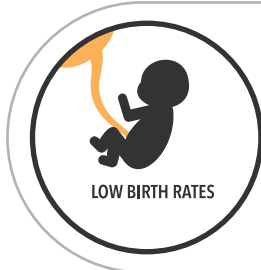


# CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE

## A NEED FOR MORE LOCAL RESEARCH IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT



### SHRINKING HUMAN CAPITAL

At current birth rates, our citizen population will decline from 2025 and the number of citizens in the working ages of 20–64 years will decline from 2020. The need to give our children the education, upbringing and environment to be the best that they can be is more urgent than ever.



In recognition of this trend, we need to capitalise on R&D capabilities and invest in strategic research in child development.

## RESEARCH TO IMPROVE AND UNDERSTAND KEY OUTCOMES

Research that is most relevant for this effort includes those directed at improving key outcomes, as well as research designed to understand how these outcomes develop. A thorough understanding of individual, social and pedagogical factors that influence the development of children can better prepare us for change and adaptability.

## Centre for Research in Child Development

### WHERE?



An Institute of  
Nanyang Technological University

ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEDICATED RESEARCH CENTRE TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT.



ONE OF A FEW WORLDWIDE devoted to study child development at scale



THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE ANSWERS to identified issues will be a hallmark



CONDUCT WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH that is recognised internationally for quality, both academically and by impact



In Singapore, NIE has the **largest number of developmental psychologists, educators and other specialists with expertise in child development.**



NIE's Education and Cognitive Development Lab (ECDL) has **established expertise and ongoing efforts** to study longitudinally the development of executive functioning, self-regulation, language and mathematics.



ECDL also has an **excellent track record of research collaboration** with local hospitals, government agencies and other research institutions. The new centre will build on NIE's network and social capital to attract collaborators from other agencies, both within and outside of Singapore.

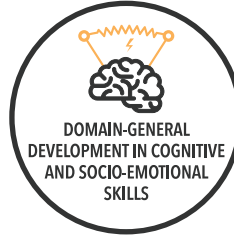
## KEY OBJECTIVES & AREAS OF FOCUS

Much is known about the development of mathematical, language, cognitive and socio-emotional skills in childhood, less is known about how they develop. Interactions between mind, brain and education are not well understood.



Further research in these areas are essential for:

- developing screening tools that can help detect early difficulties;
- assessing programme efficiency at early stages of intervention; and
- designing developmentally relevant interventions and prevention programmes.



DOMAIN-GENERAL  
DEVELOPMENT IN COGNITIVE  
AND SOCIO-EMOTIONAL  
SKILLS

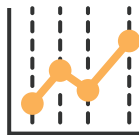


MORE LOCAL  
RESEARCH  
NEEDED  
IN TWO BROAD  
AREAS



DOMAIN-SPECIFIC  
DEVELOPMENT IN LANGUAGE  
AND MATHEMATICAL  
SKILLS

## The Centre's Key Aims



**POPULATION REPRESENTATIVE DATA**  
on Singapore children's development in areas related to cognition, socio-emotional skills, language and mathematics.



**LOCALLY-VALIDATED  
DIAGNOSTIC AND RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS**  
that are commonly used by teachers, clinicians and researchers. Availability of local norms will help reduce biases and guesswork resulting from reliance on overseas standards.



**FINDINGS ON THE EFFICACY OF  
EXISTING INTERVENTIONS**  
and information on local factors that influence their efficacy.



**NOVEL INTERVENTIONS**  
for children with poor cognitive or socio-emotional skills and sustained difficulties in language acquisition and mathematics.