

ndis

# Supported Decision Making Policy



Easy Read



# About this information

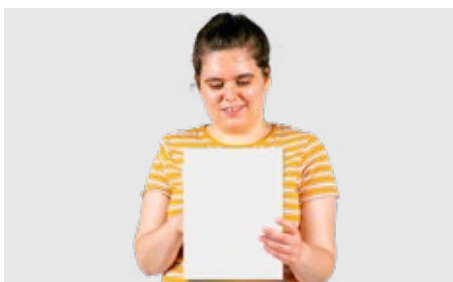


The **National Disability Insurance Agency** made this information sheet.



The **National Disability Insurance Agency** makes sure the NDIS runs well.

We will say **NDIA** for short.



This information sheet is the NDIA policy about **supported decision making**.



A **policy** is a plan for how we should do things.



**Supported decision making** is when you make your own decisions with the right support.

# Supported Decision Making Policy



You have the right to make your own decisions.

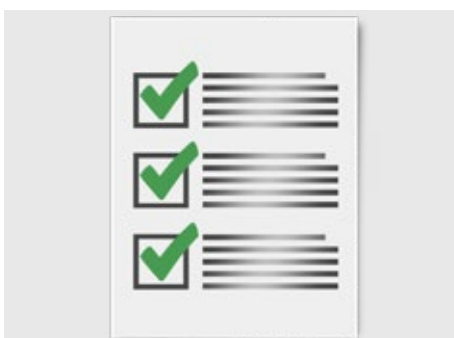


You should get the support you need to

- Make decisions
- Let others know what your decisions are.



We want to get better at supporting you to make decisions in the NDIS.



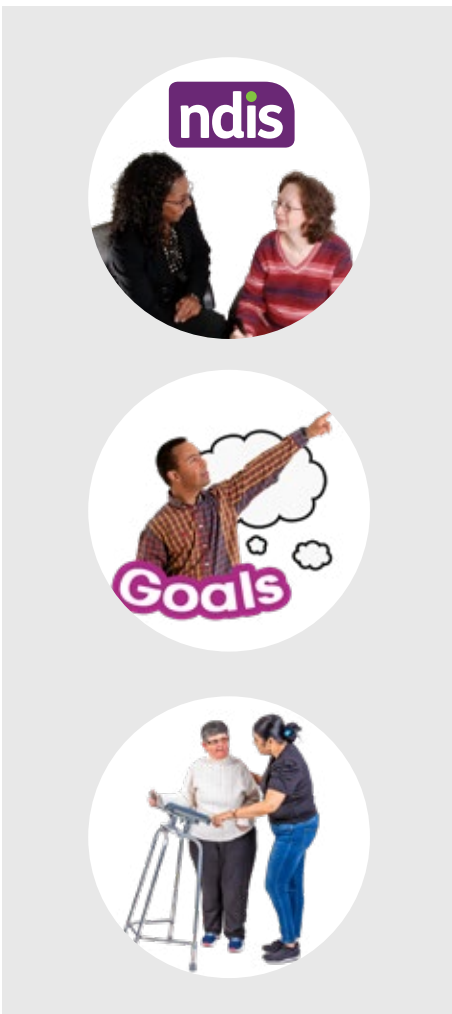
Our Supported Decision Making Policy says how we will do this.



We made this policy after working with lots of people with disability.



The policy is for decisions people make about the NDIS.



This means decisions like

- If you want to get help from the NDIS
- What goals you make
- How to use your NDIS supports.

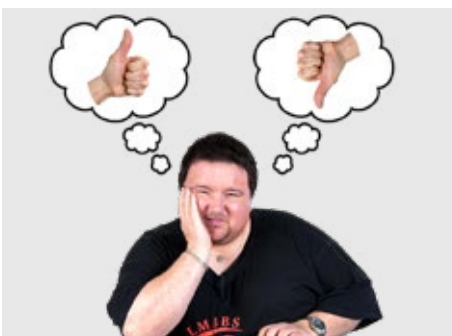
# What is supported decision making



Supported decision making helps you have control in your life.



It helps you learn new things and get information.



It can help you with small decisions and big decisions.



A small decision might be what to eat.

