

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Early Childhood Early Intervention



Delivered by the
National Disability
Insurance Agency



Early Childhood Early Intervention

How the NDIS can
help your child



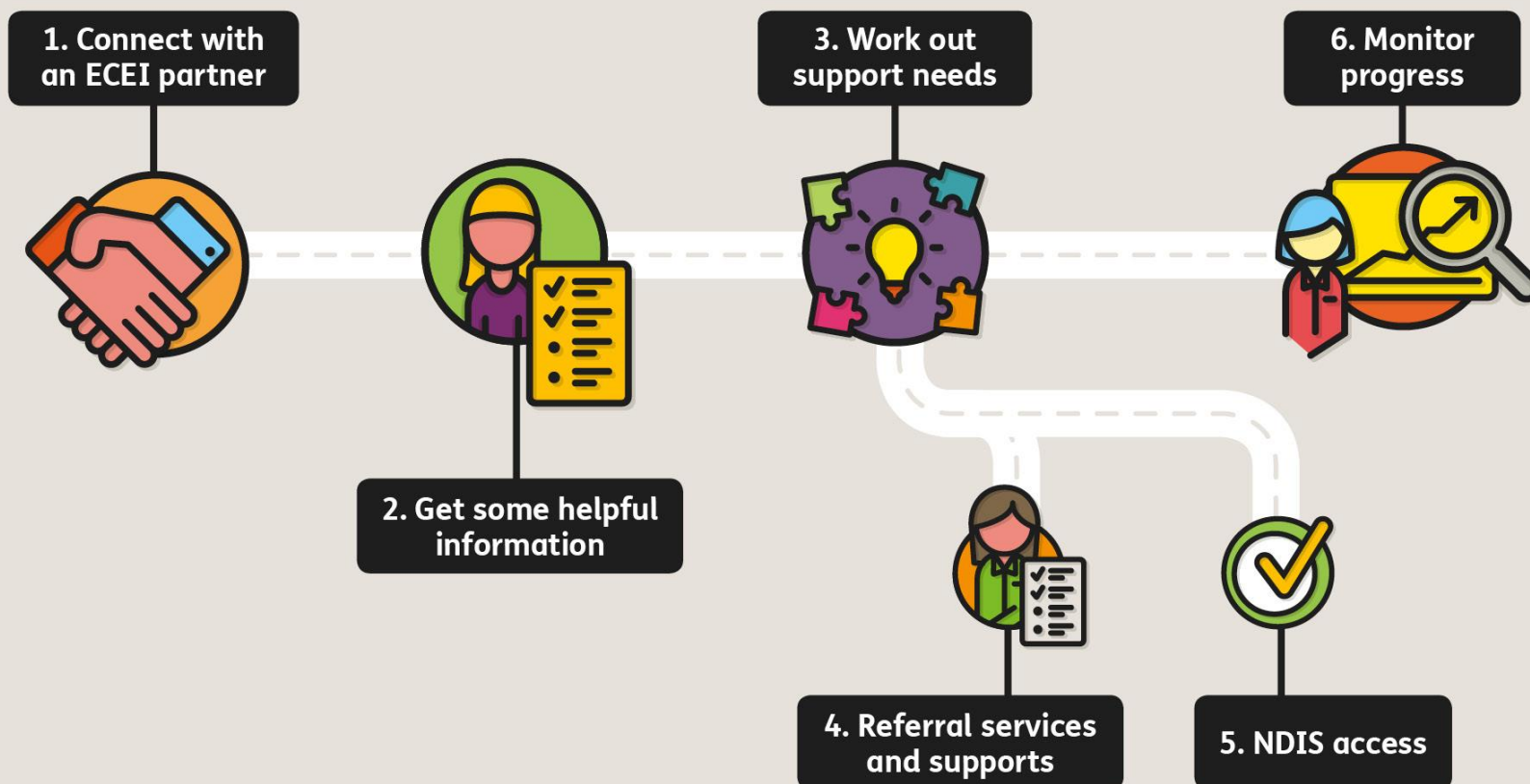
Early Childhood Early Intervention Approach (ECEI)



The NDIS ECEI approach will help all children (0 – 6 years) with developmental delay or disability and their families to achieve better long-term outcomes through support services in their local community, regardless of diagnosis.



