

Position Description

Position Title:	Early Childhood Coordinator
Division:	Early Childhood Services
Reporting To:	Early Childhood Services Team Leader
Direct Reports:	NIL

ABOUT NORTHCOTT:

Who is Northcott?

Northcott is one of Australia's largest not-for-profit disability service providers that works with customers to realise their potential. With over 95 years of experience in the industry, we provide services to metropolitan and regional locations throughout NSW, ACT and South East Queensland.

As a NDIA Partner in the Community, Northcott Early Childhood Services delivers the NDIS Early Childhood Approach (ECA) to local communities in Northern NSW, Mid North Coast, Hunter New England, Northern Sydney, and Western Sydney and support over 20 000 children and their families.

Northcott is a proud member of Ability First, Australian Network on Disability, Attitude Foundation, Easter Seals Disability Services and National Disability Services.

What do we do?

Northcott provides personalised and dynamic support and services, delivered by a team committed to breaking down barriers, fostering inclusion and empowering individuals to live full, independent lives.

Our experience and expertise give confidence to our customers that they are in good, trustworthy hands, while our commitment to innovation and pushing boundaries allows us to tackle any challenge currently creating barriers for our customers to reach their potential.

What is our promise to each customer?

We are committed to working creatively and tirelessly with each customer to unlock, discover and unleash their potential and empower them to be the best they can be now and in the future.

Every customer is unique, and we tailor our services to their individual needs and goals, to foster their development and growth. As advocates for our customer's inclusion, we empower them with confidence, choice, and opportunity, enabling customers to live their life, as they choose, in their own way.

Our Values

Our values have always been a significant part of our service to customers, and they have helped shape Northcott into the wonderful organisation it is today.

We are Innovative because we develop new ideas and solutions with creativity in anticipation of changing needs. We are Respectful because we believe that everyone's voice is unique and that they have the right to be heard. We are Brave because we have the courage to stand up for people with all abilities even in the face of adversity.

KEY OBJECTIVE OF THE SERVICE/DEPARTMENT:

The NDIS Partners in the Community Program (PITC) supports the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) to be implemented at a local level.

Position Description

Northcott Early Childhood Services delivers the NDIS Early Childhood Approach (ECA) to local communities in Northern NSW, Mid North Coast, Hunter New England, Northern Sydney, and Western Sydney. The approach supports the Early Childhood Early Intervention activities that will improve independence and social participation of children with disability, developmental delay or developmental concerns aged 0-8 years.

KEY OBJECTIVE OF THE POSITION:

The key objectives of an **Early Childhood Coordinator** are to:

- Ensure children and families are supported using a child and family centred approach to determine the most effective supports they require. This is based on detailed consideration of the evidence and best practice of early intervention for children.
- Complete the functional assessment process for children with developmental concerns, development delay and/ or disability, including profile development, determination of needs, and referral to the appropriate support pathway, ensuring children receive the right support at the right time
- Provide community connections and linkages to mainstream services in the local area including key areas of reform identified in the NDIS Review such as Foundational Supports when it becomes available to improve children's access to the right supports and meaningful social participation
- Supporting and guiding families through plan reassessments, evidence gathering and goal development.
- Support children and their families with the implementation, improved choice and control, social participation, and quality of life through utilisation and management of their NDIS plan.

PERSON SPECIFICATIONS (SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE)

- A strong understanding of typical childhood development, milestones, and the impact of developmental concern, delay and/or disability on a child and their family.
- Lived experience with disability, early childhood or NDIS.
- Experience supporting children and families using a family centred and capacity building approach.
- Knowledge in the development of providing support to families to implement their goals.
- Ability to translate professional specialist advice into practical strategies and routines for families, using a play-based approach and/ or routines based and coaching model.
- In depth knowledge of the local service environment in which the child lives, including funded and non-funded services including emerging NDIS reform.
- Commitment to an exceptional customer service culture.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, written and verbal.
- Goal focused and driven by meeting key deliverables.
- Ability to remain objective and impartial when providing support and guidance.
- High level of negotiation skills and report writing skills, including providing evidence to support case planning.
- High level organisational, efficiency and time management skills.
- Proficient computer skills.
- Appreciation and acceptance of diversity for wellness, understanding the importance of implementing a tailored and personalised approach to children and their families.
- Knowledge of the Child Protection Legislation and the principles of Keep Them Safe.

