



# EXTERNALLY FUNDED THERAPY AND ALLIED HEALTH PROVIDERS (EFSP) IN SCHOOLS POLICY

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## 1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

CEDP recognises that Externally Funded Therapy and Allied Health Providers (EFSP) provide a very important support of children's development, however, CEDP does not support for these activities to take place in schools.

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## 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to any Externally Funded Therapy and Allied Health Providers (EFSP). Such services may include those services funded through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

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## 3. DEFINITIONS

**CEDP** refers to Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and includes the CEO and schools.

**NDIS** refers to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

**PPSD** refers to a Personalised PPlan for Students with Disability.

**Student** means the child/young person enrolled into a CEDP system school.

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## 4. DETAILED INFORMATION

- 4.1. EFSP services do not have an automatic right of access to a student in a CEDP school, even if the provider is already delivering a service to the student outside of school
- 4.2. The collaboration and exchange of information between EFSP and schools, after written consent has been given by parents/carers/guardians, is desirable. For example, with parent permission, a student's psychologist or speech therapist may consult with the school to provide expert advice and support the personalised planning process.
- 4.3. EFSP will not be able to operate in CEDP schools for the following reasons:

- 4.3.1. duty of care obligations towards all students and staff;
  - 4.3.2. Child Protection accountabilities and responsibilities for the principal to manage;
  - 4.3.3. ensuring the health and safety of all individuals on school grounds;
  - 4.3.4. the disruption/ impact on the student's learning due to missed learning time;
  - 4.3.5. unintended adverse consequences for other students, staff and the general running of the school;
  - 4.3.6. the service provided by the EFSP may not be considered best practice therapy or is not compatible with the student's educational needs as outlined in their Personalised Plan for Students with Disability (PPSD);
  - 4.3.7. turnover of EFSP or their staff delivering a service to a student and the demand on the school to accommodate the delivery of that service;
  - 4.3.8. significant concerns about the quality of service provision; and
  - 4.3.9. services not being delivered according to the External Provider Engagement Agreement.
- 4.4. Exceptional circumstances can be discussed with the Principal, Director Performance or Head Student Services.
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## **5. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Procedures for Enrolment of Students with Disability and Complex Needs who meet Diocesan criteria for Enrolment & for whom Schools require Additional Support (internal doc)

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## **6. FURTHER INFORMATION**

If you would like further information about this Policy, contact the Enterprise Service Desk on (02) 9840 5620 or via email [esd@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:esd@parra.catholic.edu.au) or the ESD Self Service Portal.

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