









Introduction to the Specialist Equipment Library



Accessing the Specialist Equipment Library (SEL)

A service's need for specialist equipment must be identified in its SIP, or be recommended by a relevant professional, such as an speech therapist, occupational therapist or physiotherapist, with knowledge of the child's biomechanical functional needs.

If equipment is recommended by a relevant professional, the IA must endorse and agree to the recommendation prior to a SEL application being submitted.

It is the responsibility of each ECCC service accessing equipment from the SEL to ensure it is fitted by the child's Therapist. A service seeking equipment from the SEL must sign a Loan Agreement Form prior to accessing equipment, which sets out the Terms and Conditions associated with borrowing equipment from the SEL.

The process for accessing equipment from the SEL, including expected timeframes, transportation arrangements, return arrangements and the Terms and Conditions associated with borrowing the equipment are determined by the Victoria Inclusion Agency (VIA).

Eligible ECCC services can access information about the SEL directly from the VIA. Contact details are 1800 177 017.

Documentation such as request forms, information about the library and the catalogue are available on the website www.viac.com.au

When additional support identified in the Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP)

Each IA manages a Specialist Equipment Library (SEL) for services in their jurisdiction to loan items of specialist equipment that facilitate and support the inclusion of a child (or children) with additional needs.

TYPES OF EQUIPMENT

Equipment available from the SEL may include (but is not limited to):

- portable ramps to create access to the environment
- standing frames and full support swings to allow a child with high physical needs to participate in the daily programme and activities
- hoists, slings, harnesses, change tables, toilet sets or steps, potty chairs, mobile stools and seating or posture aids for educators to assist them to lift and transfer children safely when carrying out basic care functions such as changing or going to the toilet
- specialised inclusion toys such as switch toys
- specialised furniture such as chairs, tables, desk and positioning equipment
- communication cards or charts, and Auslan dictionaries to enable the child and educators to communicate effectively.

Equipment not available from the SEL includes (but is not limited to):

- therapeutic equipment (for example, hearing aids and therapist tables)
- equipment that the service would reasonably be expected to supply
- equipment that the parent or carer would reasonably be expected to supply for their child (for example, wheelchairs, walking frames and body suits)

Additional requirements

- The service is required to sign a loan agreement for all equipment requested.
- ➤ All requests must come through the Service representative. Library staff are not able to acknowledge requests from Therapists or from a child's family. It is important to note that all correspondence needs to be initiated by the service as the client. Every request form needs to be completed with the child's parents signed permission, the Therapist's recommendation and endorsed by the Inclusion Professional. If the child requires additional equipment, the service will need to complete another request form and an Updated Loan Agreement.
- ➤ The service is responsible for the equipment they have borrowed and to ensure it is used safely and in accordance with its purpose. The Library equipment is not available for families to use at home or in the school classroom away or anywhere other than at the service. If equipment needs to be repaired, the service can email the Library who will arrange for the collection and replacement of the equipment. The Library, as part of their contractual responsibilities will liaise with services to arrange test and tag of electrical equipment such as hoists, change tables and safety checks on slings.
- When the equipment is no longer required due to the child out growing the equipment or has left the service, the service will need to email the Library Administrator to arrange for the equipment to be collected.

For any further information please contact the Library Administration Officer Ph: 8851 0831 or email specialistequipment@yooralla.com.au

SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT LIBRARY REQUEST FORM

Please ensure that all areas of the application form is completed to reduce any delay including detailed information such as sizes/weight requirements of all equipment requested. A current SIP, parent signature and Therapist's recommendations are requirements for all applications.

Facilities and ID Name has acc



Equipment 10 Num	Del (y known):	
Relevant informati	on to support the request:	
RELEVANT PROFES	SIONAL'S DETAILS (IF REQUIRED)	
Professional's Nan	ne	
Occupation		
Qualifications		
Organisation		
Phone	Fax	
Email		
INCLUSION AGENC	Y (IA) AND INCLUSION SPECIALIST (IP) DI	ETAILS
Name of IA:	Victorian Inclusion Agency	
Name of IP:		
Phone	Fax	
Email		
If professionally ret the Specialist Equip		es No
SERVICE REQUEST	INFORMATION	
Name of service re	presentative authorising request	
Signature		Date
PARENT/GUARDIA	N CONSENT FOR SERVICE TO REQUEST S	PECIALIST EQUIPMENT FOR
USE BY THEIR CHIL	D	
Parent/Guardian	First Name	
	Surname	
Signature		Date
	(ISP) IS FUNDED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF EQUANT IS LED BY COMMUNITY CHILD CARE, AND IS DELIVERED BY PARTMERSHIP WITH Y	







WWW.VIAC.COM.AU CALL TOLL FREE: 1800 177 017



SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT CHECK LIST FOR SERVICES

STEPS	EXPLANATIONS	COMPLETED
SIP Identified Equipment	 An Education and Care Service identifies in their Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP) that Specialist Equipment would overcome an inclusion barrier for the child/children. 	
Service Understands Their Obligation	 The Education and Care Service reads and understands the terms and conditions associated with borrowing equipment - Your Inclusion Professional can assist. 	
Collaborations and reflections	 The Education and Care Service liaises with Family/Therapist/IP about possibility of and usefulness of equipment to overcome an inclusion barrier and reflects on the impact that the suggested equipment will have on their environment. 	
Service Commits	 The Education and Care Service ensures it can meet the requirements of utilising the equipment i.e. access to a Therapist to ensure equipment is fitted for the Child, and Educators able to be trained in the use of the equipment if required. 	
Service Makes Formal Request	 The Education and Care Service gains written permission from the family to discuss their child's needs with Specialist Equipment Library (SEL). In conjunction with Family/Therapist/IP completes the Specialist Equipment Item Request Form and emails both documents to the SEL. specialistequipment@yooralla.com.au 	
Request Refined	 The SEL may request further information from the Therapist to ensure the exact or most appropriate equipment is ordered. In some cases an alternative piece of equipment may be negotiated. It is expected that the Service will liaise with the Family about any changes. 	







