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What early childhood partners are

We fund and work with community-based organisations to help us deliver the NDIS. We call these organisations NDIS partners.

Early childhood partners are local organisations with teams of early childhood professionals. They have specialist knowledge and experience working with young children and their families.

They can help if you have a child younger than 9 with delays in their development or disability. Your child doesn't need a diagnosis for our early childhood partners to help.

Get help for your child from your health or education professional

Start by talking to your child's health or education professional if you have a concern about your child's development. This person may be your:

- family doctor
- early childhood educator
- child health nurse.

They might also suggest contacting an early childhood partner.

> **Tip: If there aren't early childhood partners in your area.**
>
> Contact us and we can help connect you to the supports and services you need.

What early childhood partners are for

An early childhood partner helps you work out what supports you and your child might connect to. They work with you and your child to understand what support you both need.

This might include:

- talking to you about your child’s daily life
- reading reports or letters you have from professionals, like health professionals or educators observing your child in their usual environment
- using assessment and screening tools to understand your child’s development.

Once your early childhood partner understands both your and your child’s needs, they'll work with you to determine what kind of supports you can connect to.

Early childhood partners will connect you with the right supports

They help deliver early connections.

Early connections form a part of the early childhood approach.

They’ll make sure you get the right early intervention supports to help with your child’s individual needs.

This might include:

- connecting you with community and mainstream supports and services
- providing practical information relevant to your child’s development
- connecting you with other families to assist with peer support
- providing a period of early supports for children younger than 6 with developmental concerns
- supporting you to apply to the NDIS.

Find an early childhood partner in your area

Australian Capital Territory

- EACH

News South Wales

- EACH
- Intereach Limited

- LaTrobe Community Health Service
- Lifestart Cooperative Ltd
- Mission Australia
- Northcott

Northern Territory

- Early Childhood Australia

Queensland

- BUSHkids
- EACH
- Mission Australia
- The Benevolent Society

South Australia

- BaptistCare
- Kudos
- Mission Australia

Tasmania

- BaptistCare
- Mission Australia

Victoria

- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Intereach Limited
- LaTrobe Community Health Service

- Meli

Western Australia

- Mission Australia

Related information

How to get help for your child

Guide to the early childhood approach

What is an NDIS partner

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