

Pivotal Response Training

Caregiver Mediated Early Years

What is Pivotal Response Training?

Pivotal Response Training is a naturalistic developmental behavioural play-based intervention for children who can make some identifiable speech sounds. It is for 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
- Benefit from learning the core strategies of PRT to support their child's development

Pivotal Response Training is supervised by a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst or Psychologist and delivered by therapists with experience implementing Applied Behaviour Analysis programs for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and training caregivers using Behavioural Skills Training.

Who is Pivotal Response Training for?

For families/caregivers that have received a Ministry invitation to participate in this program. For children who are 12 – 48 months of age and are registered with the Ontario Autism Program and meet the eligibility criteria for the Ontario Autism Program: Caregiver-Mediated Early Years Programs.

What is the program commitment?

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

Why consider Pivotal Response Training and what are the benefits?

Caregiver Objectives:

- 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

Child Objectives:

- 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

How is service delivered?

- 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

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[THRIVE Child Development Centre \(Algoma District\)](#)
(855) 759-1131 | info@kidsthive.ca

[George Jeffrey Children's Center \(Thunder Bay District\)](#)
(888) 818-7330 | info@georgejeffrey.com

[FIREFLY \(Northwestern Ontario\)](#)
(800) 465-7203 | intake@fireflynw.ca

[ABA Northern Services & Training \(Sudbury\)](#)
(705) 618-4448 | paquetnatalie@hotmail.com