



April 2024

Hi ,

The recent NDIS Review recommended changes to increase support available outside of the NDIS, which will be called Foundational Supports.

The government is starting to design what they will look like, and while this is still in development, ACD wants families to have their say.

We're holding two online Have Your Say sessions to hear from you about what's currently working, what's missing, and what's needed to better support children with disability.

We'd like to hear your thoughts on how allied health therapies can be delivered in partnership with early learning and school, what good peer support looks like for families raising children with disability, and how to help families gain the skills to best support their children.

To have your say on this topic [please register to attend a session.](#)

Karen Dimmock, CEO



If you have a child aged 13+, you may be wondering how best to support them with school and post-school options, puberty, and growing independence.

[Watch this short video about the Teens and Beyond workshop.](#)

This three-part workshop brings together 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

[Register now](#)



Financial assistance

A range of financial assistance and support is available to families raising children with disability. Every family is different, and the level of support you may be eligible for depends on your circumstances.

ACD has useful information on how to start the process and a comprehensive list of the different types of support available.

[Find information](#)

MLAK: your key to freedom

Sometimes described as "a little key to freedom", the Master Locksmiths Access Key (MLAK) gives you and your family entry to accessible facilities including Changing Places toilets, elevators at railway stations, and accessible playground equipment such as Liberty Swings.

You can order an MLAK key for \$25 by filling out the form on the Master Locksmiths Association website. If your child has a Victorian Companion Card, you will get a free MLAK key.

[Find out more](#)



The recent NDIS Review recommended changes to increase the support children with disability receive outside of the NDIS. The government will soon develop a framework to set up these Foundational Supports and ACD wants families to have their say while this is still in development.

We're holding two online sessions to hear from you about what's currently working, what's missing, and what's needed to better support our children.

Register today to have your say about building better support for children with disability.

[Book here](#)



School camps & excursions

Excursions and camps are an important part of the school curriculum, and every child has the right to attend. Schools must make reasonable adjustments to include students with disability.

ACD has a free guide with information to help you start a conversation with the school. There's a checklist of things to mention to the school, examples of reasonable adjustments that can be made, and ideas on how to prepare your child.

[Read the guide](#)



Premier's Reading Challenge

We're excited to see that four of our favourite books have made it onto the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge list. We hope you and your family enjoy reading them as much as we did:

- Some Brains: A Book Celebrating Neurodiversity by Nelly Thomas, illustrated by Cat McInnes
- Come Over To My House by Eliza Hull and Sally Rippin, illustrated by Daniel Gray-Barnett
- Matt Formston: Surfing in the Dark by John Dickson, illustrated by Phillip Bunting
- Remarkable Remy by Melanie Heyworth, illustrated by Nathaniel Eckstrom

[Premier's Reading Challenge](#)

Best wishes

The ACD team

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Association for
Children with a
Disability

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

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ACD acknowledges the traditional owners of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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