

# Australia's Disability Strategy

2021–2031

An Easy Read guide



## How to use this guide



The Australian Government wrote this plan.  
When you see the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



We wrote this plan in an easy to read way.  
We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not bold  
**Bold**

We have written some words in **bold**.  
This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.  
There is a list of these words on page 39.



This Easy Read plan is a summary of another plan. This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other plan on our website at  
[www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads)



This plan is quite long.

It includes a lot of information.



You don't need to read it all at once.



You can ask for help to read this plan.

A friend, family member or support person  
may be able to help you.

## What's in this guide?

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# Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031



Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 is a plan to make life better for people with disability. In this guide we call it the Strategy.



The Strategy talks about what we can do to make Australia more **inclusive**.



If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.



If Australia is inclusive, people with disability can take part in everything that happens in Australia.



The Strategy also talks about how we must treat people with disability:

- as equals
- with respect.

The Strategy will last:



- for 10 years



- until 2031.

# Why do we need the Strategy?

We need the Strategy so:



- Australia has a good plan for being more inclusive

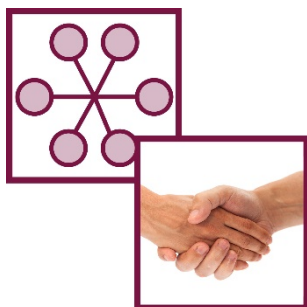


- governments around Australia know how to be more inclusive



- services and **systems** can make **outcomes** better for people with disability.

Systems are things that:



- connect with each other
- work together.



Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.



We want to include the community in getting these outcomes too.

## Who is the Strategy for?



The Strategy is for people with disability.

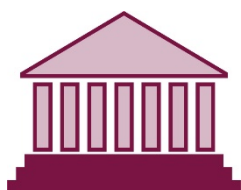


The Strategy is for all levels of government in Australia.

This means:



- the Australian Government



- state and territory governments



- local governments.



The Strategy is also for the Australian community.

This includes:



- people
- businesses
- organisations
- services.

We must all work on the Strategy together to make our community more:



- **accessible**



- inclusive.



If something is accessible, everyone can use it.

This might be:

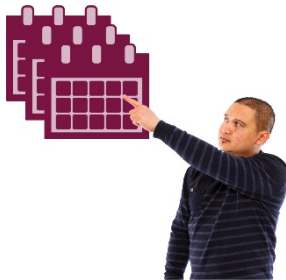


- a place or a building
- transport
- a service
- information
- a website.

## What's in the Strategy?



We talk about our **vision** in the Strategy.



Our vision is what we want Australia to be in the future.



Our vision is for Australia to be inclusive.

Our vision is for Australia to be a place where people with disability:



- can be who they want to be
- can live the life they want to live
- are treated the same as other people in the community.



People with disability told us what is important to them.



We included what they said in the Strategy.

## Outcome areas



The Strategy has ideas about how to make life better for people with disability in 7 main areas.

We call these **outcome areas**.



We have 1 main outcome we want for each outcome area.



We also have **priorities** for each outcome area.



Our priorities are things we think are very important.

On the following pages we talk in more detail about:



- the outcome areas
- our priorities.

# Working and earning money



## The outcome we want

We want people with disability to have the chance to have a job and enough money so they can:



- live well



- plan for their future



- have choice and control of their own lives.

## Our priorities

It's important for people with disability to:

### Jobs Q



- find and keep a job



- have enough money to look after themselves



- get skills and experience so when they leave school they can get a job.



# Inclusive homes and communities



## The outcomes we want



We want people with disability to live in homes that meet their needs.



We want people with disability to live in communities that are:

- accessible
- inclusive.

## Our priorities



It's important that there are more homes people with disability can:

- find
- afford to live in.

It's also important that more homes are accessible for people with disability to:



- enter
- move around safely.

And it's important for people with disability to have choice and control over:



- where they live



- who they live with



- who comes into their home.



It's important people with disability can fully take part in their community.

This includes:



- spending time with family and friends



- doing fun things



- playing sports.

This also includes taking part in their:



- religion



- culture.

