

Upcoming changes to NDIS: What families need to know

On 22 April 2026, Health and NDIS Minister Mark Butler announced a series of changes that will be made to the NDIS. At Kiind, we want to make sure you have clear information so you can understand what these changes may mean for your child. We've broken down the key changes here.

NDIS Access and Eligibility

Future NDIS eligibility will not be determined by diagnosis, but rather a standardised [functional capacity assessment](#). This will assess the level of support your child needs in their day-to-day living based on how their disability affects their everyday life. Those who require a high level of support will continue to have access to the NDIS. It is intended that people with lower or moderate support needs will receive support from outside of the NDIS, such as through [Thriving Kids, designed for children aged 0-8 years](#).

This change will apply to current NDIS participants and applicants. The government is still working on these details. However, they are aiming for these eligibility changes to be rolled out from January 2028.

Delays to the New Planning Approach

Last year, it was announced that NDIS supports will be determined by a [support needs assessment](#). This will involve an assessor meeting with you and your child to discuss their daily life and disability-related needs. The assessor will create a report based on this discussion, which will inform what supports your child will receive in their NDIS plan.

This change was meant to start this year. However, it is now being pushed back to April 2027. We will provide more information on this as we learn more.

Plan Reassessments

New rules regarding unscheduled plan reassessments will be amongst the first changes to take effect. From July 2026, reassessments for change of circumstances will only be supported in exceptional circumstances.

Plan Rollovers

NDIS Plans will no longer be rolled over. This also means that any unspent funding in your child's current NDIS Plan won't be rolled over into their next one.

Social and Community Participation Budget

Starting from October 2026, funding for [social and community participation](#) will be reduced overall. It is expected that this will affect all NDIS Participants.

Instead, the government will be directing \$200 million towards the Inclusive Communities Fund. This is a new program that will fund mainstream and disability-specific community organisations to run their own inclusive social programs for people with disability. However, this program isn't scheduled to start until 2028.

Changes to Service Providers

The government will create a list of approved plan managers, support coordinators and Supported Independent Living providers, who will also need to be registered. If you want to use any of these supports, you'll need to choose a provider from this list.

Activities deemed as 'high risk' including personal care and daily living supports will also need to be delivered by registered providers.



Want more information?

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Need additional support?

[Book a Pathway Planning session](#) or drop in and see us at [select Child and Parent Centres](#) for practical guidance, information and support.

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