



September 2023

Hi ,

The NDIS Review is an Australian Government review that's looking at how the NDIS is performing and what can be done to improve it.

The Review has received over 2,500 submissions from people with disability, families, and organisations. We have met with Review panelists and made two submissions, which you can [read online](#).

The Review will report to the Government at the end of October, but any recommended changes will take time, as they require the support of both the federal and state governments.

Currently, the Review is sharing what it has heard and where it is heading. Co-Chair Bruce Bonyhady has made several speeches that are available on [the NDIS Review website](#).

Key messages include:

- The NDIS is here to stay. It has made a huge difference in the lives of people with disability and their families
- A need to improve how mainstream services, including schools, housing, and healthcare support people with disability
- More foundational support is needed, including support for families with children with disability
- A need to build trust and simplify NDIS planning to be less stressful for participants and families

As parents of children who are NDIS participants, we understand that proposed changes to the NDIS can be both worrying and welcome. We will keep you up-to-date with all the news from the NDIS Review.

Coming up next month is our popular Teens and Beyond free online workshop series. One parent who attended gave this feedback:

“ You gave me hope that my son will have a happier future, with more choices.”

Karen Dimmock, CEO



Do you have a child aged 13+ with disability? If the answer's yes, then you're probably thinking about how best to support them with school and post-school options, puberty, and growing independence.

Teens and Beyond, our three-part workshop series has the resources and information you'll need to support your child now and into the future. Topics include:

- Financial support
- Getting the right NDIS support for your teen
- School and post-school options
- Wellbeing: friendships, communication, behaviour support, and good mental health

Teens and Beyond is free for families as it's funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency

A positive start to school

Is your child changing schools, starting Prep, or moving to secondary school next year?

Now is a good time to prepare, so your child has a positive start.

For advice on how schools can make reasonable adjustments to support your child's transition, call the ACD Support Line today. It's a **free** telephone advocacy service for all Victorian families raising children with developmental delay and disability from birth to 18.

We can help you to understand:

- Your child's rights at school
- School-based funding
- Reasonable adjustments
- How to work together with the school

The ACD Support Line is open Monday - Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Interpreters are available.

 [03 9880 7000](tel:0398807000) or [1800 654 013](tel:1800654013) (regional)



Advocating for the Next Generation
Hosted by Nelly Thomas: Free online event

Katie Hall
MP

Nelly Thomas
Comedian

Catherine Devine
President

Aileen Too
Parent

Join ACD for a lively online conversation before our Annual General Meeting

Your invitation

Join us online for a lively discussion before our Annual General Meeting (AGM). Hosted by Nelly Thomas, author, broadcaster, and comedian, our guest panel will be chatting about advocating for the next generation and what that means to them.

Date: Thursday 23rd November

Time: 1:00 pm

To be a part of this topical conversation and to come to our AGM, join ACD as a member today!

[Become an ACD member](#)

The Voice Referendum: accessible voting

With the Voice Referendum only a few weeks away, we've put together a list of ideas and resources to support your young person with disability get ready to vote:

- [Practice ballots](#) are available online
- You can [register to postal vote](#)
- [Easy English](#) information about the Uluru Statement from the Heart and The Voice
- Early Voting Centres open on 2nd October
- There are wheelchair-accessible polling places and those with hearing loops and virtual Auslan interpreters
- Secure telephone voting is available for blind and low-vision voters

Remember, young people can have a parent or Support Worker assist them in the polling booth.

[More information](#)



Getting ready for your child's NDIS Plan Reassessment

We spoke to families about how they prepared for their child's NDIS Plan Reassessment and have developed a practical guide, full of tips to help you make the most of the meeting.

[Find out more](#)



Royal Melbourne Show

If you're heading to the Royal Melbourne Show this school holiday, we've put together an accessibility guide to help make it an enjoyable day for the whole family:

- Mid-afternoons during weekdays are less crowded
- Accessible parking and drop-off points are available
- The showground has a Changing Places toilet and a sensory room
- The Ferris wheel is wheelchair accessible.
- Plan ahead and choose rides and show bags before you go

Best wishes

The ACD team

Stay connected

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Association for
Children with a
Disability

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