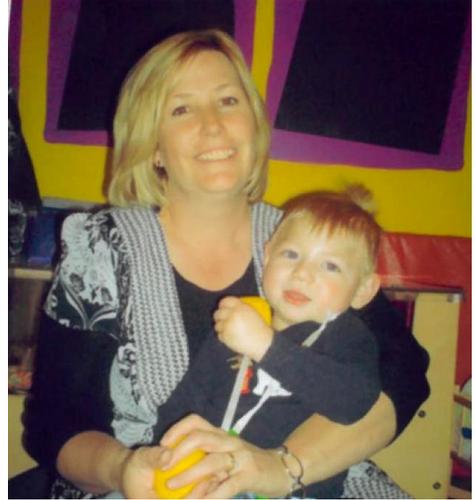


FIT Fact Sheet

Early Intervention Philosophy

The Fisher Inclusion Team (FIT) ensures that children of all abilities are able to play, learn, and engage in the experiences available to them at the Fisher Early Learning Center. Utilizing a consultative model, FIT specialists work with teaching teams to assess needs, model strategies, and provide classroom mentorship. These methods allow all children to access learning opportunities, develop relationships, and learn independence within the classroom routines. Through the consultative model, early intervention strategies are embedded throughout the child's school day. Children are provided services that best support their individual development based on Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP) goals, as well as goals set in conjunction with the family and private therapists.



Fisher Inclusion Team (FIT)

The Fisher Inclusion Team is committed to a collaborative, trans-disciplinary team approach. This means each professional contributes to the team based on their area of expertise, but is knowledgeable about the other disciplines and can apply strategies based on this knowledge. The team is comprised of an Early Interventionist, a Speech/Language Pathologist, an Occupational Therapist, a Physical Therapist, University of Denver faculty and graduate students, and a coordinator. While this is the "Fisher Inclusion Team" we consider each child's parents, teachers, and private service providers to be vital members of the team. On-going research regarding best inclusive practices is an important component of our program; as a result, University of Denver Faculty and students serve as valuable resources to support our program. Fisher staff and FIT team members continually work to promote awareness about inclusive practices.

Children and Families

Since the inception of the Fisher Inclusion Team in 2005, over two hundred fifty children have benefited from FIT services. From the implementation of early intervention strategies in the classroom to evaluation, referral, consultation, family meetings, IFSP/IEP meetings, and therapy coordination, children are encouraged to reach their full potential. Families actively participate in their child's journey at Fisher and are an integral part of the intervention team. Communication is facilitated through email or a daily communication notebook that is completed by families and teachers on a regular basis. Therapists also use this tool to communicate with families when they visit the classroom. New families served by the Fisher Inclusion Team participate in an initial meeting to ensure a smooth transition for the child and the continuity of services. Family meetings are held twice yearly, but can be asked for at any time.

FIT Parent Group

Fisher families are invited to be involved in working with the Fisher Inclusion Team to create the highest quality inclusive program possible. This volunteer group is open to all families. Parents aid one another in connecting to resources, providing support for each other, and offering valuable feedback to therapists and teachers regarding strategies and service delivery. For more information regarding the FIT Parent Group please contact Ali Van Heusen at: maxmuscleali@gmail.com



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