

# Early Childhood - NDIS

## NAVIGATING THE NDIS - WHAT WILL THE NDIS FUND?

### Understanding the supports and services funded by the NDIS

The NDIS funds a range of supports and services for children with disabilities. Funding will only be allocated if the support or service is determined to be reasonable and necessary. The NDIA will determine if the services are:

- related to your child's disability
- likely to be effective and work for your child
- value for money
- not related to day-to-day living costs which are connected to your child's disability support needs (i.e. groceries)

The NDIA will also consider current support from family, carers, and other government services when funding your child's plan.

The NDIS will not replace other government and community services i.e. hospitals or schools.<sup>1</sup>

This factsheet will outline some of the services which could be funded by the NDIS.

#### Funding for Health<sup>2</sup>

- Home modifications, personal care and development of skills to help a person become more independent.
- Allied Health and other therapy needed because of a disability, including occupational therapy, speech pathology or physiotherapy.
- Prosthetics and artificial limbs (surgery remains the responsibility of the health system).
- Aids and equipment such as wheelchairs, adjustable beds or hearing aids related to a person's disability.
- Therapeutic and behavioural supports for people with psychosocial disability (mental health).

#### Funding for Education<sup>2</sup>

- Self-care at school related to a student's disability, such as assistance with eating.
- Specialised training of teachers and other staff about the specific personal support needs of a student with disability.
- Specialist transport required because of the student's disability (not a substitute for parental responsibility).
- Transportable equipment such as a wheelchair or personal communication devices.
- Therapies that a family and school have agreed may be delivered during school time but are not for educational purposes.

## Funding for Family Support<sup>3</sup>

- Disability-specific supports needed because of the impact of a child or parent's disability.
- Disability-specific training programs for parents and carers who have a disability themselves, or a child with disability.
- Disability support for children, teenagers and adults in out-of-home care, including home modifications, equipment, therapies and behavioural support, and development of a child's skills to become more independent.

## How do I know which support to ask for?

Your child's planner will be able to discuss with you what supports your child needs during the planning meeting. To help you prepare for the planning meeting, the Association for Children with Disabilities has developed a [planning workbook](#)<sup>4</sup>.

Filling out this workbook will help your child's planner understand your child's needs, set goals for your child's development and keep the multi-disciplinary team informed about what early intervention services are needed.

You can also attend a free one-on-one pre-planning session hosted by an early intervention service provider which will help you prepare for your child's meeting. Your local NDIS ECEI Partner will help link you to providers who offer that service.

1. <https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants> Booklet 1: Understanding the NDIS p.9
2. <https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants> Booklet 1: Understanding the NDIS p.10
3. <https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants> Booklet 1: Understanding the NDIS p.11
4. <https://www.acd.org.au/information-and-resources/ndis/> ACD NDIS Planning Workbook

