

Children and youths with cerebral palsy

Children and youths with cerebral palsy is a target group, where there is huge difference on their capability. The efforts have through the years gradually changed from seeking to normalise the child/the youth to enable, support and train the child and opportunities of the youth for own activity and participation in meaningful life situations.

In recent years more attention has been paid to and evidence of the importance of the surroundings and central role of the family.

Therefore, in this theme you can among other things find info on, how you can assess activity and participation of a child/the youth in activities as well as knowledge on efforts that can strengthen participation by the child/the youth in activities and strengthen the handling of the child/the youth.

There are a very limited number of efforts, and it is therefore important to see the efforts as a selection of efforts among many efforts, which can be relevant for the target-group. It is also important to emphasize that the child/the youth should initially have undergone a relevant individual neuropsychological and motor assessment in order to assess which initiative should be implemented, and that the efforts will be organized on the basis of the assessment.

Initiatives

Context-focused Therapy

The Canadian initiative Context-focused Therapy strengthens participation of children with cerebral palsy in activities and has focus on adjustment of the surroundings rather than the disability of the child.

Stepping Stones Triple P (SSTP)

Stepping Stones Triple P (SSTP) is a parent program to parents with children with disability. In SSTP the parents learn strategies on how they support the child and promote good behaviour and development.

Background information

Definition Cerebral palsy is a condition caused by congenital or premature brain damage. Cerebral palsy is the most frequent cause for motor disability for children.	Target group Cerebral palsy is a congenital or premature brain damage. Children and youths with cerebral palsy are characterized by having a very varied physical, cognitive and communicative functioning.	Extent In Denmark there is approx. 4000 children in the age range 0 to 17, who are diagnosed with cerebral palsy.
Risk and protection factors Children and youths with disability are at greater risk of developing behaviour that will be perceived as problematic by other children or adults in their surroundings. Likewise, there is a bigger risk that they develop behaviour that makes it more difficult for them to live up to the requirements and expectations that belongs to their age group.	Actors – responsibility and roles Initiatives for children and youths with cerebral palsy are rooted in both the social area, the healthcare sector and on the special education area.	Communication Challenges with communication and speech is often seen with the group of children and youths with cerebral palsy. The communication challenges are often connected to the motor consequences and has importance to the social life of the child and participation opportunities.
Development projects and other initiatives of the National Board of Social Services The National Board of Social Services has several initiatives, which both targets professional development within case management in the disability field and towards supporting and strengthening the family,	Literature Get the bibliography from the them Children and youths with cerebral palsy.	