The ECEI journey



The Early Childhood Early Intervention Approach recognises that children learn and develop best in their natural everyday settings, such as in the home, early childhood education services and play groups.

Best Practice Early Childhood Intervention



The NDIS recognises that timely access to best-practice early childhood intervention is vital for children with developmental delay or disability to ensure that they achieve the best possible outcomes throughout their life course.

Family centred practice that as its most fundamental purpose leaves a capacity and capability with the parent/primary carer to be the key positive influencer on the child.

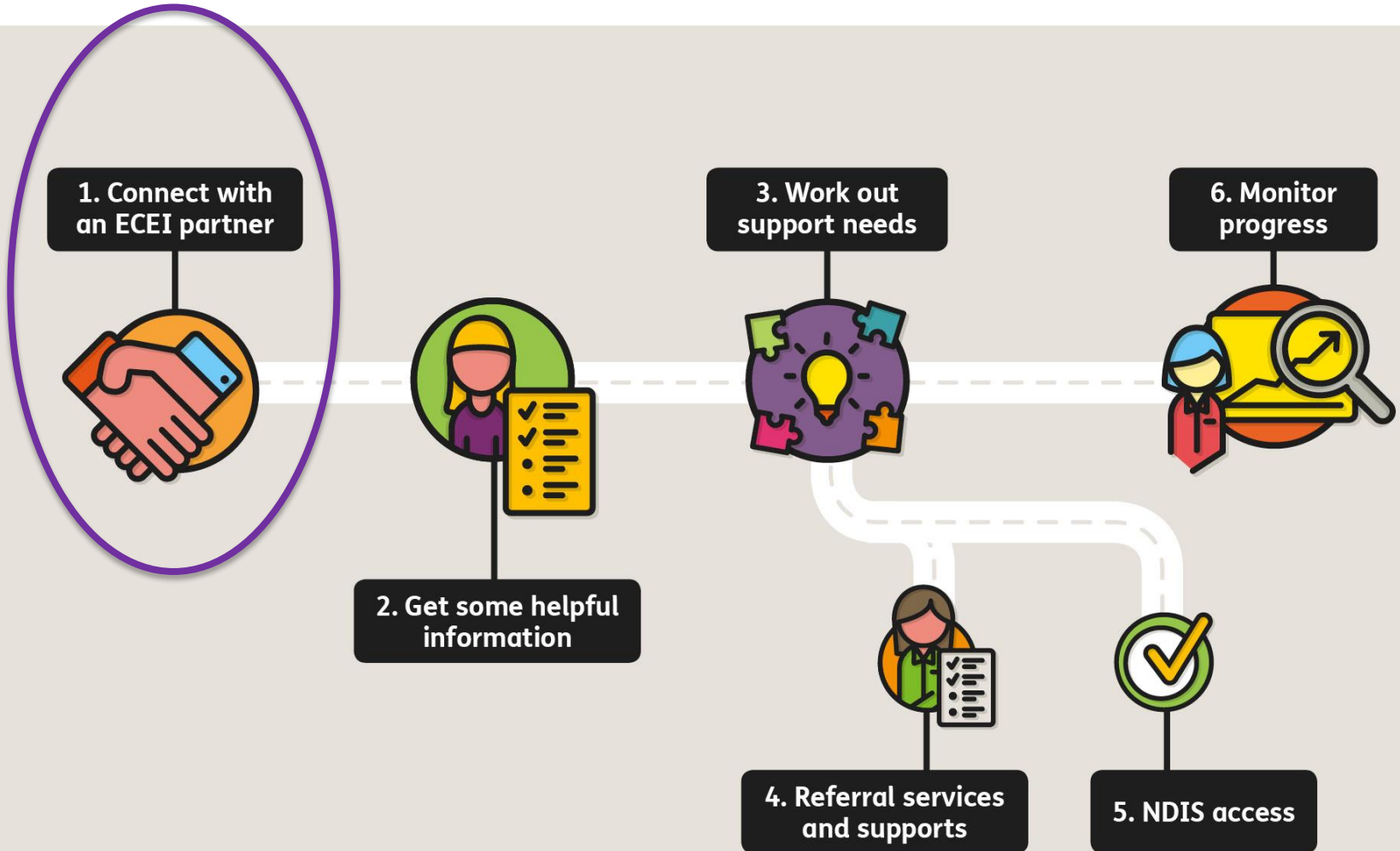
Evidence-based research, best practice approaches and the validated outcomes and evidence should be the informers of Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) design and approach in the NDIS.

