



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) POLICY

Purpose

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a way of providing support to Australians with disability, their families and carers. The NDIS provides all Australians under the age of 65 with a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to enjoy an ordinary life. The NDIS helps people with disability achieve their goals, including independence, community involvement, education, employment and health and wellbeing.

Karoo Primary School (KPS) acknowledges that schools can play a significant role helping students to access the scheme along with supporting families to work with specialists to implement strategies to assist children in achieving goals.

Guidelines

Based on this purpose the aims of the NDIS policy is:-

- To support families in accessing the NDIS.
- To put into place agreed processes for managing request by therapists for attending KPS for the purpose of observation.
- To put into place agreed processes for managing request by therapists for attending KPS for the purpose of therapy.

Implementation

Consistent with the aims this policy shall be implemented according to the following guidelines:-

- Requests for information to support NDIS applications must be directed to the Principal or Assistant Principal.
- Teachers may be asked to provide information as part of the NDIS application process as directed by the Principal or Assistant Principal
- All requests by external specialists to attend Karoo Primary School must be directed to the Principal or Assistant Principal and through the child's parents.
- Where an external specialist wishes to attend Karoo Primary School for the purpose of providing therapy, an NDIS Funded Therapist Request form must be completed.
- KPS will ensure School Council members are informed in relation to all requirements when considering accepting a School Council Licence agreement from a therapist.
- KPS is often unable to provide appropriate space and supervision in line with Child Safety Standards and only under exceptional circumstances will requests for therapy be approved and only by the Principal.
- KPS acknowledges the therapies funded by the NDIS are related to the participant's functional whole of life support needs, and not for educational purposes. The responsibility of therapy for educational attainment (and for students supported through the Program for

Students with Disabilities) remains with the education system. On this basis, KPS will continue to engage therapists and access therapy from Student Support Services to provide educational supports.

Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians will:

- Complete the NDIS Request and Parent Consent Form
- Meet with school leadership, where relevant, to discuss requests
- Coordinate visits by communicating with the therapist and the school

Class teacher will:

- Provide information as requested by the Principal/Assistant Principal
- Support students by including recommendations from therapists where applicable and practical
- Provide a differentiated curriculum and support students through making “reasonable adjustments” to ensure students with a disability are able to access their education on the same basis as their peers

Contractors/Therapists will:

- Complete the NDIS Funded Therapist Request form so that all requests may be considered
- Complete Information Sharing Agreement and adhere to the actions within
- Complete the School Council Licence
- Provide relevant documentation as stated in the Karoo Primary School contractors handbook and the School Council Licence

The Principal/Assistant Principal will:

- Consider requests and notify parents in writing of the outcome of all requests.
- Liaise with contractors/therapists to ensure all relevant paperwork is completed
- Ensure that all arrangements are consistent with Karoo Primary School Child Safe, Contractors and OHS policies

Resources

School Policies, which underpin this policy:

- Student Code of Conduct
- Statement of Values
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy

Evaluation

The Education Sub Committee and KPS staff will review the effectiveness of the school's NDIS Policy on a cyclical basis in accordance with DET guidelines and priorities.