Advocating for children with disability

Early Years fact sheet

Early intervention for children with developmental delay or disability



If your child is developing differently compared with other children, or has a disability, then early intervention can help your child reach their potential.

Early intervention includes support for families and therapies such as speech therapy and occupational therapy to help your child. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) can cover the cost of therapies and equipment that help your child's development.

The Early Childhood Approach is part of the NDIS. It is specifically for younger children aged 0 to 6. You don't need a formal diagnosis for your child to get early intervention. You know your child best, and early intervention works in partnership with your family and your child.

To be eligible for the NDIS you need to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident. However, your child can access free early intervention even if you or your child do not meet the residency requirements.

To find out more, contact the NDIS Early Childhood Partner in your local area:

Where you live	Early Childhood Partner	Contact details
Metropolitan		
Bayside Peninsula Brimbank Melton Hume Moreland North Eastern Melbourne Western Melbourne	Brotherhood of St Laurence	Call 1300 275 634 https://www.bsl.org.au
Inner Eastern Melbourne Outer Eastern Melbourne	Link Health and Community	Call Inner Eastern Melbourne 1300 552 509 Call Outer Eastern Melbourne https://www.linkhc.org.au

Where you live	Early Childhood Partner	Contact details
Regional		
Barwon	Meli	Call 03 5226 8900 https://www.meli.org.au
Loddon Goulburn Mallee	Intereach	Call 1300 488 226 https://www.intereach.com.au
Central Highlands Wimmera South West Ovens Murray	Latrobe Community Health Service	Call 1800 242 696 https://www.lchs.com.au
Outer Gippsland Inner Gippsland	Link Health and Community	Call 1300 552 509 https://www.linkhc.org.au

Free services for families

- **Support Line**
- **Workshops**
- **Information**
- **Peer support**