

Funding and Service Agreement¹

Agency-based Special Child Care Centre Service for Hearing Impaired Children

I. Service Definition

Introduction

Agency-based Special Child Care Centre Service for Hearing Impaired Children form part of a range of pre-school services for disabled children. The agency provides centre-based intensive training and care for hearing impaired pre-school children at its specified centre(s) as well as outreach service for those service users residing in specified area(s) whenever necessary.

Purpose and objectives

The aim of Special Child Care Centre for Hearing Impaired Children (SCCC for HIC) is to develop the abilities of children with major disability of severe to profound hearing impairment to the fullest extent so as to establish a firm foundation for subsequent education and development.

Nature of service

The service is to be operated in compliance with the Child Care Services Ordinance and Regulations.

SCCC for HIC provides a range of services for children with major disability of severe to profound hearing impairment. The following services are included.

(a) Developmental assessment and individualised educational programmes

Each child is assessed upon admission and periodically thereafter. The results of the developmental assessment are used to plan an individualised training programme which sets learning goals for each child.

(b) Centre-based individual and group training

The child attends centre-based training programmes five days a week. These programmes aim to maximise each child's developmental functioning. Speech therapy service is provided.

¹ This Funding and Service Agreement is a sample document for reference only.

(c) Daily child care services

Child care services are provided to enable the child to benefit from the training programmes.

Parental support and education are part of the Centre's work. Families in need of social work service may also receive service from the Counselling Centre of the agency.

(d) Outreach service

Developmental assessment, individual educational programmes and individual training described above may be provided as outreach service for those service users residing in specified area(s) whenever necessary.

Target group

The target group for SCCCs for HIC is pre-school children suffering from deafness or severe to profound hearing impairment from 2 to 6 years of age.

Eligibility criteria

SCCC for HIC is open to those children who:

- do not require constant medical care in hospital;
- cannot benefit from the integrated programmes in mainstream child care centres/kindergartens;
- are not attending an EETC's 2 to 6 years old programme; and
- assessed as experiencing major disability of deafness or severe to profound hearing impairment

Referrals to SCCC for HIC may be made by medical social service units or family services centres or via them by maternal and child health centres, child assessment clinics, private practitioner's clinics and pre-school rehabilitation centres. Referrals are made to the Central Referral System for Rehabilitation Services (CRSRehab).

II. Performance Standards

The service operator will meet the following performance standards:

Outputs

<u>Output Standard</u>	<u>Output Indicator</u>	<u>Agreed Level</u>
1	Rate of completing 2 developmental assessments for each child within one year (<i>Note 1</i>)	95%
2	Average attendance rate within one year	80%
3	Rate of achieving plans within a period of six months (<i>Note 2</i>)	95%

Essential Service Requirements

- Service to be open for a total of 44 hours per week with core service hours of at least 40 hours per week.
- Child care supervisor, child care worker, certified master/mistress and speech therapist are essential staff of the service.
- All services have to comply with the relevant operation manuals..

Quality

Service operators will meet the requirements of the 16 Service Quality Standards (SQSs).

III. Obligations of SWD to Service Operators

SWD will undertake the duties set out in the General Obligations of SWD to Service Operators.

In addition, SWD will meet the following service-specific standards of performance. The actual performance of the department in relation to these obligations is expected to affect the ability of the service operator to meet its own required standards of performance.

- To provide referrals from the Central Referral System for Rehabilitation Services within **28 days** of written notification of a vacancy provided that there is a waiting list at hand.

IV. Basis of Subvention

The basis of subvention is set out in the offer and notification letters issued by the SWD to the agency.

The service unit is required to comply with the rules on the use of the social welfare subventions in accordance with the latest Lump Sum Grant Manual and circular letters in force issued by the SWD on subvention policies and procedures.

Explanatory Note

1. **Developmental assessment:**

An assessment conducted by more than one specialist should be incorporated as overall developmental assessment for an individual child. The number of developmental assessments conducted should be counted irrespective of the grade of staff who conducted the session.

2. **Achieving plan** refers to plan completed. Development of plans refers to the process outlined in Standard 11 of the Service Quality Standards.