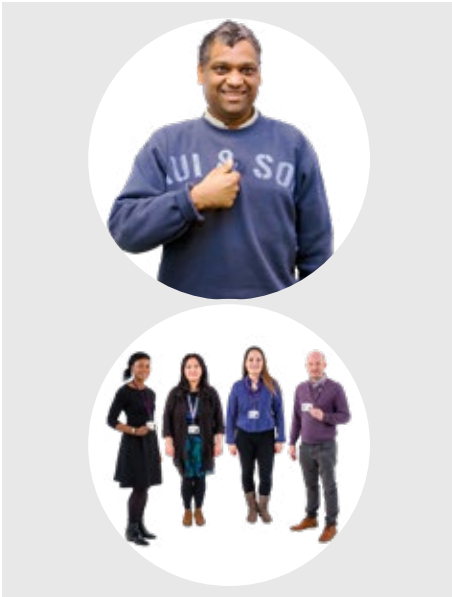


A big decision might be where to live.



The support you need for decisions will change from time to time.

# Who this policy is for



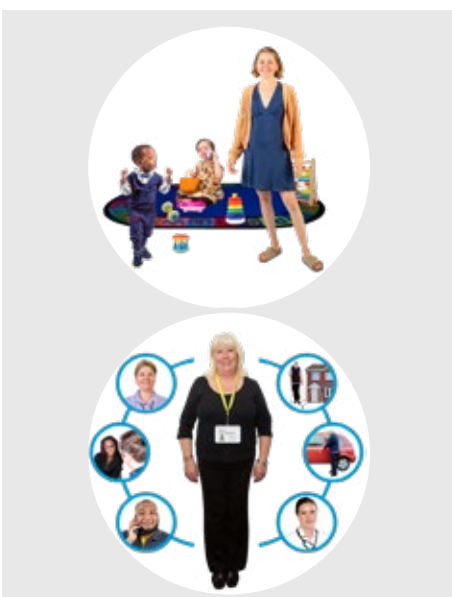
This policy is for

- People who get help from the NDIS
- Everyone who works for the NDIS and NDIA.



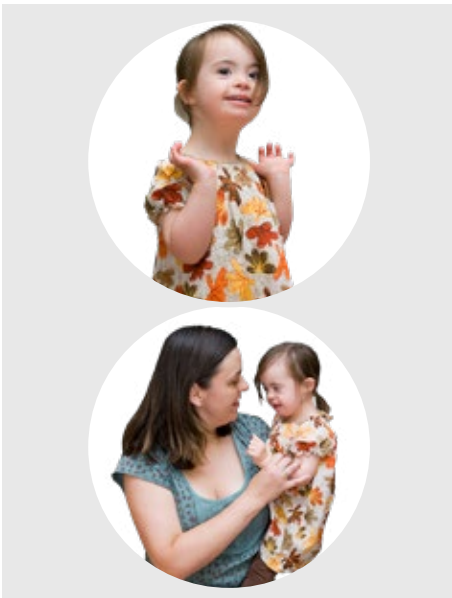
It is also for people who get help from our **partners** in the community.

**Partners** are services in the community we work with.



This might be

- **Early Childhood Partners**
- **Local Area Coordinators.**

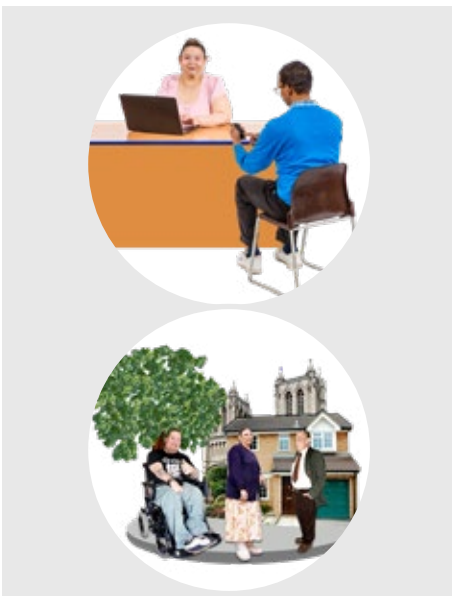


**Early Childhood Partners** are services in the community that can support

- Children with disability
- Their family.



