

CONFIDENT KIDS 9-12 YEARS

A unique social skills program for children with a hearing loss



Teachers say my child is more confident in saying 'I can't hear' or 'this doesn't work for me'. They are beginning to understand that they can't control every situation, but can control their own actions.



Who is suited to this program?

Early intervention

Primary school

High school

Adult

How is this program offered?

In person

Online

Video conferencing

Confident Kids 9-12 is part of The Shepherd Centre's Confident Kids Social skills programs, for children aged 9-12 years of age. This program is an interactive, experiential based group where children with hearing loss will get the opportunity to develop their social skills with peers their age through role play and other activities. This is a six session program for children, with two of those sessions to include parents.

This small group program is based on a growing evidence base that children with hearing loss are at significantly increased risk of social exclusion and emotional health concerns including anxiety and depression as they develop through their adolescent and teenage years.

The program works with children to address their concerns towards their disability, and defining their sense of self and individual identity. It aims to tackle the common experience of children rejecting

support, devices and assistive listening technology at this stage that is required to facilitate access to the curriculum and learning potential. An initial questionnaire/survey identifies current issues for each child and family to address within the group context, customising content and outcomes towards these. An all-in group for the final session provides the opportunities to share outcomes and learnings.

Group Sessions cover :

- My strengths
- Making and keeping friends
- Navigating difficult situations
- Advocacy skills (how to advocate for me; how to move from parent advocate to child-lead advocacy)
- Resilience – the importance of bouncing back

Children will leave the group with a workbook that they will have developed to help with bringing strategies learnt into their everyday lives.

TO REGISTER visit <https://fs30.formsite.com/TheShepherdCentre/CK9-12/index.html>

For any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Program Coordinator,
on **02 9370 4400** or **groups@shepherdcentre.org.au**

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