



LETS CONNECT SUPPORT SERVICES

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Entity name: Lets Connect Support Services Pty Ltd

Business name: Lets Connect Support Services

ABN: 91 646 174 003

ACN: 646 174 003

Head office: Coalfalls QLD 4305

Phone: 0481 171 519

Email: sue.letsconnect@outlook.com

Date: 23rd of January 2024

Review Date:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome	3
Lets Connect Support Services Management.....	4
How Can I Access Services Offered By Lets Connect Support Services?.....	4
How It Works?	5
Person-Centred Support.....	6
Individual Values And Beliefs	7
Privacy and Dignity	8
Independence And Informed Choice	8
Violence, Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation And Discrimination	9
Participant Money.....	9
Management of Medication	9
Feedback, Complaints & Advocacy.....	9
Person Centred Plans.....	12
Service Agreement.....	12
Cancellation Policy.....	13
Communication – Participants, Participant Representatives, Families, Carers	13
Participant Exit Planning.....	13

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



WELCOME

Congratulations on your choice and making it count, we welcome you to the Lets Connect Support Services team.

We are excited that you have decided to join us, and we look forward to an amazing collaborative, happy and successful partnership.

Our purpose is about supporting you to achieve your goals, making your choices and protecting your rights. For the purpose of the Participant Handbook and all supporting Lets Connect Support Services' Policies and Procedures, Participant will refer to all stakeholders unless otherwise specified.

This includes: the Participant/participant/career/person responsible/identified personal representative, service provider basically any individual who will benefit for the service information provided within handbook.

The purpose of the Participant Handbook is to introduce you to Lets Connect Support Services, the services that we offer, what we do, our terms, conditions and relevant supporting resources.

The Participant Handbook needs to be considered with your Plan and your individual Service Agreement. The Participant Handbook is not in itself an exhaustive guide, it has been designed to act as a resource and reference tool for you.

The Participant Handbook will be regularly reviewed and updated to align with any service changes and process improvements based on your needs and your feedback.

You will be notified of any changes as they occur. If you required further information in relation to the content or you would like to suggest improvements to the Participant Handbook, please do not hesitate to contact us directly:

- Email: ndis.letsconnect@outlook.com
- Phone: 1300 048 630

Your success and happiness are our goals

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



LETS CONNECT SUPPORT SERVICES MANAGEMENT

About Lets Connect Support Services

Our Mission

- To empower, encourage and enable people who are ageing and have disabilities to enhance their quality of life with dignity & respect
- To evaluate and exceed stakeholders' expectations
- To provide care focused on the holistic view of an individual

Our Vision

Lets Connect Support Services' vision is to create a resilient and empowered community in partnership to support people with disability to live a great life with choice.

Our Values

- Empowerment
- Dignity
- Respect
- Trust
- Integrity
- Innovation

Accountability and Operational Excellence

We are accountable for all decisions that we make and actions that we take, and we are committed to driving a culture of continued learning.

Our Services

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

We can assist you with the following NDIS support categories:

0132 Support Coordination

0106 Assist-Life Stage, Transition

HOW CAN I ACCESS SERVICES OFFERED BY LETS CONNECT SUPPORT SERVICES?

Services can be accessed through self-referral or third-party referral utilizing the following approach:

Contact Lets Connect Support Services via:

- Email: ndis.letsconnect@outlook.com
- Phone: 1300 048 630

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



and the Support Coordinator will be able to answer any of your questions and arrange a suitable time to meet with you.

The NDIS self-directed funding model allows Participants control over major decisions including which service provider or services you require.

Lets Connect Support Services Partners with you and supports you to manage your funding package. All referral enquiries will be responded to by the appropriate manager on the same day that it is received.

A representative from Lets Connect Support Services will arrange a time and place to meet with you and discuss your needs and your goals and how our services could support you.

We will develop a personal plan with you and agree on how we will support you and the nature of the support. We will also be in regular contact with you and regularly review and up-date your plan.

HOW IT WORKS?

We provide you with the support that you need to build your confidence and maximise your potential. Working in partnership with you we will assist you to explore all your options and apply a creative and effective methodology to assist you to manage your funding package and achieve your goals.

Our approach is not a one size fits all approach, you are an individual, your aspirations and support requirements will differ to other individuals who we support. We will tailor our support services to meet your needs.