Early Childhood Partners

The NDIA has sourced experienced early childhood intervention professionals to work as partners to ensure the NDIS supports all children as early as possible.

Early Childhood partners, will demonstrate strong clinical expertise and utilisation of early childhood best-practice approaches

6 ECEI Partners in NSW

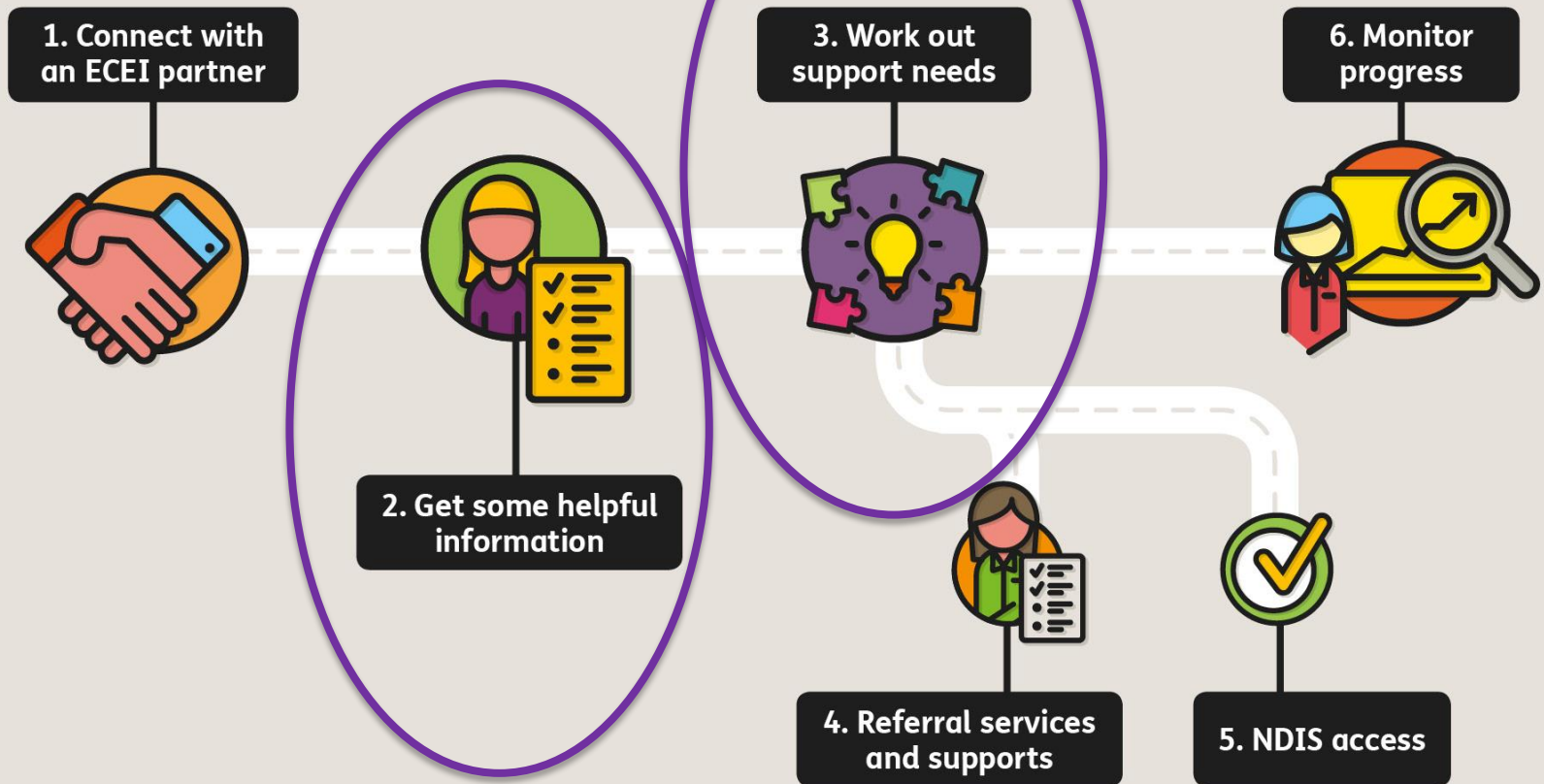


Who can refer to their local ECEI Partner



Children can be referred to their local ECEI Partner in the Community by:

- The family
- Health and community health staff
- Childcare workers
- Other Early Childhood services
- General Practitioners and Paediatricians



