

NDIS Agreement - The Grove Education Centre

Communication is the foundation of learning at The Grove. We are committed to providing communication opportunities and supports for all students. This is an integral part of our teaching & learning program as it enables our students to understand others and express themselves.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) can provide opportunities and additional supports for our students. Careful management and coordination of these services is required to ensure clients – our students - get the maximum benefits.

Our aim is to work collaboratively with allied health teams (physiotherapy, psychology, occupational therapy and speech pathology) to provide a communication rich environment across the whole school day. To this end therapists must work within our policy frameworks - Behaviour Code and Communication Policy - and their programmes must support our students' learning goals, as outlined in their One Plans.

Copies of relevant student goals will be made available to therapists upon request.

It is a priority for students to have their own highly customised AAC system, including non-electronic and electronic options. Any speech pathologist wanting to conduct on-site therapy must prioritise the acquisition and maintenance of individualised AAC systems, including both electronic and non-electronic options. We recognise that non-electronic systems may be the main system for some students, but they are also equally important as backups in the event of electronic system malfunction or repairs, and every student needs both.

While we are under no obligation to accept a request to provide direct therapy services to our students, our intention is to support families and students where possible. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, for each student, in negotiation with their family and class teacher. Therapists for students in the Junior Primary classes can start sessions from term 2 of each year.

To ensure coordination of service provision we will require all service providers wanting to provide on-site services to complete an Induction process. The following documentation will need to be provided by all therapists, prior to the induction:

- 'Parent/guardian request for the provision of services by a non-Education service provider on school premises during school hours' form
- DHS Working with Children Check Unique Identifier and a current RRHAN – EC certificate
- Safe Environments Training certificate completed in the last three years run by DHS approved providers
- a copy of the organisation's Child Safe Environments Compliance Statement
- a copy of the non-Education service provider's Public and Products Liability Insurance Policy
- a copy of qualifications in professional field of practice
- current registration or membership with a relevant professional organisation
- a copy of your NDIS Service Agreement
- details of the proposed service being delivered to the child or young person, including frequency of service, time involved and program being delivered.
- a signed 'Non-department service provider licence agreement'

Induction sessions run for 45 minutes. Therapists will be given the dates of upcoming sessions upon application.

Therapy times must be negotiated directly with classroom teachers and any changes in time, temporary or permanent, must also be negotiated. In the case of temporary changes, an appropriate amount of advance notice will be expected (at least 1 week).

Therapists will be expected to support students in their classrooms unless otherwise negotiated with the classroom teacher. To minimise interruptions, therapists who wish to communicate with staff need to do so outside of class time. Therapists will provide a written summary of each session to families and class teachers (Triplicate sheets, emails).

The Grove reserves the right to terminate services should any breach of this agreement occur.
The site or the Service Provider may end this agreement by advising the other party in writing.