

MEDIA RELEASE

AUTISM: THE EARLY YEARS - NEW VIDEO SERIES TO SUPPORT FAMILIES

Families seeking guidance and support in the early days of an autism diagnosis will benefit from a new video series launched today by leading early intervention provider AEIOU Foundation.

The suite of nine videos, titled *Autism: the early years*, was designed in collaboration with AEIOU's experienced therapy and research team to deliver valuable information and practical advice to families navigating the often difficult early days.

AEIOU CEO Alan Smith said the videos covered topics most frequently encountered by the service.

"We know just how vital it is for parents, carers and the wider family unit to feel supported while seeking a diagnosis and beyond," he said.

"During this period, families have many questions about the road ahead and where to turn for answers.

"These videos, covering three key themes of family, behaviour and communication, gently guide families and give them a good starting point for their research into early intervention."

Mr Smith said the content in the videos was based on evidence-based principles, which are the keystone of AEIOU Foundation's program.

"You will hear from experienced professionals in the field, as well as families who share their first-hand experience of the benefits they have received through early intervention.

"At AEIOU, we are committed to providing children and families with the strategies and tools to access their community and gain vital independence, creating a lifetime of positive opportunities."

The video topics are below and the public can access them for free via http://aeiou.org.au/autism-the-early-years:

Part 1: Understanding autism

Part 2: Help after a diagnosis

Part 3: Family impacts of autism

Part 4: Understanding behaviour

Part 5: Building toileting skills

Part 6: Dealing with a problem behaviour

Part 7: Coping with public spaces

Part 8: Helping your child make friends

Part 9: Creating independence and meeting your child's needs

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ABOUT AEIOU Foundation:

AEIOU Foundation is a leading provider of early intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Our evidence-based therapy and education program is family focused and provides every child with the best opportunity to gain vital independence and achieve their full potential. Operating from nine locations, AEIOU enrols children aged 2 to 6 years.

For more information about AEIOU Foundation visit www.aeiou.org.au.