Your culture is:



- your way of life
- how you think or act now because of how you grew up
- your beliefs
- what is important to you.



It's important for things in the community to be accessible.

This includes public:



- places and buildings
- spaces and parks
- transport services.

It also includes how we:



- communicate
- share information.

# Rights for fair treatment and safety



## The outcome we want



**Rights** are rules about how everybody should be treated:

- fairly
- equally.

We want people with disability to:



- feel safe



- have their rights protected



- be treated the same as other people in the community.

## Our priorities



It's important for people with disability to:

- be safe
- feel safe.

It's important to keep people with disability safe from:



- **violence** – when someone hurts you



- **abuse** – when someone treats you badly



- **neglect** – when someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you



- **exploitation** – when someone takes advantage of you.





It's important that we do something when we find out these things have happened to a person with disability.



Some people with disability are more at risk, such as women and their children.



It's important we try hard to keep women and their children safe.

It's important we:



- talk about the rights of people with disability



- protect the rights of people with disability.



It's important for people with disability who are in the **justice system** to have the same chances as everyone else in the community.

The justice system includes:



- police
- the courts
- the law
- prisons.



And it's important for the justice system to meet the needs of people with disability.

# Getting support



## The outcomes we want



We want people with disability to get what they need from the supports and services they use.

This includes supports and services:



- just for people with disability



- for everyone in the community to use.

We want people with disability to use supports and services that help them to be:



- part of their community



- independent.



When you are independent, you can do things:

- for yourself
- on your own.

## Our priorities



It's important for each person with disability to get supports and services they need.



It's important to know that some people with disability get support from their family and friends.



And it's important to understand how much value this type of support has.



It's also important to make sure people with disability can get **assistive technology** they need.



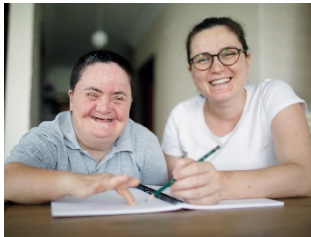
Assistive technology can:

- make it easier to do things
- keep you safe.



Assistive technology might be:

- an aid or piece of equipment
- a system to use.



It's important for the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** to support people with disability well.



The NDIS provides supports and services to some people with disability around Australia.

## Learning and skills

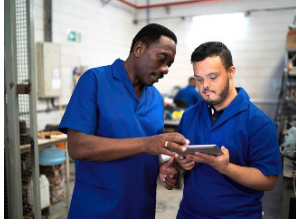
### The outcomes we want



We want people with disability to get what they need from:



- school
- learning
- training.



We want people with disability to:

- learn
- develop their skills.



This will help them:

- be who they want to be
- live the life they want to live.

## Our priorities



It's important for young children with disability to have good:

- early learning experiences
- care.



It's important for children with disability to get support so they can move from early learning to school.



It's important for students with disability to take part in learning that is:

- accessible
- inclusive.



It's important for people with disability to get support so they can move from:



- school to university or **vocational education and training (VET)**



- school to work experience



- school to a job.



VET is learning and training for people who leave or finish school.



They learn skills they need to do certain jobs.

It includes:



- TAFE
- apprenticeships.



It's important for people with disability to keep learning if they want to.

# Health and wellbeing



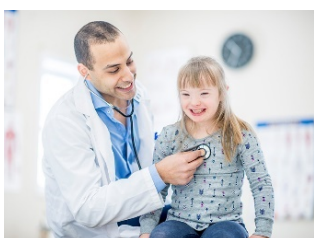
## The outcome we want



We want people with disability to:

- be healthy
- enjoy the life they live.

## Our priorities



It's important for health care services to give people with disability the health care they need.



It's important for people with disability to get health services:

- to keep them healthy
- as soon as we know they need them.



It's important for people with disability to get care and support for their mental health.

It's important to include the needs of people with disability in plans we make for the community when:



- there are health risks



- things happen we can't control.



It's important to keep people with disability safe and healthy during these times.

# Community attitudes



## The outcomes we want



Your **attitudes** are what you:

- think
- feel
- believe.



