

Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

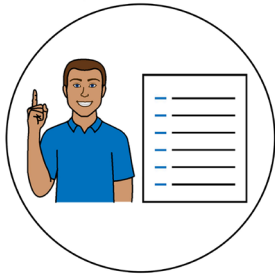
Children, Young People and Families Reference Group

Meeting Bulletin 14 May 2021



Easy Read





Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about
- find more information.



About this book

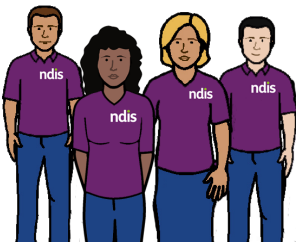


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

We will call it the Council.



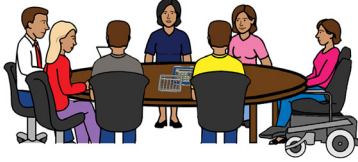
The Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS tells the **National Disability Insurance Agency** what they think about how the NDIS is managed.



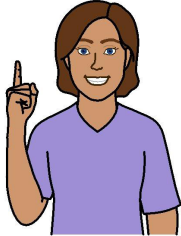
The National Disability Insurance Agency or NDIA manages the **National Disability Insurance Scheme**.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme or NDIS gives services and support to people with disability.



This book tells you about what happened at the Children, Young People and Families **Reference Group** meeting.



Reference Groups are a group of people that know a lot about something.



Reference Groups help

- the Council do its work

and



- make our advice better.



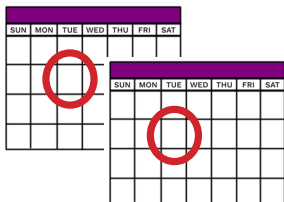
This Reference Group gives Council advice about ways the NDIS can help children and young people with disabilities

- do things for themselves



- be included in the community.

This book tells you what happened at our meeting on 14 May 2021.



The Reference Group meets 2 times each year.

Who was at the meeting?



There are 2 **Chairs** of the Reference Group

- Sylvana Mahmic

and

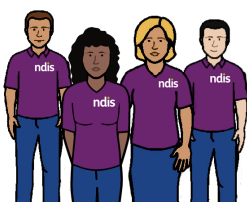
- Liz Reid.

A Chair means someone who can run the meeting.



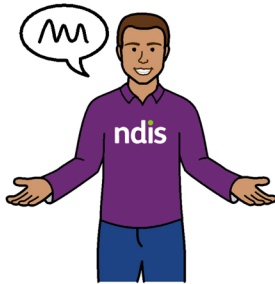
Also at the meeting were

- Reference Group members



- NDIA managers.

The Reference Group talked about things the NDIA is working on.



The Reference Group Chairs and NDIA managers spoke at the meeting to

- tell the us about the work they do

and



- ask for our feedback.

What happened at the meeting?

Update from the Reference Group Chairs



The Reference Group will help the Council with its advice and

- tell us what happens in their communities
- help Council and the NDIA achieve the goals for children and young people with disability
- find ways to make NDIS supports better for children and young people with disability and their families.



The Reference Group will make sure that people who know about the needs of children and young people with disability and their families tell us what they think about the NDIS.

Update from Reference Group members



Reference Group members talked about what is happening in their communities.



Families with children with disability find it hard to

- get into the NDIS



- understand the ways the NDIS can help them even after they get in



- get NDIS supports and services

- in rural and remote areas



- if they come from different cultures and speak languages other than English



- when children go to school



- if they are deaf or hard of hearing.

NDIS funding for children seems to be given out **without** thinking about



- what is reasonable and necessary

and



- choice and control.

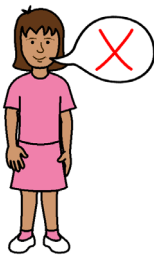


The Reference Group said families with children with disabilities have less trust in the NDIS.

Some families



- do **not** understand the supports the NDIS says they should give their children to be independent



- say the NDIS does **not** help children with disabilities that are less well known



- have to often say why the supports are needed for their children.



Some families are worried about **Independent Assessments** for their children.



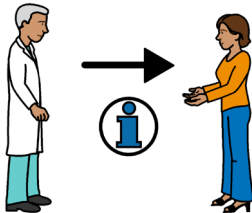
Independent Assessments are the way the NDIA wants to work out

- how your disability affects your life

and



- what supports you need from the NDIS.



The assessments are independent because they are done by someone who

- does **not** already know you

and

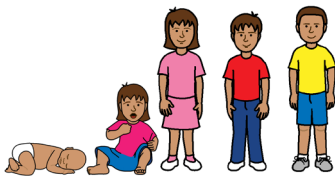


- is **not** the healthcare professional you usually see.

NDIA's work for children and young people



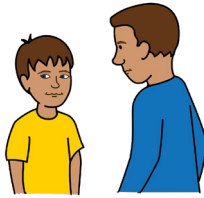
The NDIA is doing work on ways to support **Early Childhood Early Intervention**.



Early Childhood Early Intervention means how the NDIS helps children in Australia with disability or **developmental delay** from 0 to 6 years old.



Developmental delay means a child finds it harder to do everyday things that other children their age do. For example, dress themselves.



The NDIS is also doing work on ways to support children with **Autism**.



- think



- feel

- communicate

- connect and deal with others.



The NDIA needs to work with

- all Australian Governments to make sure the NDIS fits into a child's life



- the education system to make sure children are included in their schools and communities so that they can get jobs in the future.



The NDIA needs to think about

- reasons why families and children with disability find it hard to get the services they need



- the rights of people with disability when it does its work.



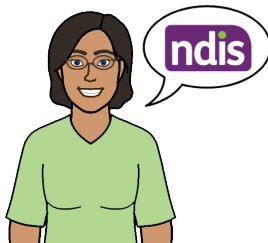
The Council has an **independent consultant** that writes the Council's advice.

An independent consultant is someone who

- helps us do our work

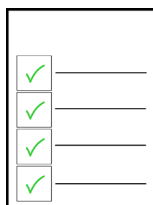


- is **not** part of the Council or the NDIA.



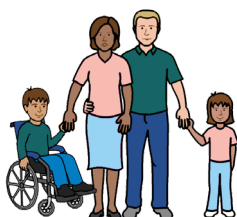
The independent consultant told us about the advice Council has written about children.

Reference Group plan



The Reference Group will make a plan with the most important work it will do over the next 2 years to

- fix the issues for children, young people and their families in the NDIS



and

- make sure children have the supports they need for their development.



The Reference Group will tell everyone about its plan soon.



More information



The next meeting will happen later this year.

For more information contact the
Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS.



Website www.ndis-iac.com.au



Email advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au



Call 1800 800 110



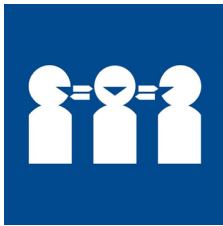
For more information about the Council Reference
Groups go to our website.

www.ndis-iac.com.au/referencegroups



For more information about advice the Council has given go to our website.

www.ndis-iac.com.au/advice



If you need help with English
Telephone Interpreting Service.

Call 131 450



If you need help to speak or listen
Use the National Relay Service.

nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay

Call 1300 555 727



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Give the relay officer the number you want to call.



TTY

Call 1800 555 677



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