Information and working out support needs of the child

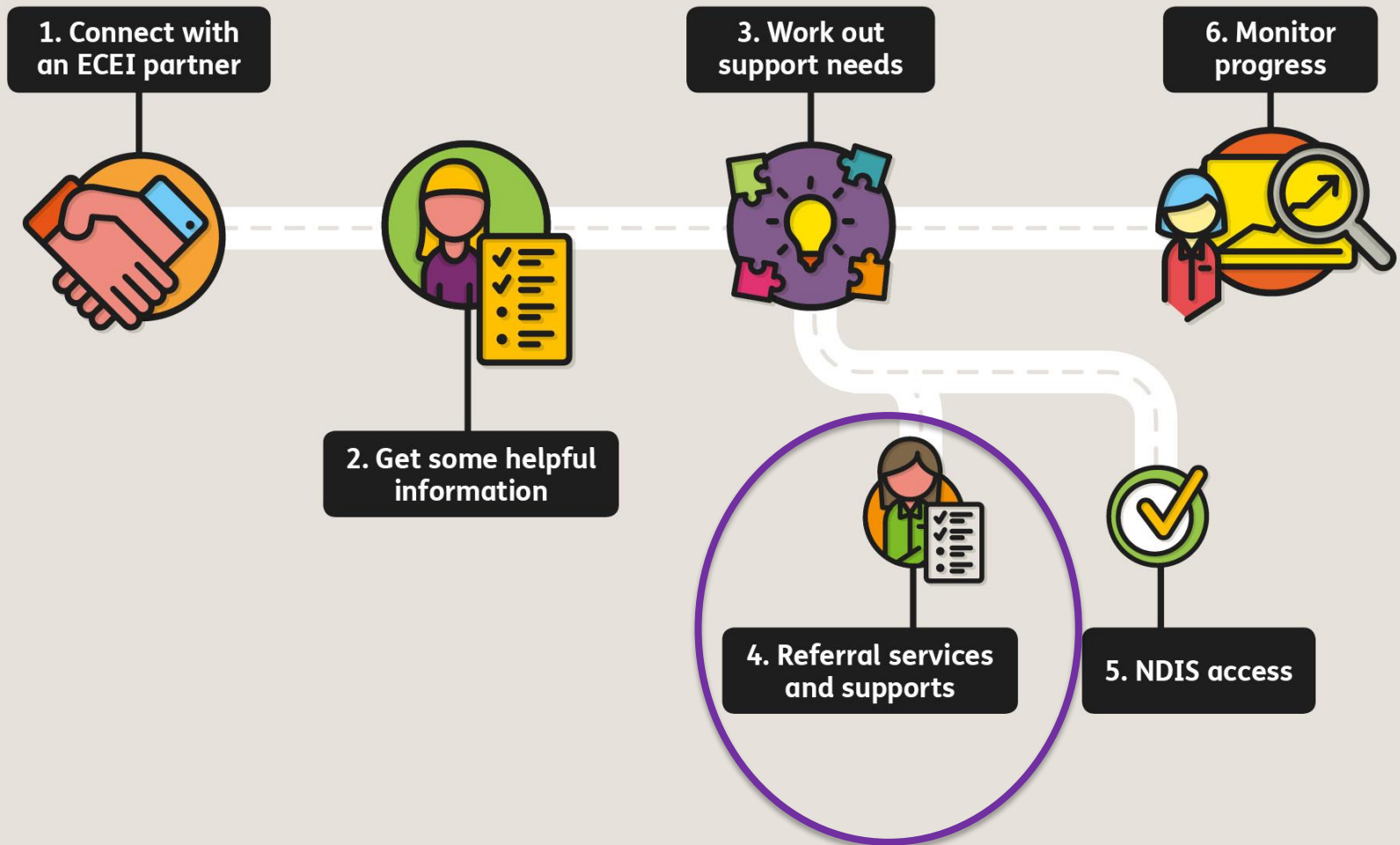


Early childhood partners will undertake a holistic assessment of children with a developmental delay or disability and their families.

They will use their knowledge of early childhood intervention to suggest appropriate supports to meet the individual goals and needs of each child and family.

This may include:

- Information and referrals e.g. information about mainstream supports such as local playgroups, referral to Community Health
- Having conversations with families and other people in the child's life about the functional impact of their difficulties/delay/disability.

