

## What is PACE?

Our Parent and Child Enrichment (PACE) programme aims to enable families to help teach their children to develop vital daily living skills. The goal is that by the time the child leaves school they have all the social development and skills they need to live, work and travel independently and to be an active member of their community.

PACE achieves this by giving parents and caregivers the information and skills they need at each stage of their child's development.

### How can we help?

PACE offers a welcoming service for families, delivered by a professional team who specialise in working with children and young people.

### We offer:

- An explanation of your child's diagnosis
- A comprehensive assessment service
- A specialised programme tailored to meet your child's needs
- Training for others, as appropriate, to work with your child.

### Life skills

Learning new skills is often more challenging for a child who is blind or has low vision. We provide information and guidance on how to maximise your child's natural ability to learn and develop, from birth until they start school and beyond.

Your child will be offered opportunities to learn techniques to make everyday tasks easier. This includes how to look after themselves, how to safely explore their environment, and how to access play and recreation activities.

### Family support and counselling

You will have the opportunity to share your experience and we will support you throughout your child's early development, school years and young adult life.

### Information on:

- Finding services, service providers and products
- Coping with challenges, how friends and family can help, personal stories and support networks
- Learning about vision, eye conditions and treatments, eye doctors, self help, study and your rights.

## Why is PACE so important?

A vision impairment can have a significant impact on all areas of a child's development. Those skills that other children may pick up incidentally, need to be deliberately introduced to a child who is blind or has low vision.

By working with you and your child as early as possible, we can show you how to adapt activities that support your child's development, which you can then reinforce on a daily basis.

When your child leaves school we will be there to support, inform and offer your child the skills, services and support they need to move into adulthood.



# Do you have a child who is blind or has low vision?

## Perhaps you worry about:

- How to parent your child?
- How your child will learn everyday living skills with a vision loss?
- How a vision loss can impact on your child's ability to participate in life?
- How your child can get ready for adult life?

## We can help!

The Blind Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that empowers and supports blind New Zealanders and those with low vision to ensure they have the same opportunities and choices as everyone else.

We believe every child is an individual and every family is unique. We provide support to children who are blind or have low vision and their families, to help them access information, opportunities and experiences to give them the very best start possible.



## How to access this service

For further information please contact the **Blind Foundation Children's Services team** on 0800 24 33 33 or visit [blindfoundation.org.nz](http://blindfoundation.org.nz)

 [facebook.com/rnzfb](https://facebook.com/rnzfb)

 [twitter.com/blindnz](https://twitter.com/blindnz)



# PACE

## Parent & Child Enrichment Programme