



Progressing Disability Services (PDS) is a change programme by the HSE and Voluntary agencies, reconfiguring the delivery of children's services all over the country. Some children with a disability or developmental delay will receive their support from their local Primary Care services. Other children with more complex needs will receive their support from newly configured [Children's Disability Network Teams \(CDNTs\)](#). Each service will work with families to address their individual needs. Services will work to help children to participate to the best of their ability in all aspect of their lives.

The aims of this change include:

Fairer Services

Children will receive a similar service wherever they live in the country.

Family Centred Practice

The family is core to a child's life and needs. Services will ensure family is included as a key part of the team in developing the priority needs for every child.

Services Given Based on Need not Diagnosis

Children with the same diagnosis may have very different needs. As children grow and develop their needs will also change and where a child's service is offered may therefore also change over time.

The Best Use of Resources

This new process aims to ensure resources within both the HSE and the voluntary agencies (such as Central Remedial Clinic, Brothers of Charity Ireland and Enable Ireland) are streamlined to meet the needs of the children and families accessing these services.

Services Provided Primarily Based on Home Address

A child's home address will generally direct where their services are provided. Staff will work in partnership with families and link with schools as needed.

Following International Best Practice

*The **Progressing Disability Services** programme draws from extensive research and is in line with **Sláintecare** (2017).*



Where are we now?

An extensive review of the current services for children with developmental delays/ disabilities has been taking place within the South East. This includes looking at:

- The children who are currently attending services
- The nature of their needs and where these needs are best met
- Accommodation for services and staff
- Existing staffing levels and gaps
- Staff training needs
- Development of file management systems

Children's Disability Network Managers (CDNMs) are in post with a view to teams being operational in Autumn 2021. More information, including frequently asked questions, is available on the following link.

www.hse.ie/childdisability

The Children's Disability Network Managers for your area are:

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