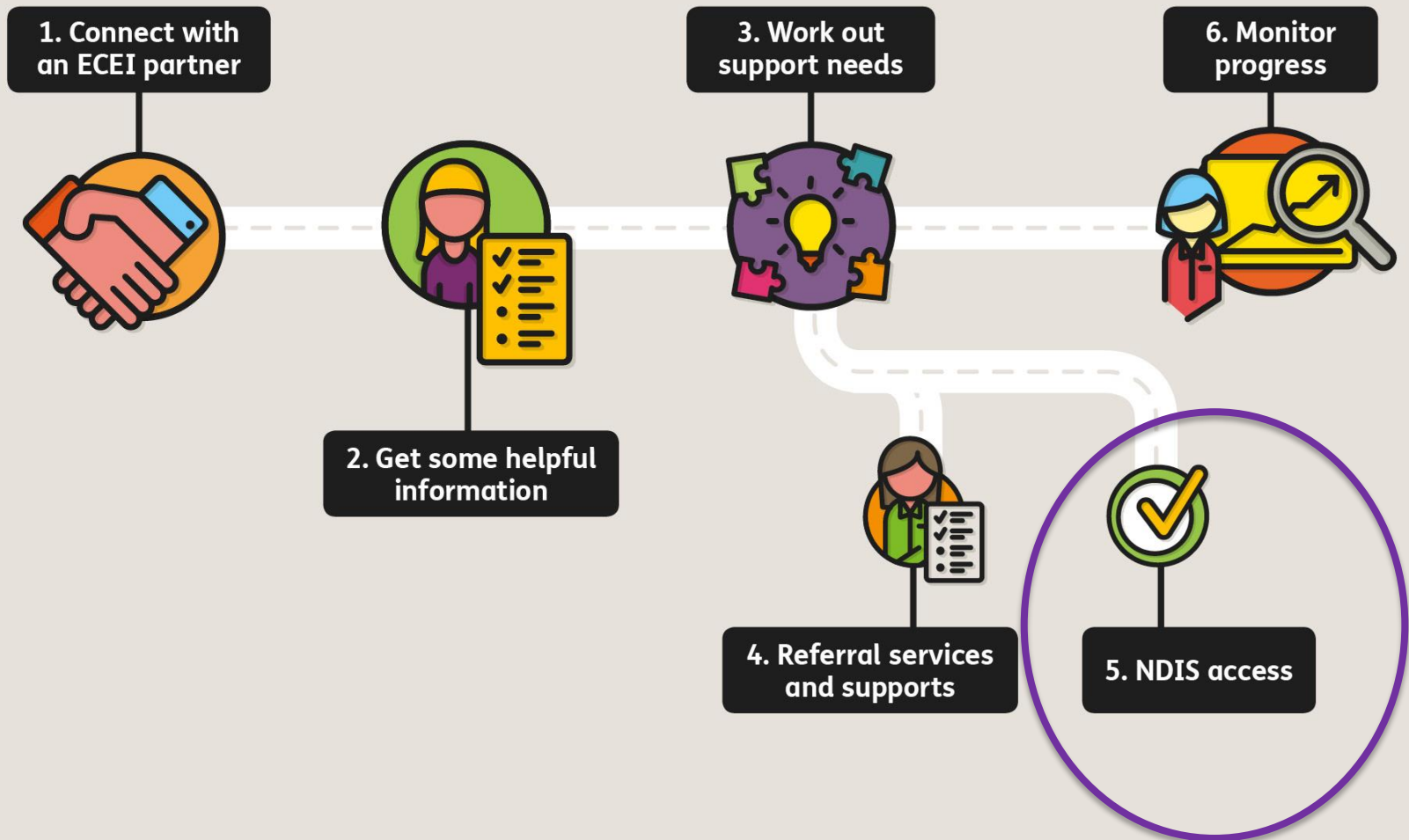


Short term supports

- The Early Childhood Partner will tailor support to the child's individual needs and circumstances.

This may include:

- Providing information
- Connecting the family and child with the most appropriate supports such as the community health centre, educational setting and playgroup
- Providing some short-term early intervention where it has been identified as the most appropriate support.



