

**Caregiver Mediated Early Years -** Pivotal Response Training (PRT)

**What is Pivotal Response Training?**

A naturalistic developmental behavioural play-based intervention for children who are able to make some identifiable speech sounds; for children with limited or more advanced vocal communication.

**Who is Pivotal Response Training for?**

For families/caregivers who want to:

* Learn strategies to help motivate their child’s learning, play, communication, engagement, and social interactions;
* Teach their child how to communicate;
* Feel empowered to motivate their child to engage with others and initiate interactions; and
* Benefit from learning the core strategies of PRT to support their child’s development

**Eligibility:**

* Children who are registered with the Ontario Autism Program (OAP) and meet the eligibility criteria for the OAP: Caregiver-Mediated Early Years Programs : **12 to 48 months of age and have received an invitation letter from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services**
* Children who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder who exhibit difficulty with social engagement and have significant language delays

**To register or find out more information, please contact**Kim Einarson, Supervisor, Regional Services, Child & Community Resources by telephone 1-877-996-1599 extension 2608 or by email keinarson@ccrconnect.ca

Or speak with a Pivotal Response Therapist from one of the partnering agencies:

**FIREFLYGeorge Jeffrey Children’s Centre**

<http://www.fireflynw.ca/> <http://www.georgejeffrey.com/>

**THRIVE Child Development One Kids Place Children’s ABA Northern Services & Training**

**Centre Treatment Centre** <https://www.facebook.com/abanorthernservices/>

<https://kidsthrive.ca/> <https://www.onekidsplace.ca/>

**What is the program commitment?**

12-week program consisting of 2 group sessions, and 9-1 hour individual coaching sessions with a PRT therapist.

**Why consider PRT and What are the benefits?**

PRT learning objectives for caregivers:

* Demonstrating shared control in interactions with the child
* Setting up opportunities for the child to respond
* Interspersing easy and new tasks throughout the day
* Providing natural and contingent reinforcement
* Reinforcing language attempts

PRT learning objectives for the child:

* Motivation to learn, play, and communicate
* Communicating using first words
* Expanding from single words to multiple word utterances
* Responding to multiple cues in the environment
* Initiating social interactions

**Where is the service offered?**

* Virtual sessions from the comfort of your own home with the opportunity for in-person individual coaching sessions depending on location
* Within the child’s natural environment during everyday routines, play and naturally occurring daily activities

**Who Delivers the Intervention?**

PRT is supervised by a BCBA or Psychologist and delivered by PRT therapists with experience implementing ABA programs for children with ASD and training caregivers using Behavioural Skills Training (BST)