

# Family guide

## About Early Childhood Intervention



**Easy Read**

# About this information



This information is about **early childhood intervention**.

We call it **ECI** for short.



ECI is a type of support for your child if they are younger than 9 years old.



Your child might need ECI if they have a

- Disability
- **Developmental delay.**



A **developmental delay** is when a child needs more time to learn and grow.

ECI activities and services can support your child to



- Grow strong



- Make friends and play with others



- Enjoy their life.



They will also work with you and the whole family.

There might be a team of ECI workers who support your child with different things like



- Talking



- Playing with others



- Moving their body



- How they think and feel.

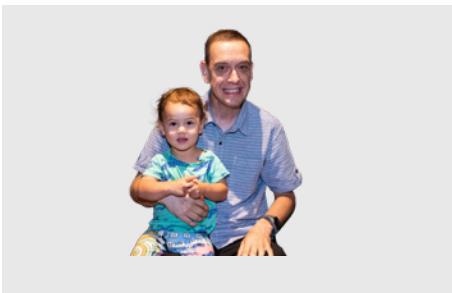
# How ECI works



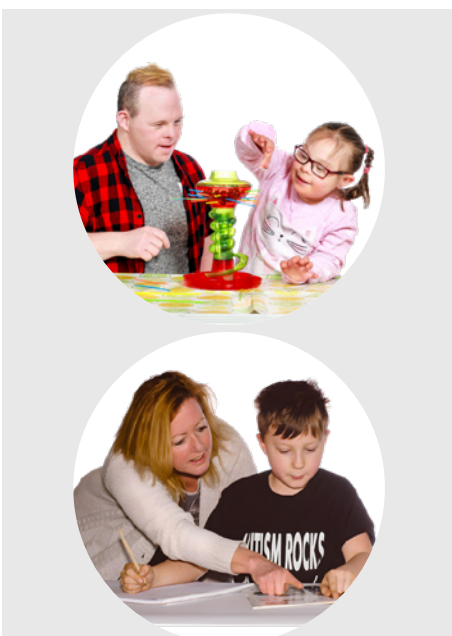
ECI has steps for workers to follow to make sure it works.



The worker should make sure you are part of all the decisions about ECI and your child.



This is because you know your child best.



The worker will do things with your child and your family that are

- Fun
- Interesting.

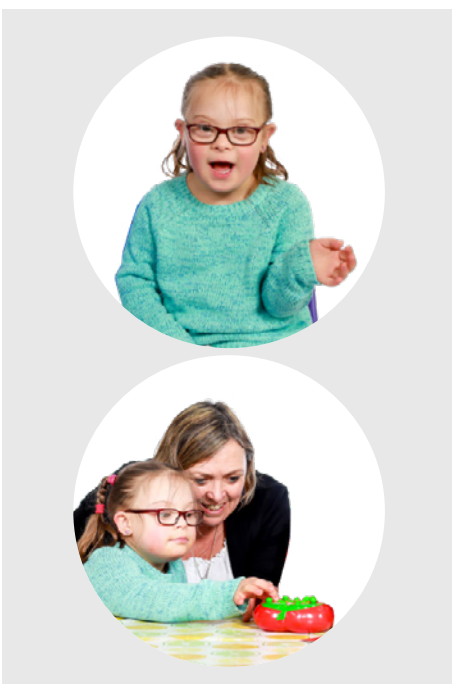


Your child will learn in a way that works best for them.



The worker will

- Listen to your child
- Respect your child.



The worker will help your child feel good about

- Who they are
- The things they can do.



The worker will respect your **values**.



**Values** are the things that are important to your family.



They will respect the **culture** of your family.



**Culture** means how you do some things because of where you or your family are from.





The workers will talk with other people who know your child like their teacher.



The worker might have ideas for changes that could happen at your child's home or school.



This could be things your child can use to support them to move like a walker.



They can support you to contact other support services.



# Things that make ECI work well



There are some important things that make ECI work well.



ECI works best when your child can learn as part of everyday life.



This might be when they are having meals or play time.



It is best to see a worker in a place that your child knows well.



This might be their home or school.



ECI can still work well if you can not do this.



Sometimes it is good to meet with the worker without your child.



This is so that you can share things about your child that might worry you.

## How much ECI is best



It is different for each child how much ECI they need.



It is good to start with 1 type of support.



You can then add other supports when your child is ready.



It is important to make sure ECI is helping your child get to their goals.



Your worker will talk to you often about how your child is going with their goals.



Sometimes your child might need lots of time with their worker.



Sometimes they might need less time with their worker.



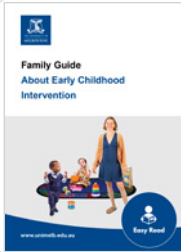
Sometimes it is good to take a break from ECI.



That is because it is also good for your child to have fun with the whole family.

# If you are not happy with the ECI

If you are not happy with the ECI your child gets you can



- Use this guide to check how ECI should work



- Talk to your worker about it

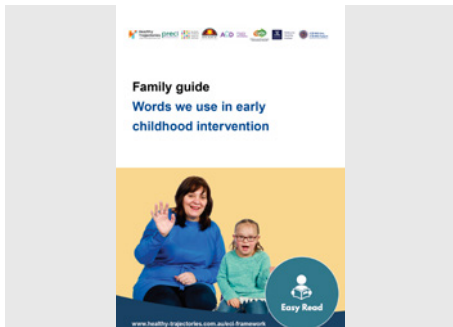


- Talk to the boss of your worker



- Change your worker.

## More information



This guide was made as part of a project to make a **National Best Practice Framework for Early Childhood Intervention**.

We will say **Framework** for short.



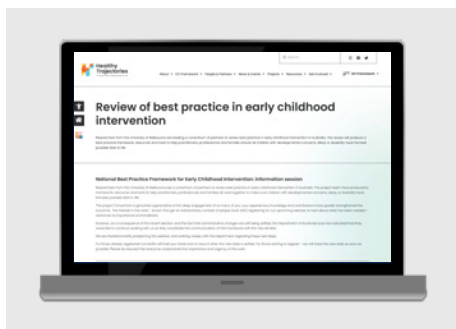
The **Framework** was made to help you know what ECI will be like.



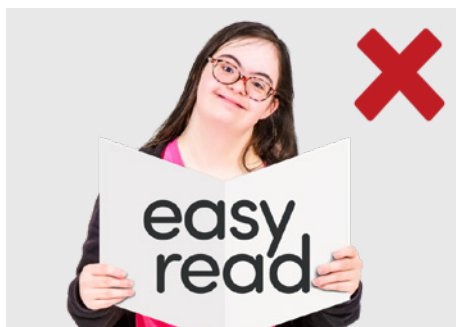
The Framework will help you feel confident to work well with services.



It will help you feel confident to work out what is best for your child.



To to look at the Framework you can go to  
**[www.healthy-trajectories.com.au/eci-framework](http://www.healthy-trajectories.com.au/eci-framework)**



The Framework is not in Easy Read.

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short.  
Email CID at **[business@cid.org.au](mailto:business@cid.org.au)** if you want to use any of the pictures.