You can decide how much decision-making you will like. We can also assist you to become independent in managing your financial services.

What Are My Rights and Responsibilities as a Participant of Lets Connect Support Services?

Participants are our organisational focus; we at Lets Connect Support Services acknowledge your rights and actively promote your rights through our services and service delivery model. As Participants of Lets Connect Support Services there are also expectations and standards in place to support a strong and mutually agreeable partnership.

- The Participant has access to all information about themselves held by the organisation.
- In cases where a Participant has a legal guardian or advocate appointed to act on their behalf, the rights of the guardian or advocate are to be acknowledged and respected to the extent stipulated in the guardianship or advocacy arrangements
- The Participant, with their permission, their person responsible must be involved in decisions about their plan. Plans will be developed including goals, activities, services and time frames.
- The Participant will be made aware of the standard of service, which they can expect. Services will be provided in a safe manner which respects the dignity and independence of

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



the Participant, is responsive to the social, cultural and physical needs of the Participant and their family.

- The Participant's services should be decided with the Participant's agreement. Participants have the right to refuse a service.
- The Participants have a right to complain about the service they are receiving without fear of being disadvantaged.
- Complaints by Participants will be dealt with fairly, promptly and without discrimination. The Participant may involve an advocate of their choice to represent his/her interests.
- A person-centred approach will ensure the Participants' views and choices will be at the centre of all planning and evaluation of the service maximising social participation and cultural inclusion.
- Participant's rights to privacy and confidentiality will be respected at all times.
- Participants have a right to information and support to understand and exercise their legal and human rights.

Participants Responsibilities

Participants are required to advise Lets Connect Support Services if he/she is going to be absent from the service or a scheduled meeting. We ask that a minimum of 24 hours' notice is provided, notice can be provided in any acceptable communication format being phone, email, voice mail message or face to face.

- Participants need to take responsibility for the results of any decisions they make.
- Participants are to play their part in actively participating in the service.
- Participants need to respect the property of Lets Connect Support Services.
- Participants need to be punctual.
- Participants need to provide accurate information about themselves.
- Person Responsible / Participant Representative/Parent/Guardian responsibilities
- Person Responsible / Participant Representative Parent or Guardian will act in a way that respects the rights of the Participant and staff.
- Person Responsible / Participant Representative / Parent or Guardian will speak to the staff and make requests in respectful ways.
- Person Responsible / Participant Representative/ Parent or Guardian will share appropriate information only with the correct people.
- Person Responsible / Participant Representative/ Parent or Guardian will work with the Lets Connect Support Services' representative to ensure information is correct and clearly explained.

PERSON-CENTRED SUPPORT

Just as the phrase "person centred" suggests, a Person-Centred Approach is about ensuring someone with a disability is at the centre of decisions which relate to their life.

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



A person-centred process involves listening, thinking together, coaching, sharing ideas, and seeking feedback. This process is ongoing to make sure each person is supported towards their personal goals, even as they evolve and change.

The ultimate aim is to understand what each individual person wants and needs to live their own, personally defined, good life.

It is most successful when friends and family can support the process and help identify and develop the person's strengths.

We make sure we have a person-centred approach across all our services– our customers, their families, and carers choose when and how they receive support, and by whom it's provided.

When we are working with someone, we make sure we keep their strengths and interests, their communication preference, and who people they would like to involve, top of mind.

INDIVIDUAL VALUES AND BELIEFS

Lets Connect Support Services values individual Values and Beliefs. We have a diverse group of participants.

- Lets Connect Support Services Participants perceive events uniquely and in keeping with their individualized needs and past experiences.
- All Participants participate in care that is respectful and non-judgmental among individuals and is influenced by past experiences and social support.
- All Participants and families are actively involved in collaboration and decision-making regarding their care.
- All Participants are capable of assuming personal responsibility for their health, regardless of their unique abilities and challenges.
- All Participants grow and change in an environment of acceptance, trust and empathic understanding.
- Sustained Participant change occurs when Participants feel ready and supported to do so and not necessarily when the system expects it.
- Support workers believe in an individual's ongoing capacity for self-determination and growth and in their own abilities to foster this process with Participants.



