



Chief Leschi Schools Child Find



WHAT IS CHILD FIND?

Child find is an outreach program that actively seeks to locate and identify children and youth from birth through age twenty-one years, who may have developmental delays or educational disabilities and may be in need of special education and related services.

Early identification of developmental delays can help children avoid serious learning problems when they reach elementary school age. For those students who are already in school, but not experiencing academic success, identification of areas of difficulty can help you and your child's educators choose strategies and educational programs that will help your child succeed in school.

HOW DO CHILDREN LEARN?

All children learn at different rates. However, there are certain skills that a child will usually learn by a certain age. These skills may occur in the following areas:

Physical/motor development

How your child's body is developing and muscles are working.

Cognitive development

How your child thinks, using what he/she sees, hears, tastes, smells, and touches.

Language development

The way your child understands and uses language.

Social/emotional development

The way your child relates to people and his/her surroundings.

Adaptive behaviors

How your child completes self-help skills such as dressing and feeding.

WHEN SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?

There are behaviors or lack of certain skills that may make you, as the parent, suspect that some help might be needed for your child. These behaviors or lack of skills may include:

- Difficulty staying on task.
- Difficulty seeing bright objects or other objects that are at a distance.
- Frequent temper tantrums.
- Not playing with other children.
- Difficulty following simple directions.
- Failing to respond to sound or voices.
- Difficulty expressing ideas in spoken or written form.
- Difficulty walking, sitting up, or staying in one place.
- Difficulty being understood when talking.

If you believe that your child is not developing in expected ways or appears to learn slowly or differently than other children, Child Find may be of assistance to you.

WHERE DO I GO FOR HELP?

You can help your child whom you suspect may have special needs by contacting Chief Leschi Schools or your local Public School.

Your inquiry will be treated with the utmost sensitivity and confidentiality, as provided by law. Through your efforts, you can help your child develop to his/her fullest potential.

For a Screening Referral please complete the attached form.

