

# Stronger Families - Early Intervention

A 3 night program for the whole family! A time to relax, recharge and connect with others while supported by caring, compassionate, autism trained professionals

## Autism Specific

This program targets young children (up to 7 years old) and their families. It aims to build essential developmental skills such as communication, sensory-motor skills, self-care, social interaction and everyday participation. It is designed and led by Allied Health Professionals.



### Making Connections

It is the community of our program that makes it so special. Our families find immense value from the support of other families going through similar experiences. Parents connect and have time out together. Siblings enjoy their own program. Autistic young people meet and support each other.

### A supportive family getaway with a range of activities

Practical and inclusive support and respite at our farm facilities for the whole family. We offer a balanced schedule with parent education, relaxation, time in nature, movement, play, sensory experiences and healthy foods.

### Health and Wellbeing

We ditch the screens and engage in simple activities for health, wellbeing and development. We love getting outdoors and enjoying nature.

### 2026 Dates

April 21-24  
Nov 4-7

"This was life-changing for us...we still use the strategies we learned on camp, and they still work!"



## Key details:

- Run from our beautiful 100-acre farm in Mansfield, Victoria for 3 nights, from Tuesday to Friday.
- Each autistic young person has a 1:1 support worker for the duration of the stay.
- Siblings are supported in small groups with other siblings their age.
- Parents attend autism-specific sessions & workshops. They are also supported individually to learn effective ways to support their child, for example at mealtimes and during daily living routines.
- The program is designed and led by an Occupational Therapist and Speech Pathologist.
- The program is for young autistic children up to 7 years of age and their family members.
- Accommodation is in a three-bedroom cabin with views over Mt Buller. Each family has their own cabin.
- Our group sizes are small. Each program supports up to 6 families.
- The experience provides parents with much needed respite, as children are supported for the majority of their stay.
- Families enjoy quality time together and have fun.
- All programs are fully catered (covered by family fee).

## In our service, we aim to:

- Build essential developmental skills needed for everyday living such as communication, self-care, sensory- motor skills and social interaction skills.
- Enable parents, siblings and autistic young people to build social networks and reduce social isolation.
- Enhance family relationships and increase understanding of autism.
- Build capacity of parents and siblings to maintain informal supports of their autistic child/sibling.

### Stronger Families Early Intervention - Program Costs

**Total NDIS cost = \$ 6,814.48**

This service is generally funded entirely from the **Improved Daily Living** budget. There is flexibility to request to use some Core Funds - please ask our team.

\*These are the NDIS costs for a family with 1 child with autism. We have flexibility to quote for other family situations. We recommend families that are plan-managed seek pre-approval from their plan managers before registering for peace of mind. We can provide quotes to help with pre-approval - please ask our team.

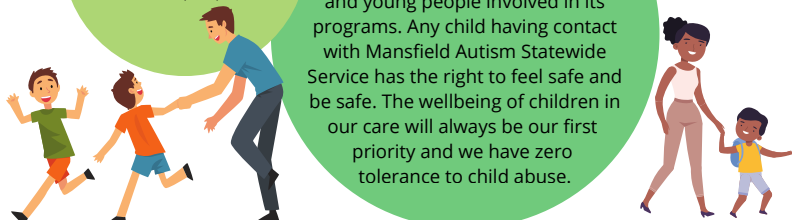
**Family registration fee = \$150**

#### **Subsidised family food, accommodation and activity fee**

While the Stronger Families program is for the whole family, the NDIS funding covers only the NDIS participant. Families may be eligible for support from *Carer Gateway*. Carer Gateway provides free services and supports for carers. Upon application and approval, Carer Gateway may cover the cost of accommodation, meals and activities for parents and siblings, and/or support workers for the sibling program. Carers will be contacted by a Carer Gateway Assessment Officer, and funding may be provided based on individual needs and eligibility. Other funding options are also available for families who are not eligible for Carer Gateway support.

Contact Us!  
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Mansfield Autism Statewide Services are committed to promoting and protecting at all times the best interests of children and young people involved in its programs. Any child having contact with Mansfield Autism Statewide Service has the right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse.



To register, visit: [www.autismmansfield.org.au](http://www.autismmansfield.org.au)

