

Understanding the language of Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI)

The NDIS has introduced a new approach¹ to provide early intervention services for children aged 0 - 6 years. At times it can be confusing or overwhelming to understand the different terms used in early intervention - terms like 'Early Childhood Partner', 'provider', or 'coordinator'. It is important that you become familiar with the terminology, so you will understand the role of each person or organisation.

What is Early Intervention?

Early intervention is providing support to a child as early as possible to reduce the impact of their developmental delays or disability. It aims to help children develop the skills they need to achieve the best possible outcomes throughout their life.

Who are Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) Partners?

The NDIS has contracted organisations around Australia to become ECEI Partners. Their role is to help families with children aged between 0 – 6 years to access support and early intervention. Every state has different ECEI Partners with their own referral forms. You can find your local ECEI Partner² by visiting the [NDIS website](#) or by calling **1800 800 110**.

Who are Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) Coordinators?

ECEI Coordinators are those employed by an ECEI Partner who have experience working with children with disabilities. An ECEI Coordinator plays an important role in your child's care and can:

- Connect you to appropriate supports for your child
- Provide some short-term early intervention
- Help your child to request access to the NDIS³; and, if eligible
- Help you to develop an NDIS plan.

