



## What Can Occupational Therapists Do for School-Aged Children

### Self-Care:

Help children develop skills expected for their age, such as independent dressing, eating, hygiene and mobility.

Prescribe equipment such as wheelchairs, bath and toileting aids.

Educate caregivers and work with children to become independent.

### Productivity:

Educate parents and school staff about the sensory, motor, perceptual, social and behavioural characteristic of a specific child and the demands of the activities at school and home.

Provide in-services to enhance capacity of teachers and educational assistants.

Determine how environments might be changed to accommodate for a student's needs.

Participate in the development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Recommend accommodations that include adapting existing materials and tools, including desks, seating, agendas, worksheets, writing implements and storage spaces.

Introduce and prescribe technologies to address fine motor limitations.

Support transition into Kindergarten, new settings and/or adult swim programs.

## What School-Aged Occupational Therapy May Include

Screening and/or assessment to identify performance limitations, including motor, sensory, cognitive (eg: visual-motor, perception) and social-emotional self-regulation challenges.

Consultation with school staff including interpretation of medical information and the implications for that student at school; in-service training to support school staff to carry out routines and strategies to enhance integration and inclusion of students with special needs. Recommendations to school staff to enhance fit between the person, occupation and environment. Areas may include sensory, motor, cognitive, social or emotional difficulties, which may be affecting access to the curriculum, school participation, self-care, social or physical play.

Limited direct or group therapy. When more intense, 'direct' or ongoing OT support is required, families must access community-based OT support.

## Access to Occupational Therapy Services

Referrals to School-Aged Therapy OT can be initiated by:

School-based teams, which includes teachers and parents

Please contact your child's school or

Your child's medical specialist (eg:  
Neurologist or Pediatrician)  
Early Intervention team when  
transitioning into Kindergarten.  
Other community service providers, such  
as MCFS's Child and Youth Special Needs  
social workers.

## Contact Information

Your child's school or  
Inclusive Learning at:

2557 Beverly St  
Duncan, BC, V9L 2X3

Phone: 250-748-0321 Ext 286

Fax: 250-748-4617