



Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to share with you that Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP) will implement policy later in Term 1 2021 in relation to **Externally Funded Service Therapy/ Allied Health Providers In Schools (EFSP)**. These may include services funded through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

In 2021 it became CEDP **policy** that EFSP **will not be able** to operate in CEDP schools effective 1st April 2021 for the following reasons:

- duty of care obligations towards all students and staff
- Child Protection accountabilities and responsibilities for the principal to manage
- ensuring the health and safety of all individuals on school grounds
- the disruption/ impact on the student's learning due to missed learning time and
- unintended adverse consequences for other students, staff and the general running of the school
- 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)
- 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
- significant concerns about the quality of service provision
- services not being delivered according to the External Provider Engagement Agreement

Though this decision has been taken to safeguard students and ensure maximum learning time at school, we understand that this may result in some inconvenience to your family and apologise for this.

The collaboration and exchange of information between EFSP and schools, after written consent has been given by parents/carers/guardians, continues to be very welcome. For example, with parent permission, a student's psychologist or speech therapist is encouraged to consult with the school to provide expert advice and support the personalised planning process.

Thank you for your understanding of this change.

Yours sincerely,

Miriam Meaney, Principal

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Growth Through Love & Learning

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