**Local Area Coordinators** are services in the community that can support people with disability.



They can

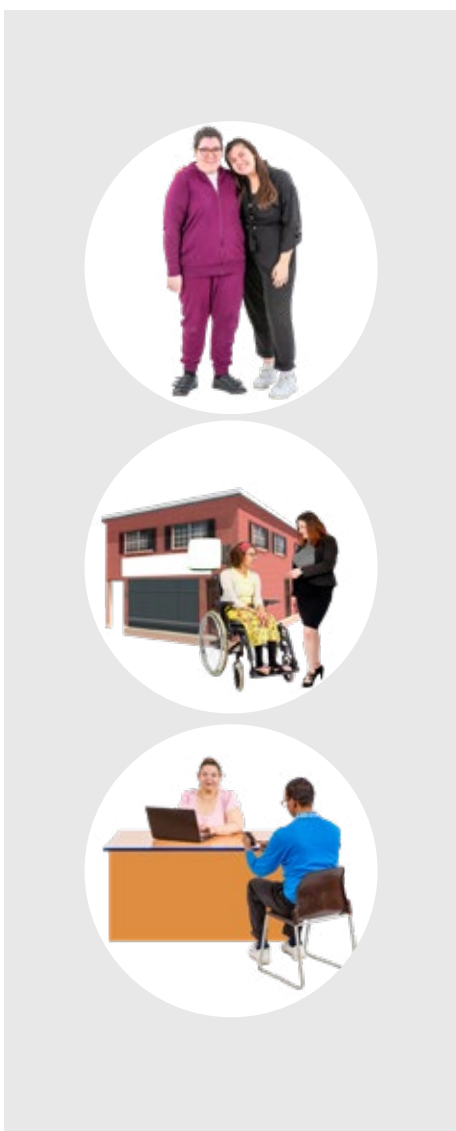
- Help all people with disability find and use supports
- Share information about the NDIS with the community.



# How NDIS does supported decision making



We know that lots of people and services need to work together in supported decision making.



For supported decision making we work with

- People with disability and their family
- NDIS services
- Services that anyone can go to.



**NDIS Quality  
and Safeguards  
Commission**

We also work with the **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission**.

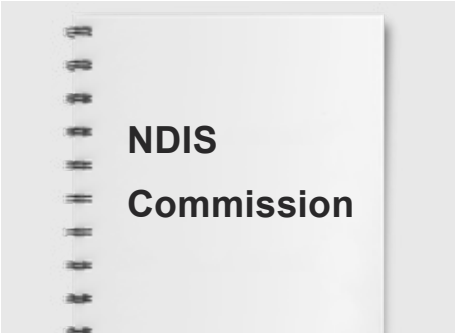


The **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission** works with the NDIA to make sure participants

- Are safe



- Get good NDIS services.

A spiral-bound notebook with a white cover. The text "NDIS Commission" is printed on the cover in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

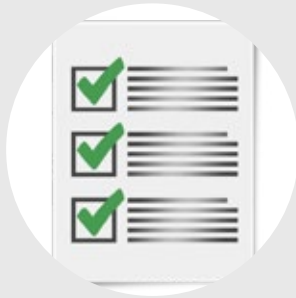
**NDIS  
Commission**

We will say the **NDIS Commission** for short.

At the NDIA we know



- Supported decision making is different for each person



- There are lots of parts to make supported decision making happen

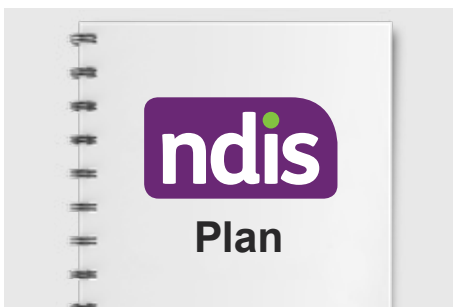


- Relationships are very important to people when they make decisions.



**Relationships** means the different people you have in your life.

This might be a family member or friend.



You can talk to us about what supports you need for decision making.

We can also ask what support you need when we do your NDIS plan.

## People who support with decisions



People who support you to make decisions are called **decision supporters**.



A **decision supporter** helps you

- Think about what you want
- Understand the choices you have
- Think about what good or bad things might happen because of a choice.



Decision supporters must try to understand what you want if it is hard for you to say this.



You can choose anyone to be a decision supporter.



This could be a

- Family member or friend
- Worker
- Someone you trust who knows you well.



You can have more than 1 decision supporter.



A decision supporter does not make a decision for you.



There are people who can make decisions for you if you

- Can not be supported to make decisions
- Do not want to make decisions.



These people are called **representatives**.



A representative must make decisions that you would want.



There are 2 types of representatives in the NDIS.