PRIVACY AND DIGNITY

The following procedures are to be implemented to ensure that Lets Connect Support Services meets its policy objective of ensuring that all Participants of the Lets Connect Support Services have the same level of privacy, dignity and confidentiality as is expected by the rest of the community.

Lets Connect Support Services will:

- Only collect information about the Participant that can be shown to be directly relevant to effective service delivery and the Lets Connect Support Services' duty of care responsibilities.
- Seek the written consent of the Participant or family prior to obtaining information from any other source.
- Seek the written consent of the Participant or family prior to releasing information to any other source.
- Ensure that personal information is stored securely and is not left on view to unauthorized Lets Connect Support Services staff or the general public.
- Ensure that only those Lets Connect Support Services staff who need access to the above information will be granted access.
- Advise the Participant and family of the nature of the personal information that is held by the Lets Connect Support Services about the Participant.
- Advise the Participant and family of their right to view the information that the Lets Connect Support Services keeps in respect of the Participant.
- Ensure that personal information about a Participant is only held by the Lets Connect Support Services as long as it remains relevant to the delivery of effective services and the Lets Connect Support Services' duty of care obligations.
- Promptly investigate, remedy and document any consumer grievance regarding privacy, dignity or confidentiality.

INDEPENDENCE AND INFORMED CHOICE

At Lets Connect Support Services, we ensure that participants get priority with choosing how to access their NDIS plan. It is imperative that we sit together and have your input into your plan. Should you have any adjustments during the plan, please do not hesitate to contact our team, in order that you get the best of your service.

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



VIOLENCE, ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION

At Lets Connect Support Services we will ensure that we are:

- free from violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation or discrimination
- in a safe environment that is appropriate to their needs
- where any risks to them are identified and managed
- where their needs are met by workers who are competent in relation to their role, hold relevant qualifications and expertise and experience in providing person centred support
- where incidents are acknowledged responded to and well managed and learned from

PARTICIPANT MONEY

Participants Money will not be handled at Lets Connect Support Services.

MANAGEMENT OF MEDICATION

Participants' medication will be managed by Lets Connect Support Services based on our Policies and procedures. For more information, please ask staff.

FEEDBACK, COMPLAINTS & ADVOCACY

At Lets Connect Support Services we welcome feedback and regard this as a primary method for identifying areas of strengths and weaknesses in our service delivery model that is leveraged to support our continuous service improvement framework. We also support the standards outlined by the NSW Disability Standards that stipulates that all participants, families, advocates or carers have the opportunity to make a complaint and provide feedback.

Lets Connect Support Services has implemented the Lets Connect Support Services Feedback, Complaints Policy and Procedure. All stakeholders can freely make a complaint without any recrimination. Lets Connect Support Services employees are aware of the supporting policy and procedures and will ensure it is adhered to at all times.

The procedure to lodge a complaint or provide feedback will be discussed during the Initial Meeting and ongoing service reviews. Early resolution of a concern or complaint will always be attempted in a collaborative approach reducing the risk of the situation escalating.

Complaints and feedback can be lodged in the following ways:

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



In writing, via email: sue.letsconnect@outlook.com or contact: 0481 171 519 and speak directly to Lets Connect Support Services' Director – all employees are able to receive your feedback.

- Speak directly to your Lets Connect Support Services Support Coordinator, either face to face or over the phone
- Lets Connect Support Services Director on Phone arrangements can be made to meet and discuss
- the concern or lodge the complaint face to face as well.
- Complete the Lets Connect Support Services Complaints and Feedback Form provided in the Participant Handbook.
- Complaints and feedback help us to know your experience with our service.

We will always try to resolve complaints quickly and efficiently. If the complaint has not been resolved quickly at the source, Lets Connect Support Services' Director will contact you with an initial response and let you know how we will manage the complaint.

You are able to appeal if you are not happy with how we have managed your complaint or the outcome.

NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission

Email: contactcentre@ndiscommission.gov.au

Phone: 1800 035 544

National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIS Participants)

Email: feedback@ndis.gov.au

Phone: 1800 800 110

Department of Social Services Feedback

Phone: 1800 634 035

Email: complaints@dss.gov.au

Website: www.dss.gov.au

Abuse

National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline

Phone: 1800 880 052

TTY: 1800 301 130

National Relay Service: 1800 555 677

Translating and Interpreting Service: 131 450

The hotline is open 8am–8pm (AEST), every day, Australia-wide.

