 <b>Queensland</b> Government	<b>Proposed changes to service</b>
<b>Health Service District</b>	<b>CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE</b>

Dear Parents/Care Givers

The Child Development Service (CDS) based at \_\_\_\_\_ is planning to introduce a faster and more efficient way of delivering services to children with developmental issues from \_\_\_\_\_.

As a result, some things will change to the services available:


- Referrals will only be accepted for children aged up to 8 years 0 months
- Parents/carers may be offered group-based Health Education sessions rather than an individual service
- Therapy (when appropriate) will only be offered for a limited time period
- You will be encouraged to return to your referring GP, private Paediatrician or Child Psychiatrist for follow-up rather than continuing to be reviewed by our Medical Officers

A doctor's referral is needed if your child is going to see our Paediatrician.

**Please note:** Assistance is only available to children who are not already receiving services from another Government Agency. Where your child is eligible for/or accessing services that include Early Childhood Development Programs (ECDP), Disability Services Queensland (DSQ or FECS) or Special Education Units (SEU), the referral will not be accepted.

Where your child has a diagnosis (e.g. Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Impairment, PDD-NOS, Speech Language Impairment, etc) and has gone through the process of verification with the Department of Education & Training, the referral will not be accepted.

**Should you have any questions please contact the Team Leader on P:**

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The Child Development Service (CDS) based at \_\_\_\_\_ is planning to introduce a faster and more efficient way of delivering services to children with developmental issues from \_\_\_\_\_.

CDS will provide a suite of three programs to meet the increasing need for specialist child development services within the \_\_\_\_\_ Health Service District:

- The Early Intervention and Prevention Program (EIPP)** will provide health education sessions for families with a young child who is having difficulties in just one specialty area. These sessions will provide hands-on skills to allow families to address the child's developmental issues in their home environment. Where required, individualised or group therapy may also be provided.

Referrals will be accepted for children up to their fourth Birthday.

- The Multidisciplinary Early Intervention Program (MEIP)** will provide a service for young children with more complex needs who require assessment by three or more health care professionals. The team will also provide individual or group intervention to this group of children if required.

Referrals will be accepted for children up to their fourth Birthday.

- The Multidisciplinary Assessment and Intervention Program (MAIP)** will provide assessment, referral and limited intervention services for older children who require three or more specialist services.

Referrals will be accepted for children who have had their fourth birthday but not yet reached eight years of age.

**Referrals will be accepted from another Health Professional (e.g. GP, paediatrician, child health or school health nurse) or guidance officer. A medical referral from a GP is required if the child is to be seen by the CDS paediatrician.**

**Please note:** that children who are eligible to receive services from another Government or Non Government Agency such as Early Childhood Development Programs (ECDP), Disability Services Queensland (DSQ or FECS), Special Education Units (SEU), Cerebral Palsy League (CPLQ), etc. will be re-directed to the appropriate agency. CDS will not be able to accept the referral.

Similarly, a child who has already received a diagnosis such as Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Impairment, PDD-NOS, Speech Language Impairment or similar will not be eligible for services.

**Should you have any questions please contact the Team Leader on P:**