# NDIS Implementation

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) operates across Australia and provides disability support for people with disability, their families and carers.

The NDIS is managed by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The NDIS rolled out in Queensland between July 2016 and June 2019, and is now live across the state.

# Benefits for families

The NDIS model empowers people with disability and their families and carers to have choice and control over how, when and where their disability supports and services are delivered.

The NDIS takes a flexible, individualised approach that invests in children and young people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.

Parents with disability may receive reasonable and necessary support from the NDIS that will increase their capacity to care for their children and young people.

# Access to the NDIS for children aged 0-6

NDIS Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) Partners work with **children aged 0-6 years**.

An ECEI Partner is the first point of contact with the NDIS for children aged 0-6 with emerging disability or developmental delay.

The ECEI Partner may:

* make connections for the child with relevant services in their area like their community health centre or local playgroup
* provide short-term early intervention therapy support
* help the family request NDIS access and develop their NDIS plan if longer-term support is needed.

# Access to the NDIS for children aged 7+ and adults

NDIS Local Area Coordinator Partners support **children aged 7+, young people and adults** to access the NDIS.

In general, accessing the NDIS involves:

* gathering eligibility evidence and making an Access Request
* working with an NDIA planner or Local Area Coordinator to develop a Participant Plan.

# NDIS plans and support

NDIS plans are usually developed through a face-to-face meeting with an NDIS Planner or Local Area Coordinator.

NDIS plans include reasonable and necessary supports that are specific to a person’s disability or developmental delay and can help them reach their goals.

These supports may include:

* Therapy and behaviour support
* Aids, equipment and consumables
* Skill-building supports
* Supports to help gain independence and enable sustainable caring arrangements
* Home modifications and transport
* Disability-related training for parents/carers
* Support coordination.

During development of an NDIS plan, funding may be requested for support coordination.

Support Coordinators are registered NDIS service providers who provide intensive support to help people implement their NDIS plan.

# How FaCC & IFS can help

Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support services can support families by helping them navigate the NDIS process. This may include:

**NDIS Access**

* Helping people check their NDIS eligibility using the access checklist located at: <https://www.ndis.gov.au/applying-access-ndis/am-i-eligible>
* Supporting a family to connect with an ECEI Partner for children aged 0-6
* Supporting a family to connect with NDIS Local Area Coordinator or NDIS office about access for a child aged 7+, young person or an adult.

**NDIS Planning**

* Helping a family consider their child or young person’s disability and support needs ahead of their NDIS planning meeting
* Attending an NDIS planning meeting if requested by the family.

**Once the person has an NDIS plan**

* Helping a family connect with a Local Area Coordinator or engage a Support Coordinator (if funded within the plan) to implement their plan.

**Where there has been a change in circumstances or the family is in crisis**

* Helping a family connect with a Local Area Coordinator or their Support Coordinator to rearrange the supports within their plan to respond to their immediate needs.
* Supporting a family to make a request to the NDIS for a plan review or review of a decision if required – this may include connecting the family to a National Disability Advocacy Program provider (see below).

Contacts

**National Disability Insurance Scheme:**

* 1800 800 110 or [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)

**Early Childhood Early Intervention Partners**

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| **Location** | **Provider** | **Phone** |
| Cairns | Mission Australia | 1800 860 555 |
| Townsville | UnitingCare Community | 4775 9124 |
| Mackay | UnitingCare Community | 4944 2331 |
| Emerald | BUSHkids | 4913 1090 |
| Rockhampton | BUSHkids | 4994 2120 |
| Gladstone | BUSHkids | 4904 5335 |

**ECEI Partners cont.**

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| **Location** | **Provider** | **Phone** |
| Bundaberg | BUSHkids | 4111 1655 |
| Maryborough/Sth Burnett | BUSHkids | 4904 5335 |
| Sunshine Coast, Noosa, Gympie | BUSHkids | 5406 0708 |
| Moreton Bay incl Strathpine / Caboolture | The Benevolent Society | 1300 003 234 |
| Gold Coast/Hinterland | UnitingCare Community | 0427 084 280 |
| Ipswich | EACH | 1300 003 224 |
| Toowoomba | UnitingCare Community | 4688 3949 |
| Brisbane/Logan | The Benevolent Society | 1300 003 234 |

**Local Area Coordinator Partners**

|  |  |  |
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| **Location** | **Provider** | **Phone** |
| Cairns | Mission Australia | 1800 860555 |
| Townsville and Mackay | Feros Care | 1300 986970 |
| Rockhampton, Gladstone and Emerald | Carers Queensland | 4994 1600 |
| Bundaberg | Indigenous Wellness Centre | 1300 492492 |
| Maryborough /Sth Burnett | APM | 1800 276276 |
| Sunshine Coast, Noosa, Gympie | Carers Queensland | 1800 242636 |
| Moreton Bay inc Strathpine / Caboolture | Carers Queensland | 1800 242636 |
| Ipswich | Carers Queensland | 3454 0500 |
| Toowoomba | Carers Queensland | 4646 2800 |
| Brisbane/Logan/  Redlands and Gold Coast | Carers Queensland | 1800 242636 |

**National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP)**

NDAP organisations are funded by the Commonwealth Government to provide disability advocacy services in Queensland.

<https://disabilityadvocacyfinder.dss.gov.au/disability/ndap/>

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| **Provider** | **NDAP phone** |
| Independent Advocacy in the Tropics Inc. | 1800 887 688 |
| People With Disability Australia Inc. | 1800 422 015 |
| Queensland Advocacy Inc. | 1300 130 582 |
| Rights In Action Inc. (FNQ) | 4031 7377 |
| Speaking Up For You (SUFY) | 3255 1244 |
| Sunshine Coast Citizen Advocacy Programme Inc. | 5442 2524 |