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Tertiary qualifications in Early Childhood Education (*Minimum requirement Diploma in Early Childhood*), Social Work, Allied Health Professions or other relevant professional field.
- Experience completing functional assessments of children with disability or developmental delay.
- Experience meeting and exceeding set KPIs/ targets.
- Experience ensuring families are satisfied while still meeting business objectives.
- Current Driver's License.
- Current Working with Children's Check and NDIS Workers Check (willingness to obtain one).

CORE COMPETENCIES OF THE ROLE

Customer Focus / External Contact

- Develops positive and trusting relationships with children and families.
- Responds to work assignments and customer driven tasks within the stated timeframe and in a courteous manner.
- Seeks to build the capacity of families and the community to work confidently and effectively with children with disability to meet each individual child's developmental needs.

Relationship Building

- Collaborates with peers to achieve organisational and NDIS performance measures.
- Develops key strategic relationships within local area.

Problem Solving

- Makes effective use of time and facilities.
- Meets deadlines within timeframes of the program.
- Prioritises duties / responsibilities in a manner consistent with service and organisational objectives.
- Effectively manages tasks including follow-up.

Leadership

- Independently performs and accomplishes program expectations.
- Requires minimal supervision and take initiative to reflect and problem solve.

Professionalism

- Displays a professional attitude with regards to both oral and written communication, and dress attire.
- Demonstrates effective time management skills.
- Shows positive attitude.
- Maintains regular attendance.
- Meets productivity standards.
- Interacts as an effective team member.

Job Knowledge

- Demonstrates the specialised knowledge required to provide a best practice and a quality service.
- Aware of general issues related to the position.
- Effectively learns new job skills.
- Maintains up-to-date job-related information.
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Innovation

- Sees and acts upon opportunities.

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- Independently contributes ideas and adaptation of program where required.
- Promptly undertakes problems and devises solutions.

DUTIES

Typical duties of an **Early Childhood Coordinator** include:

1. Engage with families to gather information on the child that provides relevant evidence of their disability, developmental delay and/or functioning.
2. Undertake observations of a child in their natural environment (face to face and/or remotely via video conference where applicable) to assess their functioning and support needs using supporting tools and documents within the NDIS IT system.
3. Provide recommendations based on professional judgement and information gathered that are most appropriate to the improvement of the child's development and social participation.
4. Engage with families to gather information through methods that align with National Best Practice Guidelines for Early Childhood Intervention to complete a family centered early supports and/or community connections plan
5. Support families to establish meaningful goals & aspirations for their child and family and track progression toward goals using outcome measurement tools.
6. Utilizing the skills of a key worker, participate in multidisciplinary case consult meetings that align with Best Practice principles
7. Adhere to the strict response timeframes as required in the PITC ECA Statement of Requirements, Standard Operating procedures, and Grant Agreement.
8. Be aware of, demonstrate a commitment to and actively work toward the performance measures of the Early Childhood Approach (ECA) program outcomes as stated in the NDIS Performance Measures Framework and PITC ECA Statement of Requirements.
9. Carry out administrative duties as required by Northcott including regular reporting against ECA performance measures, monthly reports, funding reports and data collection to ensure contract compliance for the program.
10. Work within a strengths-based, family centred approach that provides support families to build capacity, problem solve and resolve issues as identified.
11. Be aware of and sensitive to the needs of children, families, and communities from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander or Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds.
12. Work within the framework of the Best Practice Guidelines in Early Intervention, NSW Disability Inclusion Act, National Disability Standards, Privacy Legislation, NDIS Act 2013, NDIS Operational Guidelines and other relevant legislation.
13. Actively participate in Supervision aligning with supervision policies & procedures.
14. Adhere to Northcott policies and procedures, in particular, the Code of Conduct and Ethics
15. Comply with, report on, and actively participate in Northcott's safety and Injury Management Procedures and Northcott's WH&S Procedures.
16. Assist in maintaining Northcott's premises, vehicles and equipment and discuss any issues with Manager
17. Participate in regular Supervisions and Team Meetings.
18. Perform other duties as required by management.

This list is indicative only and is subject to change. All Northcott employees are required to comply with any reasonable work requests as directed by their employer from time to time.

NORTHCOTT POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Position Description

All Northcott employees are expected to be familiar with and adhere to Northcott policies and procedures. For more information, see your manager or refer to the policy and procedures available on the Northcott Intranet.

Employee's Signature

Employee's Name

Date

Please forward a signed copy to Human Resources.