Individual package of funding

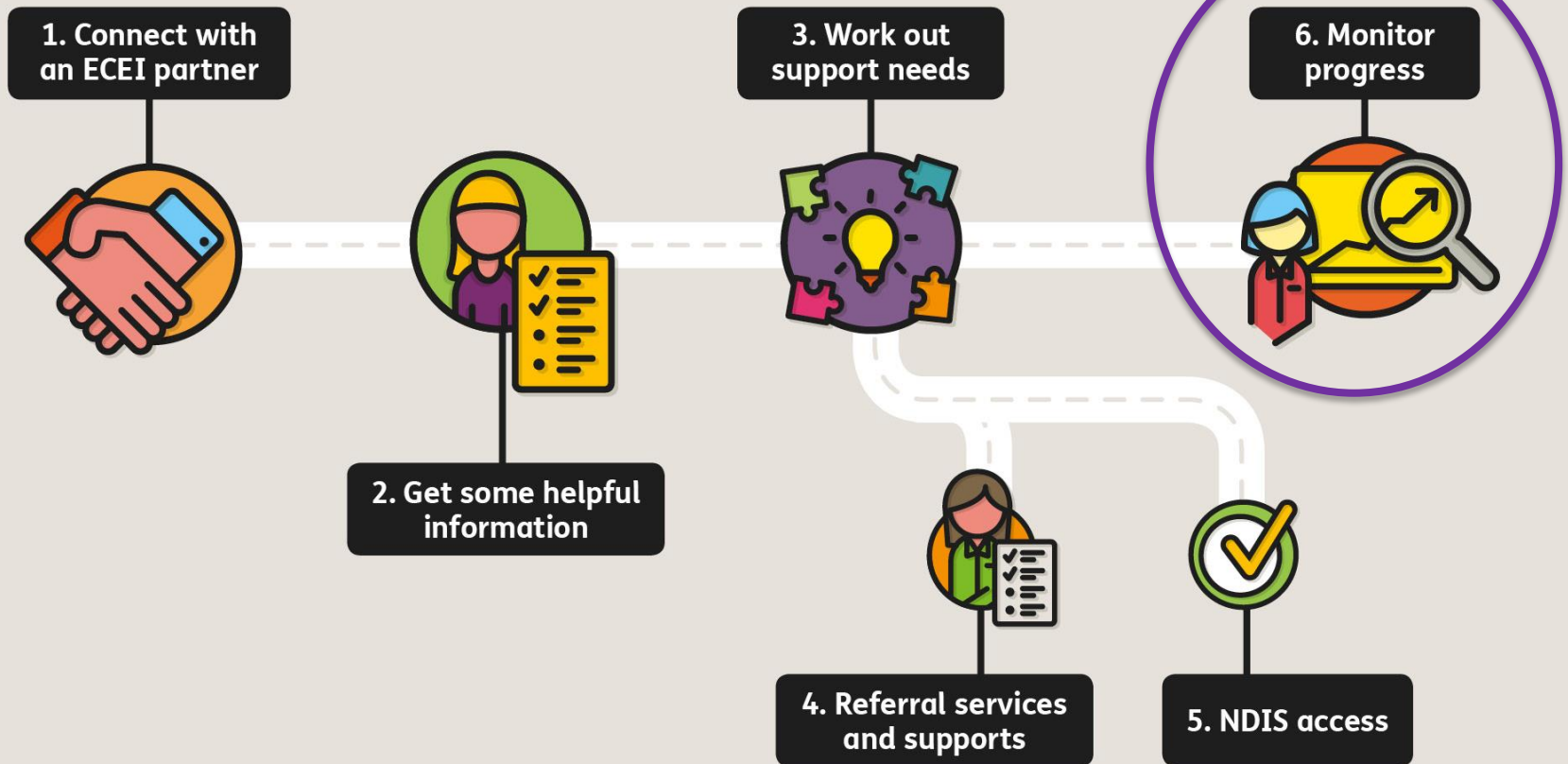


- Disability versus developmental delay – access to individual package of funding
- Flagging children at 4.5 – 5 years of age children to have a disability diagnosis by 6th birthday
- Conversations with families/ discussion of expectations
- Service reports should be provided to the family by the service provider at plan review.

Developmental delay defined

Developmental delay is defined by s.9 of the NDIS Act as a delay in the development of a child under 6 years of age that:

- a) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments **and**
- b) results in **substantial reduction** in functional capacity in one or more of the following areas of major life activity:
 - i. self-care;
 - ii. receptive and expressive language;
 - iii. cognitive development;
 - iv. motor development; **and**
- c) results in the need for a **combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary** or generic care, treatment or other services that are of **extended duration** and are individually planned and coordinated



Types of supports that NDIS will fund



Early childhood intervention supports (examples) .

- Communication - assisting the child to communicate their ideas and needs
- Self help and independence eg; dressing , toileting, mealtimes.
- Joining in – play and participation
- Learning – concentrating and attending
- Emotional regulation
- Physical development

These supports must be related to the child's disability.

Assistive technology eg. Wheelchairs, home modifications ramps



What NDIS won't fund

- **Items not related to the child's disability**
- **Supports that are the responsibility of other service systems such as health, early childhood education**
- **Day to day living costs such as child care fees**
- **Any supports that are likely to cause harm**

Role of Health

- diagnosis and assessment
- clinical services and treatment of health conditions – including all medical services such as general practitioners, care while admitted in hospital, surgery, medications and pharmaceuticals.
- sub-acute care such as palliative care, rehabilitation geriatric and psychogeriatric care, post-acute care, including nursing care for treating health conditions and wound management
- Community Health services such as speech therapy.
- Some recent changes to Disability related Health supports



Contact Lifestart ECEI Partner:

To contact Lifestart or make an ECEI referral call our Client Engagement Team on 1800 953 390 or email engagementteam@lifestart.org.au

Please make families aware of the webinar about ECEI on our website.



Questions

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For more information:

**Early childhood Early
Intervention Approach**

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/ecei.html>

All available on the NDIS website
— www.ndis.gov.au

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