

BUSHkids' NDIS ECEI services

BUSHkids has been chosen as the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Partner in the Community to deliver Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) Services to Rockhampton and Central Queensland.

From November 2017 BUSHkids will start providing ECEI services to children living around Rockhampton, Gladstone, Biloela and all the way out to Emerald in the Central Highlands.

The ECEI program is fully funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)—the federal agency responsible for delivering the NDIS—so it's free of charge.

ECEI is designed to help children from 0-6 years of age who have a disability or developmental delay access the specialised supports and services they need to achieve better long-term outcomes. Developmental delay is when a child is slower to develop physical, emotional, social or communication skills than other children of that age.

BUSHkids will work with you and your child to improve their development and help them reach their full potential. Where more intensive early intervention supports are required, the BUSHkids' team will help you develop an NDIS plan to access the funding your child needs on a more long-term basis.

BUSHkids is very experienced in providing early childhood services. We provide a wide range of free early childhood services through our regional service centres, and are already providing NDIS ECEI services on behalf of the NDIA in the Bundaberg area.

Over the next two months BUSHkids will establish new service centres in Rockhampton and Gladstone specifically to provide NDIS ECEI services. We are also planning to provide ECEI services in Biloela and through our existing service centre in Emerald.

For more about the NDIS in Queensland go to <https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/QLD.html>

For more information about BUSHkids and the services we provide go to our website, <http://www.bushkids.org.au>.

You can also keep up-to-date with the latest news about the roll-out of our ECEI service in Central Queensland by following us on Facebook @BUSHkids, Twitter @BUSHkidsqld and Instagram bushkids_qld and you can sign up to receive our quarterly e-newsletter 'BUSHchat' on our webpage.



About BUSHkids in Central Queensland

The Royal Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme—known as BUSHkids—is a not-for-profit organisation which has been supporting the health and wellbeing of children and families in Queensland's regional, rural and remote communities for over 80 years.

BUSHkids provides free preventative and early intervention allied healthcare (both directly and in collaboration with government and other non-government organisations) to children and families who through availability or affordability are unable to access services locally.

BUSHkids specifically targets children who are at risk of poor health, educational and social outcomes.

Established in 1935, the Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme has a long association with Rockhampton and Central Queensland. The organisation was originally formed with the primary aim of providing support to children living in Central Queensland's rural and remote communities who were suffering from the combined effects of The Great Depression and prolonged drought.

The scheme established a home in Emu Park as early as 1938. Children—aged between 5 and 13—were brought to Emu Park from the state's Central West for a six-week stay during which they received respite from the rigours of outback life, were given nutritious food and could receive medical and dental services not available in the bush.

The Emu Park home was relocated to Yeppoon in 1959 where it remained in operation until 1995. A year later, the organisation opened a new service centre in Emerald, from where it still provides services to communities across the Central Highlands.

BUSHkids currently provides a range of free services for children and their families through its five major regional service centres—in Bundaberg, Dalby, Emerald, Mount Isa, and Warwick—each staffed by a multidisciplinary team comprising Speech and Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists and Family Health Support Workers.

In addition, BUSHkids supports rural communities from its four smaller satellite centres—in Inglewood, Stanthorpe, Agnes Water/Miriam Vale and Kingaroy—staffed by Early Intervention Facilitators who can call on resources from the nearest service centre or the organisation's head office team in Toowong.

BUSHkids is delighted that from November 2017 it will again be supporting children and families across Central Queensland by delivering NDIS ECEI services to the region.