



Transition to the
New
Employment
Model



12 October 2020

Hello

This is a note to tell you about some really exciting things that are happening at Bedford.

A few months ago, the NDIS made some changes to the way that they pay for the supports that people get at work (we call this funding). They have changed the part of your NDIS Plan where the money for your work supports comes from.

These changes mean that employees who are funded by the NDIS will be able to get funding that allows them to do different things at work, or to get more support to work and learn new skills. It will give you more choice and control about what you do.

For example, some of the changes to your funding might be that you can get more one-on-one staff support time at work, more training options and different ways to learn new skills.

Bedford calls this the Transition to the New Employment Model. We will be working to get it up and running over the next 18 months, finishing in December 2021.

To change over to the New Employment Model you just need to wait for your next NDIS Plan review - there is no hurry to get anything done just yet.

Bedford wants to provide you with the best supports we can when you come to work with us. We also want to support your needs into the future.

Before your next NDIS Plan review meeting, we would like to meet with you to learn more about your work goals. We'd like to know if there are any new things you would like to learn, or if there are any new jobs you might like to try. We will also talk to you about how many days or hours you want to work, where you want to work and how you need to be supported to do this.

This is a really good time to talk about what you want to do - maybe you would like to do something really different like work in a new job, work in another site, work in open employment, or even set up your own business. Bedford is working out how we might be able offer open employment, or help you to set up your own business. That's why we need this information – so we can work out if people want this, how we can make it work for you, and how much it would cost.

If you are happy with the way things are with your work, you don't need to change - but if you do want to do something different, this is the time to talk to us about it.

When we meet with you, we will write down what it is that you want to do. We will give you a copy of this to you to take to your next NDIS Plan Review meeting.

Over the next few months our team will be getting in touch with you to make a time to meet with you - so you don't need to do anything just yet.

If you have any questions about this letter or if you need help to understand anything about the Transition to the New Employment Model, you can check out our website - bedfordgroup.com.au/nem

You can also talk to your Personnel and Training Officer, your NDIS Local Area Coordinator, or you can contact us on our special helpline:

- email nemhelp@bedfordgroup.com.au
- phone 0435 542 680 or 0435 001 858

For now, I would like to say thank you for your hard work at Bedford. I am very excited about Bedford's future and I hope that you are too!

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "maggie" in a cursive style, with a small circle above the letter 'i'.

Maggie Dowling

Chief Executive