These are

- **Child representatives**
- **Nominees.**



**Child representatives** make decisions about NDIS for people under 18.

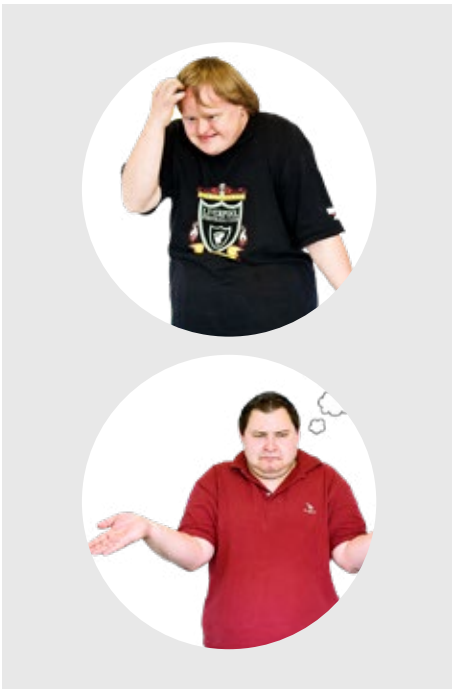


**Nominees** make decisions about NDIS for people over 18.



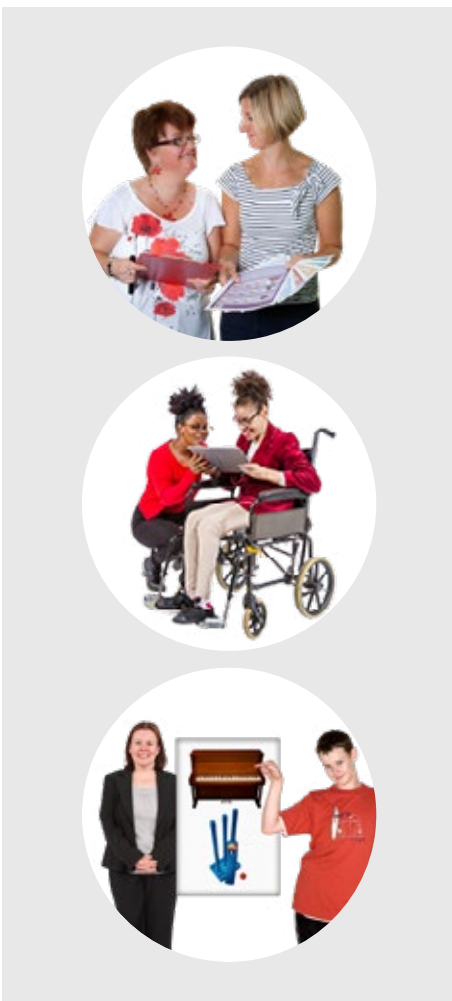
There are rules about nominees.

We use those rules to decide who can be a nominee.



The NDIS will only give you a nominee if you

- Can not make your own decisions
- Do not want to make NDIS decisions.



Our rules about representatives are

- Representatives should still include you when they make decisions about you.
- You should only get a representative after you have tried other kinds of support
- Representatives should find chances to do supported decision making with you too.



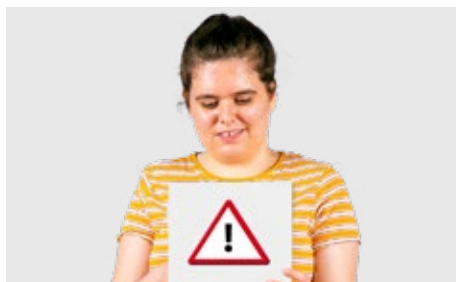


Sometimes people with disability have representatives who can make decisions about other parts of their life.



If you have someone like this you can ask them to be your nominee to make decisions about the NDIS.

## Making decisions that have risk



People with disability have the right to make decisions that have **risk**.

**Risk** means something could go wrong.



Risks should be talked about when supported decision making happens.



A supporter can talk to you about what might happen if you take the risk.



They can say how you can do things to make the risk smaller.



When you are supported to take risks you can

- Have power to make choices
- Try new things.



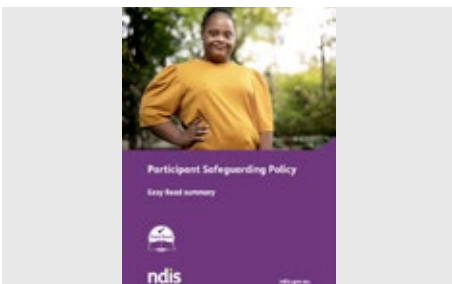
Sometimes people might not understand the risk even if they get supported decision making.



If this happens a representative might be needed to make a decision.



The representative would only make a decision that is safe for you.



We have a policy about how we can support people with disability to be safe.

It is called the **Participant Safeguarding Policy**.



