

## **Social Skills**

For many reasons, including speech problems, processing delays, physical limitations, neurocognitive impairment, learning disorders and sensory integration issues, most persons with Prader-Willi syndrome need extra help learning appropriate social skills. Social Skills Therapy should begin at an early age to help the child develop and strengthen social and play skills necessary to initiate, develop and maintain genuine, fulfilling, and long-lasting friendships. Social Skills Therapy may be taught by a Speech and Language Pathologist or provided by a Child Development Specialist either in a small peer group setting, or sometimes in individual sessions.

Because schools are responsible for only those issues relating to educational goals, Social Skills Therapy is something your child's school might not provide, however this would be an appropriate service to discuss with your child's Regional Center Service Provider. Some parents may also decide to pursue Social Skills Therapy on their own.