Return to on-site learning

Communicating with your child's kindergarten or child care setting

During times of increased anxiety and change, some children with disabilities may experience greater challenges in their learning, behaviours or emotion regulation. Take time to speak to educators about how your child coped during this period and what areas they may need support in during the transition. You can talk about relevant strengths, and share strategies that have been effective at home and at kindergarten/long day care and work towards creating consistency across settings.

The following tips can provide a prompt and guidance when speaking with educators:

1.   Be ready
Have clarity about what you want to say and specific areas or topics you would like to discuss.

2.   Have a positive attitude
Your child's educator is a partner with you in your child's learning, development and inclusion. If you have concerns or feel upset, try to express these to the educator in a calm way. Give the educator an opportunity to share their perspective of the situation, describe your own views and work together to find positive solutions.

3.   Start with the positive
Discuss your child's strengths first. Share with the educators any strengths you feel are relevant, and ask the educators what strengths they have identified too. Access AllPlay Learn's strengths and abilities communication checklist for a list of some of the strengths your child may have.

4.   Discuss areas where support may be needed
This is an opportunity for the educators and you to share areas where your child could benefit from support and set goals accordingly. The educator may have identified opportunities for support that you were not aware of, and vice versa. It may be important to work together to determine what the priorities may be, and to share strategies that may be effective.

5.   Discuss ways in which you can create consistency across home and school
Share ideas about caregiving, routines, activities and strategies that your child enjoys and how these can be used across settings.