We want the community to have positive attitudes towards people with disability.

We want community attitudes to:



- support treating people with disability as equals



- be inclusive



- let people with disability take part.

## Our priorities



It's important for our community to treat people with disability:

- well
- as equals
- with respect.



It's important for businesses and organisations to know and understand the good things about giving jobs to people with disability.



It's important for people in more workplaces to have positive attitudes towards people with disability.

It's important to have more people with disability working as leaders in:



- workplaces
- the community.



It's important to have positive attitudes in our community so we can get the outcomes in the Strategy.



## Getting the outcomes we want



We must all work together to get the outcomes in the Strategy.

This includes:



- people with disability
- governments
- the community
- businesses
- organisations
- services.

If we all work together, we can make our community:



- accessible
- inclusive.



We will make action plans as part of the Strategy.



Our action plans talk about what we will do to help get the outcomes in each outcome area.



The first action plans will focus on the things people with disability said are important to them.

This can include:



- having a job
- improving community attitudes
- helping young children with disability
- being safe
- being included when we plan for emergencies.





We will use our **outcomes framework** to keep track of what is getting better.

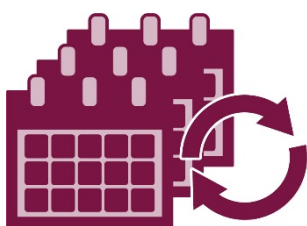
Our outcomes framework is how we keep track of:



- what outcomes we get



- how we get those outcomes



- what changes over time.



Every year, we will check how well things are going.



We will talk to the community about how well things are going.



We will make sure we:

- talk to lots of people with disability
- listen to what they say.



We will use what we learn to:

- write different reports
- decide where we need to put more effort.



We will share our reports with the community.

## Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



### **Abuse**

Abuse is when someone treats you badly.



### **Accessible**

If something is accessible, everyone can use it.

This might be:

- a place or a building
- transport
- a service
- information
- a website.

### **Assistive technology**

Assistive technology can:

- make it easier to do things
- keep you safe.

Assistive technology might be:

- an aid or piece of equipment
- a system to use.



## Attitudes



Your attitudes are what you:

- think
- feel
- believe.

## Culture

Your culture is:



- your way of life
- how you think or act now because of how you grew up
- your beliefs
- what is important to you.



## Exploitation

Exploitation is when someone takes advantage of you.



## Inclusive

If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.



## Independent

When you are independent, you can do things:

- for yourself
- on your own.



## Justice system

The justice system includes:

- police
- the courts
- the law
- prisons.



## National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides supports and services to some people with disability around Australia.



## Neglect

Neglect is when someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you.



## Outcomes

Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.



## Outcome areas

The Strategy has ideas about how to make life better for people with disability in 7 main areas.

We call these outcome areas.



## Outcomes framework

Our outcomes framework is how we keep track of:

- what outcomes we get
- how we get those outcomes
- what changes over time.



## Priorities

Our priorities are things we think are very important.

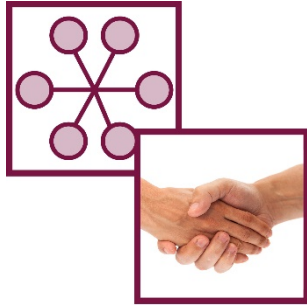


## Rights

Rights are rules about how everybody should be treated:

- fairly
- equally.





## Systems

Systems are things that:

- connect with each other
- work together.

## Vocational education and training (VET)

VET is learning and training for people who leave or finish school.

They learn skills they need to do certain jobs.

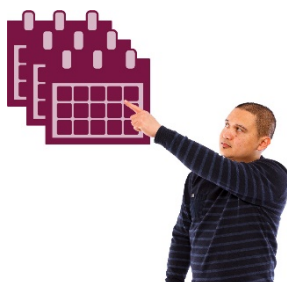
It includes:

- TAFE
- apprenticeships.



## Violence

Violence is when someone hurts you.



## Vision

Our vision is what we want the future to be like.

## Contact us



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