Email: enquiries@disabilityhotline.org

Website: www.disabilityhotline.org

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



Australian Human Rights Commission

Phone: (02) 9284 9600

TTY: 1800 620 241

Complaints info line: 1300 656 419

General enquiries and publications: 1300 369 711

Fax: (02) 9284 9611

Email: complaintsinfo@humanrights.gov.au

Website: www.humanrights.gov.au

Complaints Resolution and Referral Service

Phone: 1800 880 052

TTY: 1800 301 130

National Relay Service: 1800 555 677

Translating and Interpreting Service: 131 450

Email: crrs@workfocus.com

Website: www.crrs.net.au

The Mental Health Emergency Response Line

Metropolitan: 1300 555 788

Rural link: 1800 552 002

Advocacy and Complaint Appeal Groups

- Advocacy Support Group

- People with Disability Australia (PWDA)

- Group and individual advocacy services: Phone: (02) 9370 3100 or toll free 1800422015

- Website: www.pwd.org.au



PERSON CENTRED PLANS

The term 'person-centered' describes service and supports that are centered on an individual and their strengths, needs, interests and goals. Person-centered service delivery ensures that people with disability lead and direct the services and supports they use.

Person Centered Plans are prepared with the Support Coordinator, Participant and/or parent, career or person responsible on entry into the service. This is a written document that is reviewed every six (6) months or as required. The intention of person-centered approaches is to maximise, as much as reasonably possible, the capacity for people with disabilities to take control of their lives.

Person-centered approaches ensure that Participants are at the center of service design, planning, delivery and review. The Participant shapes and direct services and support arrangements to suit their strengths, needs and goals with the support of families, friends, careers, advocates and their circle of support.

SERVICE AGREEMENT

All Participants will have a Service Agreement implemented when commencing services and after their NDIS

Plan has been approved. A Service Agreement is not a Person-Centered Plan.

A Service Agreement contains:

- Information on what supports the Participant will receive:
- How much funding has been allocated?
- When, where, how they will receive those supports?
- How much the supports will cost and how they will be paid for?
- How long the supports will be for?
- What is expected of the Participant?
- What is expected from the Service Provider?
- How the Service Agreement can be terminated?
- What to do if problems occur?
- Information on cancellation policy
- Emergency and contingency plan
- Escalation mechanism
- Feedback, complaints and incident management



CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation by the Participant:

If a participant makes a short-notice cancellation, which is after 3 pm the day before the service. The provider may charge up to 100% of the agreed price for their time and travel.

A cancellation is a short notice cancellation if the participant does not show up for scheduled support within a reasonable time or is not present at the agreed place and within a reasonable time when the provider is travelling to deliver the support.

Cancellation by the Provider:

In the event of a provider's short notice cancellation (or a no-show), you (participant) may be eligible to recover 100% of the fee associated with the activity, in accordance with the terms outlined in the service agreement with the service provider.

Prior to signing this service agreement, any arrangements concerning the associated fees must be communicated with the service provider. Cancellations can be communicated via email, text, or phone call.

COMMUNICATION – PARTICIPANTS, PARTICIPANT REPRESENTATIVES, FAMILIES, CARERS

Communication is through a variety of methods. Examples include, but are not limited to, plans, group emails, telephone, email, our organisational website and meetings.

PARTICIPANT EXIT PLANNING

We are committed to providing Participants with information and support through the process of transition or exit from our programs or services. For more information on how to exit or transfer, please speak to your Plan Manager or you may request a copy of our service exit and transition policy and procedure.

We will ensure:

- All Participants are provided with the necessary information and explanation in appropriate communication formats in relation to their transition/ exit from the service.
- Participants are provided with information and support through the process of transition or Exit from the organisation's programs or services.
- Participant transition strategies and exit planning will be documented in the Participant's individual person-centred plan.
- The Participant exit process is clear and that the organisation adopts fair and non-discriminatory processes when a Participant chooses to or is required to leave the service.

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

Lets Connect Support Services



Visit Us in Person

Address: Office 9 1 Richens Street, Redcliffe Qld 4020

Suite 19, Level 1- 1Westlink Court, Darra, 4076

Contact us by phone

Phone: 1300 048 630

Contact us online

Email: ndis.letsconnect@outlook.com