A Program for Children Ages 5 to 11 Years Old

Our Philosophy
At the Institute for Child Development (ICD), we promote your child’s development by providing a supportive educational setting to help your child gain age-appropriate skills in a number of developmental areas. We help your child develop skills through interactive activities that are individually tailored to his or her learning and developmental needs.

Institute for Child Development
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The Institute for Child Development is nationally and internationally known as providing state of the art services. We utilize evidence-based services that focus upon the constantly evolving base of applied and basic research in child development. The Institute works with numerous state, national, and international service, educational, and government agencies.

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What is ASD?
ASD stands for Autism Spectrum Disorder, sometimes referred to as Autism. ASD is a complex developmental disorder of the brain. There is wide variation in the ways and how significantly it affects children. According to the CDC, ASD occurs in 1 out of every 68 children. While ASD is more common in boys, it’s important to note that the expression of ASD in girls is sometimes more complex and may not be initially recognized as ASD.

For all children diagnosed with ASD, their ability to interact with others and use social communication (including verbal and nonverbal communication) to meet their wants and needs or to have conversations is affected. Children with ASD also have restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, and activities (for example, needing routines to stay the same, echolalia, highly specific areas of interest, etc.) that may interfere with the development of play skills and leisure interests that would be expected for their age.
School Age Program

Our school age program is a 12-month, full day program, from 8:45 am to 2:15 pm, Monday through Friday. Our program provides a resource-rich environment with a low student to staff ratio in order to provide the necessary support each child needs to reach his or her goals.

Our staff include special education teachers, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, adaptive physical educators, board certified behavior analysts, clinical and school psychologists, and paraprofessionals.

We focus on developing your child’s:

- Social and relationship development
- Emotional awareness and expression
- Language & communication
- Friendships and peer relationships
- Family relationships
- Independence
- Pre-academic and academic skills
- Physical health and well being
- Self-regulation and coping skills
- Daily living skills
- Hygiene and self-care

Evidence-based Educational and Therapeutic Focus

We structure our program so that each child receives state of the art instruction by all of our highly trained staff at ICD. Our approach to teaching is evidence-based, which means we only use teaching methods that have been repeatedly shown to produce positive outcomes for children with developmental and learning delays in the scientific and educational literature. Our staff work as an integrated multidisciplinary team to ensure the best for your child and family.

Our team carefully and frequently monitors your child’s progress on their educational and therapeutic goals. Your child’s progress is reviewed on an ongoing basis allowing for changes to activities, instructional procedures or interventions that will benefit your child’s development and learning in a timely way.

We want the skills your child is learning to happen in many settings and situations, including in the presence of many different people, to allow him or her to be fully independent. After all, our goal is to help children build the skills they need to eventually return to programs hosted in their home school district when they are ready. To do so, we have to ensure that the skills we have taught belong to the child and are not a product of our school setting alone.

Family Involvement

Family involvement is a key factor in a child’s development. We work alongside you and your family to improve your child’s growth and your family’s wellbeing. We consider all family members an important part of each child’s multidisciplinary team. We also provide many opportunities throughout the school year for you and your family to participate in family service activities with your child, as well as open consultation for your family when you have questions about how best to support your child at home and in the community.

We strive, together, to provide the best opportunities for your child to be healthy, happy, and ready to succeed at home, school, and within their community.

If you have questions about our program or are interested in setting up a tour, please call us at 607-777-2829.

Find out more about ICD