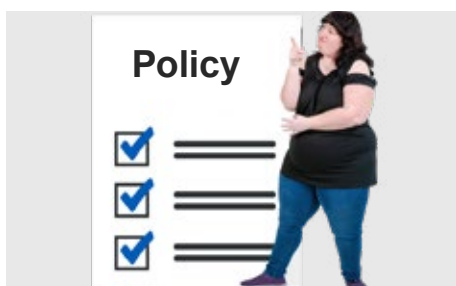
To read this you can go to our website at

**[www.ndis.gov.au/media/5851](http://www.ndis.gov.au/media/5851)**

# Implementation plan



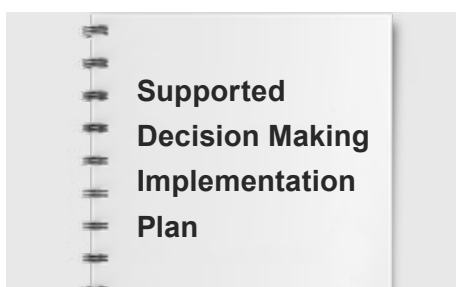
This policy is the first thing we are doing to make supported decision making better at the NDIS.



We want to make sure we do the things in the policy with the people who will use it.



We have a plan that says how we will do this.



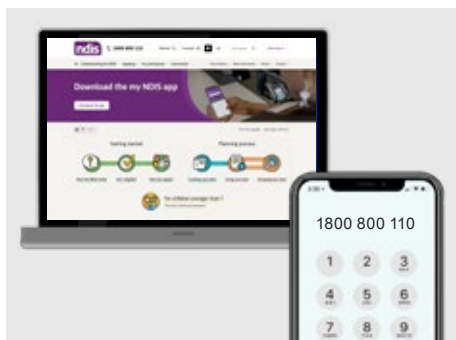
It is called the **Supported Decision Making Implementation Plan**.



You can read the **Supported Decision Making Implementation Plan** on our website at

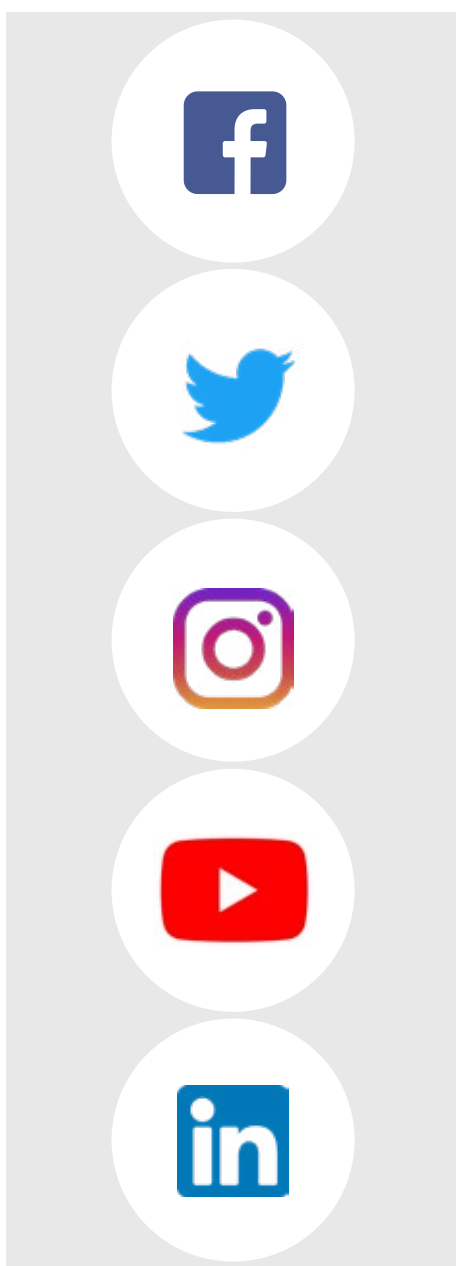
[www.ndis.gov.au/supporteddecisionmaking](http://www.ndis.gov.au/supporteddecisionmaking)

## Our contact information



To contact the NDIA you can

- Call us on **1800 800 110**
- Go to our website at **[www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)**.



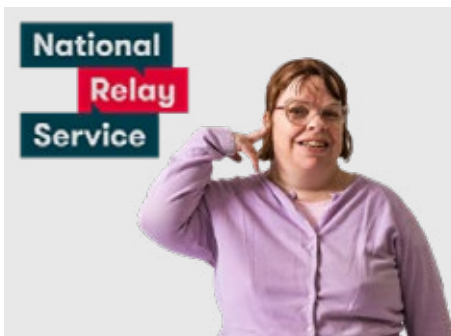
You can also follow us on

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- LinkedIn at **[www.linkedin.com/company/national-disability-insurance-agency](http://www.linkedin.com/company/national-disability-insurance-agency)**.



You can call the **Translating and Interpreting Service** for information in your language.

The number is **131 450**.



You can call the **National Relay Service** if you

- Are deaf
- Have trouble hearing.



The number is **1800 555 660**.

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short. You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document. You can contact CID at **business@cid.org.au**.