OT do?

The most common areas covered by OTs and PTs include:

Gross motor development and movement (e.g. strength, balance, coordination, walking, posture, etc)

Fine motor development (pencil skills, scissor skills, hand skills, etc)

Seating and positioning (e.g. both generic classroom seating and specialized positioning systems)

Activities of daily living (e.g. dressing, eating, grooming, cooking, community independence)

Prescription of specialized equipment for mobility and function (e.g. wheelchairs, walkers, splints, etc)

Safety, accessibility, and transportation needs of students with physical challenges

Sensory processing (using sensory input such as sound, touch, or motion appropriately to guide movement and behaviour)



The following areas are also addressed by OTs and PTs in collaboration with other school district support staff:

Self-regulation skills (staying on task, staying calm and alert for learning)

Visual perception and visual motor development (e.g. eye-hand coordination, pencil skills, etc)

Handwriting development and written output

Organization skills (organizing time and materials)

Assessment of student's specialized technology needs

How Do Our Services Work?

Our therapists will assess the student, and then will give suggestions and ideas to the school or family. We can also help the family and school to carry out the suggestions. We are not able to provide one-to-one direct therapy services to the student, except in special situations.

How Can the School-Aged Therapy Program Help?

Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists work together with children and their families, as well as with schools and community partners. Their main goals are:

- To improve participation in school, home, and community activities
- To promote inclusion in all areas of life

The other ways we might support students, families, and schools include:

- Education and workshops for school staff or parents
- Helping develop Individualized Education Plans
- Helping with transition plans between schools, or from school to adult services
- Working with families, schools, and community activity programs to help them include all children



Who can refer a child for therapy services?

Anyone: parents, relatives, doctors & health care professionals, teachers, etc. The parent/legal guardian must be aware and give their consent for the referral.

How is a referral made?

Our referral form is available at the centre or on our website. The completed form can be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to the centre. You can also make a referral by telephone.

How much does Speech & Language therapy cost?

There is no cost to the family. Programs are funded through the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

For referrals or inquires please contact:

**Children's Therapy and
Family Resource Centre**

*Owned and operated by:
Thompson Nicola Family Resource Society*

www.kamloopschildrenstherapy.org

info@kamloopschildrenstherapy.org



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