Introduction to the NDIS and its interface with school education

Disability, Learning and Support
July 2018
What is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)?)

The NDIS is a new way of providing support to people with disability so they can live an ordinary life

- supports people under 65 with a permanent and significant disability to pursue their goals
- takes a lifetime approach to improve outcomes for people with disability
- provides reasonable and necessary supports to eligible people
- gives more choice and control over supports and how they are delivered
- builds skills and capability to participate in employment and the community

The NDIS is available across NSW from July 2018 and Australia by 2020

NDIS fact sheet  www.NDIS website
How does the NDIS work?

The NDIS supports people with disability to:

- access **mainstream and community services**
- maintain **informal supports** from family and friends
- receive reasonable and necessary **funded supports**

### NDIS plans

- Individualised funding for daily living activities, aids and equipment, home or vehicle modifications
- Linked to personal goals and aspirations
- Choice and control of supports and service providers

### Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI)

- Support for children under 7 with disability or developmental delay
- Aims to reduce the need for future disability supports though some children may go on to receive an NDIS plan
- Delivered by [ECEI partners](#)

### Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC)

- Funding to organisations for personal and community capacity building activities
- Aims to create more accessible and inclusive communities

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Who can access the NDIS?

Access to the NDIS depends on age, residency and disability

People may be eligible for an individualised plan if they:

» are under 65 years

» live in Australia and are an Australian citizen or permanent resident

» have a lifelong disability that substantially impacts how they manage everyday activities

How to contact the NDIS:

1800 800 110 Online contact form NDIS offices

Before contacting the NDIS, you can check eligibility using the NDIS checklist.
Who’s who in the NDIS?

**NDIA**
- Administers the NDIS

**National Access Team**
- NDIA staff who assess applications for the NDIS

**NDIA Planner**
- Person appointed to develop NDIS plans with participants and their family

**Quality and Safeguards Commission**
- Register and regulate NDIS providers
- Resolve complaints about the quality and safety of NDIS services

**NSW Office of Fair Trading**
- Complaints about NDIS-funded products or services

**National Disability Insurance Agency**

**Local Area Coordinators (LACs)**
- Help people with disability access the NDIS and other community supports
- Assist participants to create, use and review their plan

**ECEI partners**
- Service providers contracted to deliver the ECEI approach

**Plan manager**
- Helps a participant manage their funding

**Support Coordinator**
- Helps a participant understand their plan, choose and engage providers

**Service provider**
- Provides products or services funded through an NDIS plan

**Funded supports**

**Quality, safety and consumer rights**
Where are the NDIS partners in the community?

- **LAC:** Social Futures  
  **ECEI:** Mission Australia

- **LAC:** Social Futures  
  **ECEI:** Interreach

- **LAC:** Uniting  
  **ECEI:** EACH

- **LAC:** Uniting  
  **ECEI:** Lifestart

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- **LAC:** Vinnies  
  **ECEI:** Naitcott

- **LAC:** Uniting  
  **ECEI:** Cerebral Palsy Alliance

- **LAC:** Uniting  
  **ECEI:** Lifestart

- **LAC:** Social Futures  
  **ECEI:** Intereach

- **LAC:** Social Futures  
  **ECEI:** Mission Australia
What are the benefits of the NDIS?

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<tr>
<th>For children and young people:</th>
<th>For schools:</th>
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<td>» Eligible children and young people will receive personalised support based on their needs and goals</td>
<td>» Students may come to school better prepared and supported to learn</td>
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<td>» Some children will receive specialist disability supports for the first time</td>
<td>» Opportunity to align a student’s personalised learning and support plan with supports in their NDIS plan</td>
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<td>» Access to personalised support may help them to better engage and participate at school and elsewhere</td>
<td>» Opportunity to strengthen collaborative planning with families</td>
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Legislative context for schools

**Education Act 1990**
- Sets out curriculum requirements for all NSW schools
- Compulsory school attendance for children aged 6-17 years
- Parent duty to ensure their child attends school or is registered for home schooling with NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) during this time

**Disability Discrimination Act 1992**
- Rights based
- Broad definition of disability

**Disability Standards for Education 2005**
- Education providers to ensure that students with disability can access and participate in education on the same basis as other students
What are the responsibilities of the NDIS and school education sectors?

Schools’ obligations to students with disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 continue to apply

Under the NDIS Applied Principles for school education:

Schools are responsible for making adjustments to personalise learning and support for students that primarily relate to their educational attainment.

The NDIS will fund reasonable and necessary supports that the student requires due to the functional impact of their disability on their daily life.

» There are some areas of overlap and uncertainty, which are being negotiated by governments.

» Until then, education systems and schools will continue to support students with disability consistent with current obligations.
The interface between the NDIS and school education

School education

Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and Disability Standards for Education 2005

Personalised learning and support

Supports that relate to educational attainment

NDIS

NDIS Act and Rules

Personalised plans and packages

Supports associated with the functional impact of disability on daily life

~ 100,000 (or 15%) students in NSW public schools whose learning is impacted by disability

~ 30,000 (or 3-4%) students in NSW public schools with disability expected to be NDIS participants. Many of these students will also be receiving targeted educational supports

~ 140,000 NDIS participants in NSW, including about 40,000 children and young people
School transport and the NDIS

Under the Applied Principles for school education, the NDIS is responsible for funding transport to and from school for school-aged participants

» Governments are still considering how school transport will be provided under the NDIS

» For now, the Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP) provides school transport as an ‘in kind’ service to students using ASTP who are NDIS participants

» This means the department funds and provides school transport – it can not be managed through an NDIS plan

» Every child must meet ASTP eligibility criteria to access the program’s transport services, including those who are NDIS participants

Assisted School Travel Program

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Externally funded service providers in schools

Principals decide whether externally funded providers can deliver their services on school grounds during school hours

They must consider a range of legislative and policy requirements, including:

» the impact of the service on the student’s participation in the classroom

» how well the service supports the student’s learning needs

» how the service may impact on other students, school staff and the operations of the school

External Provider Information Package

| Externally funded service providers delivering health, disability and wellbeing services to students |
| Information for principals |

This document identifies the matters principals should consider when making decisions about providing access to the school for the provision of externally funded specialist health, disability or wellbeing services.

This information sheet is part of a package of materials that has been developed to support principals in their role and responsibilities for managing access to students by externally funded service providers. It draws together relevant information from existing policy and related obligations of principals toward students, staff and other persons who access the school.

External Provider Information Package

» Information sheets for principals, service providers, and parents and carers

» Checklists for principals and providers

» Engagement agreement between the school and provider
How schools can support families

Schools can support families at key stages of the NDIS pathway:

» to understand and access the NDIS
» during the NDIS planning process
» as they implement their child’s NDIS plan

Note: Families do not need to disclose their child’s NDIS status

NDIS fact sheet #1
NDIS fact sheet #2
NDIS fact sheet #3
Advice and information on the NDIS

NDIS Coordinators for NSW public schools

Provide advice and support to schools, help resolve NDIS-related issues, and deliver information sessions for school staff, parents and carers

» Macquarie Park – Fran Tinley
» Tamworth – Tracey Winfer
» Wagga Wagga (Dubbo) – Wendy English
» Wagga Wagga (Wollongong) – Galiema Gool
» Ultimo – Linda Cormack

NDIS website
www.ndis.gov.au

Department’s NDIS webpage
https://tinyurl.com/doe-ndis

External Provider Information Package
https://tinyurl.com/external-providers

Assisted School Travel Program