WWW.VIAC.COM.AU CALL TOLL FREE: 1800 177 017



SEL Loan Agreement	 A SEL Loan Agreement will be sent to the Education And Care Service to be signed by the Service representative and returned to the SEL at specialistequipment@yooralla.com.au 	
The SEL Equipment Arrives	 The Education and Care Service contacts the IP and Therapist to advise them the equipment has arrived. The Service arranges for the Therapist to come to the Service and support Educators in the use of the equipment. 	
Service Monitors the use of Equipment	 The Education and Care Service monitors the use of the equipment and notifies the IP and SEL of any changes in need in relation to the equipment e.g. if the equipment is no longer required. 	Tr.
Final Collection	The service notifies in writing the Specialist Equipment Library to collect the equipment when the equipment is no longer required e.g. when the child outgrows the equipment or leaves the Service.	

Inclusion Support Programme (ISP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. As part of the ISP, the Victorian Inclusion Agency is led by Community Child Care Association, and is delivered in partnership with Yooralla and KU Children's Services.







WWW.VIAC.COM.AU CALL TOLL FREE: 1800 177 017

Specialist Equipment Library Application Process Specialist equipment library Administration Officer -SEL email Inbox -Checks application is complete, acknowledges receipt by Application received from return email to the service. child care service If application is complete SEL admin If incomplete: If complete: sends to Yooralla OT to be assessed. If incomplete the application is returned to service for additional information If all information is complete prior to progressing. If more information is required Yooralla and the library has the OT will contact identified child's equipment requested the therapist to clarify request Yooralla OT will pick the equipment, identify the When all equipment has been assigned SEL asset number and assign for Administration Officer sends a loan agreement to the collection service identifying specific asset numbers. Services are If all information is complete and the also sent a Yooralla parent permission form to share library does not have the equipment Once new purchases arrive information. requested, the Yooralla OT will request a Yooralla OT will assign an quote from a supplier then forward to asset number and assign for SEL admin officer to complete purchase When all documents have been returned, SEL collection. order process. administration officer arranges collection for delivery with Courier Company.

When a service has finished with the equipment they contact **SEL admin** to arrange collection.

When equipment is returned, Yooralla OT inspects the equipment for damage or repair

SEL admin arranges professional clean and re-issued for loan through data base.









SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT COMPETING IMPACTS

SIP ID

Supplier – Local or overseas. This can impact on expected delivery date. Courier delivery requirements and

SEL sends loan agreement to service. Equipment is not ordered or sent until documentation is returned by the service. Does the service understand their obligations under the SEL guidelines?

Parent Permission SIP support
A completed SIP
identifies that
equipment will
vercome Barriers

Specialist
Equipment
Library

At times more specific size information is required or even an alternate piece of equipment may be suggested to meet the same need. This is negotiated with a therapist. If this is the case SEL will engage with the therapist, service, IP re: this. It is expected that the Service will communicate with the family about any changes.

Inclusion or Therapy

Inclusion expectations

Does the suggested equipment support the child's access and participation?

Specific Requirements of equipment - will the size of equipment fit in the service, where will the equipment be stored?

How will the service ensure the equipment can be used safely?

Do the staff need to be trained to use the



Jenx Corner Chair

The Specialist Equipment supports mainstream ECCC services across all regions State wide to improve their capacity and capability to provide quality inclusive practices, address participation barriers and include children with additional needs alongside their typically developing peers. ECCC services eligible for support through the ISP and can access the Specialist Equipment Library are: Long Day Care, outside School hours Care including Vacation Care, Family Day Care, Occasional Care, Mobile services and Budget Based Funded Services



The Special Equipment Library has a variety of seating equipment to suit all children's needs. If the Library doesn't have the equipment requested by the child's Therapist, an alternative will be suggested or where available a new purchase will be arranged.



The Library has a large range of standing systems to support the child's individual needs and inclusion at their service.

Accessories for Library Equipment requested by Services

Many pieces of equipment have a variety of accessories dependent on the child's individual needs. The child's Therapist can suggest the service request additional accessories throughout the child's time at the service taking into account changes to the child's developmental needs This can range from knee supports, shoe sandals, thoracic side supports, pommels, various harness', head support and a tray to provide the child an opportunity to participate in the room or outside activities while being totally supported by the equipment Should changes in size of accessories be requested the smaller sized items must be returned to the library in alignment with the delivery of the new items.





Examples of sensory toys that can be loaned to services through the Specialist Equipment Library including switching toys to assist children with fine or gross motor challenges and promoting inclusion.



Sensory Caterpillars







Switch adapted toys



Cause and effect toys



The Library can provide equipment to support emerging toileting routines for children enrolled in childcare services.



The Library has a range of equipment designed to safely assist Educators to use when caring for children with high support physical needs. This includes hoists, slings, mobile electric change tables and wheelie stools for educators



Specialist Equipment Library is a component of the Inclusion Support Program and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training and is available for all eligible services to borrow while the identified child is enrolled.

Child Care



Occasional Care

BBF Services

Multifunctional
Aboriginal
Children's
Services
(MACS)



Oshc Outside School Hours Care



Vacation Care



