

Strategic Inclusion Plan

The development of a Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP) is the first step in accessing support from the Inclusion Agency.

A SIP is a self-guided inclusion assessment and planning tool for services, which includes strategies for improving and embedding inclusive practice, in line with the National Quality Standard (NQS). The development of a SIP recognises the current inclusive capacity and capability of a service and outlines the strategies and actions educators will implement to include all children.

A SIP is developed, implemented and evaluated within a 12 month period. A SIP can be updated during this period to reflect any changes and record the progress made in implementing the strategies and actions outlined.

The Inclusion Support Program

The Inclusion Support Program (ISP) assists Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services to include children with additional needs alongside their typically developing peers in order that all children have genuine opportunities to access, participate and achieve positive learning outcomes as per the Early Years Learning Framework and My Time Our Place.

Additional needs may arise for children who:

- ▶ Have a disability or developmental delay
- ▶ Are presenting with challenging behaviours
- ▶ Have a serious medical or health condition, including mental health
- ▶ Are presenting with trauma-related behaviours

Children from:

- ▶ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds
- ▶ Culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- ▶ Refugee or humanitarian backgrounds

may also require special considerations to ensure they are able to fully participate in ECEC services.

The Australian Government funded NSW/ACT Inclusion Agency is managed by KU Children's Services, in partnership with Include Me and Gowrie NSW.

Contact us for further information

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Inclusion Support Program

NSW/ACT Inclusion Agency

Inclusion benefits all children both now and for the future



In partnership with





NSW/ACT Inclusion Agency

The NSW/ACT Inclusion Agency (IA), managed by KU Children's Services, in partnership with Include Me and Gowrie NSW, is part of the Inclusion Support Program.

The program aims to build the capacity and capability of educators to address participation barriers for all children through implementing quality inclusive practices.

We provide free tailored inclusion support to all Australian Government funded services including Centre-Based Day Care, Outside School Hours Care and Family Day Care. Our teams of Inclusion Professionals are based at Inclusion Hubs located across NSW and the ACT.

The NSW/ACT Inclusion Agency also includes the:

- ▶ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Inclusion Hub
- ▶ Specialist Equipment Library

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Inclusion Hub supports Inclusion Professionals in their work with services in relation to the inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

The Specialist Equipment Library is a free service where specialist equipment is loaned to services to support children to access and participate in every aspect of an ECEC program.

Inclusion means that:

- ▶ Every child has the right to participate in high quality early childhood education.
- ▶ All children are viewed as being capable learners and contributors in ECEC services.
- ▶ The strengths and interests of each child are acknowledged. Inclusion is not about 'fixing' the child or improving their skills so that they fit into the ECEC environment, it is about changing what we do as educators so that all children can participate.
- ▶ The focus is on the whole environment and not just on an individual child.
- ▶ Diversity is acknowledged, respected and viewed as a resource for learning, growth and change.
- ▶ All educators are responsible for identifying inclusion barriers and learning about ways to overcome them.
- ▶ Educators build partnerships with families, other professionals and the wider community.

How will we support your service?

Inclusion Professionals will work directly with services to develop a Strategic Inclusion Plan to:

- ▶ Support educators to acknowledge and identify their strengths.
- ▶ Support educators to reflect on their understanding of inclusion and identify inclusion barriers.
- ▶ Assist educators to critically reflect on their practices.
- ▶ Support educators to overcome specific inclusion barriers by identifying and planning practical strategies and solutions.
- ▶ Facilitate access to all Inclusion Support Program (ISP) resources including the Inclusion Development Fund, if required, to support children to access and participate in every aspect of your program.
- ▶ Encourage educators to work in partnership with families, community groups, services and organisations.
- ▶ Support educators to promote an understanding of inclusion principles with families and other professionals.