



Supports for your child who is deaf or hard of hearing

Social and emotional wellbeing

Easy Read version



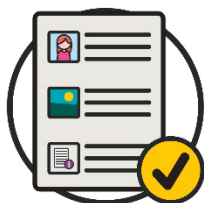
ndis

[ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

How to use this guide



The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this guide. When you see the word 'we', it means the NDIA.



We wrote this guide in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

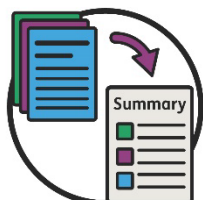
We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 19.



This is an Easy Read summary of another guide.



You can find the other guide on our website.

ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/child-wellbeing



You can ask for help to read this guide.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What's in this guide?

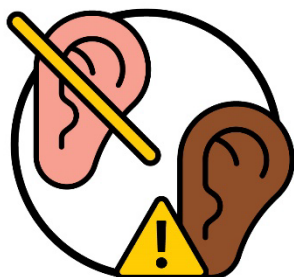
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Who are these guides for?

These guides are for families of children who are:



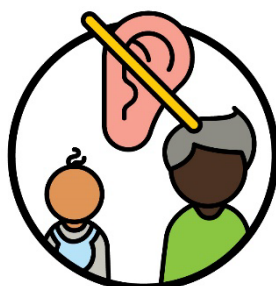
- younger than 7 years old



- deaf or hard of hearing.



Children are deaf or hard of hearing if they can't hear things around them.



They might be born deaf or hard of hearing.

Or they might become deaf or hard of hearing later in life.



Some children also have hearing loss.

Hearing loss is when your child can only hear some things around them.

Children can have hearing loss in:



- one ear



- both ears.

Why is social and emotional wellbeing important?

Your child's social and emotional wellbeing can affect how they:



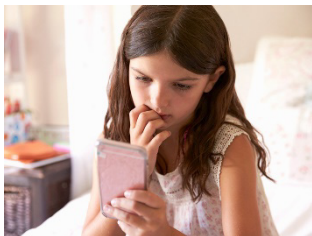
- feel about themselves



- communicate



- learn



- solve problems in their life.



All children need to feel like they belong.



It's important to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing.



This includes how they:

- connect with others
- make friends.



Children who are deaf or hard of hearing might need extra support to do this.

This support can help them to connect with:



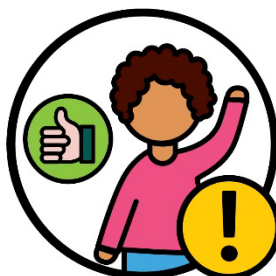
- family and friends



- children their own age

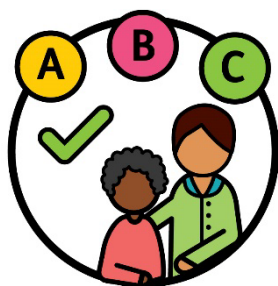


- their community.

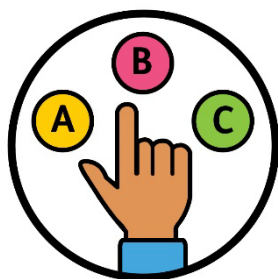


It's also important to support your own social and emotional wellbeing.

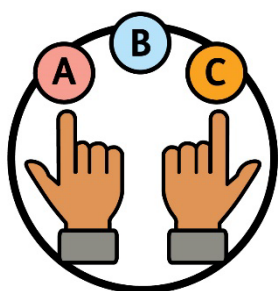
What supports can you get?



There are many ways to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing.



You might choose to only use one type of support.



Or you might use more than one type of support.

Support from other families



You can get support from other families who have a child who is deaf or hard of hearing.



You can also get support from adults who are deaf or hard of hearing.

These adults would know what it's like for your child.

These people can help your child to:



- build their social skills with people who understand them



- feel good about themselves



- learn to communicate and make friends.



They can also tell them about the deaf or hard of hearing community.

Support from your community



You can also get support from your community.

For example, you can get support from:



- friends and other people in your family



- community groups



- religious groups

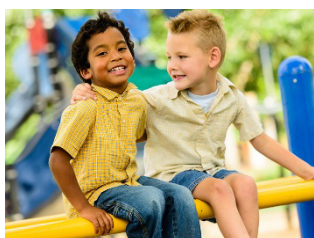


- play groups.

Your community can help your child to:



- feel good about themselves



- learn to communicate and make friends.



They can also teach other children how to communicate with your child.

Support from professionals



Your child might need extra support for their social and emotional wellbeing.

They can get support from a professional.

It's a professional's job to support your child and your family.

Your child can get support from:



- a **social worker** – who supports children with different areas of their life



- a **psychologist** – who helps children with how they think and feel



- an **occupational therapist** – who helps children take part in day-to-day activities.



Some professionals might have experience working with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

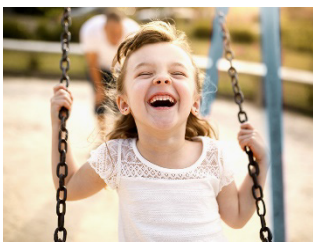
Professionals can help:



- your family connect to each other



- connect you to other supports your child might need



- support you to help your child feel good about who they are



- your child create plans to manage how they feel.

Who can you talk to?



You can talk to people you know and trust.

They can help you find out about social and emotional wellbeing supports that might work for your child.



You can talk to an **early childhood partner** about these supports.

They're someone who supports children with disability and their families



You can also talk to a **provider**.

Providers support other people by delivering a service.



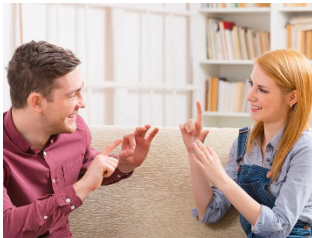
You can learn more about questions to ask providers on our website.

www.ndis.gov.au/what-provider



You can talk to people who work with young children.

For example, your child's doctor.



You can talk to organisations who support:

- people who are deaf or hard of hearing
- their families.



You can also talk to your own:

- friends
- family.

More information

For more information about this guide, please contact us.



You can visit our website.

www.ndis.gov.au



You can call us.

1800 800 110



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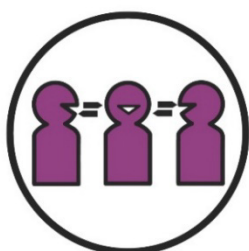
Support to talk to us



You can talk to us online using our webchat feature at the top of our website.

www.ndis.gov.au

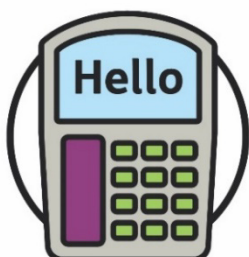
If you speak a language other than English, you can call:



Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

131 450

If you have a speech or hearing impairment, you can call:



TTY

1800 555 677



Speak and Listen

1800 555 727



National Relay Service

133 677

www.relayservice.gov.au

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



Early childhood partners

Early childhood partners support children with disability and their families



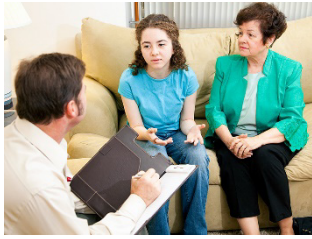
Occupational therapist

An occupational therapist helps children take part in day-to-day activities.



Provider

Providers support other people by delivering a service.



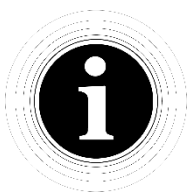
Psychologist

A psychologist helps children with how they think and feel.



Social worker

A social worker supports children with different areas of their life.



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