

## Inclusion Ready News

Term 4 2022



### IN THIS ISSUE

Congratulations on making it to Term 4 of what has been a very busy year.

In this issue we are pleased to be able to introduce you to our new KU SCB Preschool Inclusion Consultants and outline information about the Preschool Profiles and Action Plans we are currently completing with each service.

We also share information about exciting new resources and recent updates to the KU Sector Capacity Building Program Inclusion Gateway website, our role in supporting your preschool, upcoming professional development and workshops, Disability and Inclusion Program funding information and much, much more!

## KU Sector Capacity Building Program – Update

Preschool visits are well under way. Our consultants are excited to collaborate with you on your Preschool Profile and Action Plan, and work alongside you and your team to build educator capacity to include all children.

If you require support from the team at the KU Sector Capacity Building (SCB) Program, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We are here to help you!

## Preschool Profiles and Action Plans

In the new SCB contract, the Department of Education has asked us to complete a Preschool Profile and discuss an 'Action Plan' with each preschool to plan how you would like your inclusion support tailored to your needs.

Discussing your Inclusion Action Plan is another way of focussing on specific inclusion goals to address any inclusion barriers at your preschool.

You may like to refer to the following pieces in this newsletter below; "What do we do?" and "How can we help?" and think about the best way you can utilise our support for your preschool's needs.

The majority of our team are in place for Term 4 following a period of extensive recruitment due to the expansion of our program and we are enjoying working with you to implement the goals and actions in your Action Plans.

## What do we do?

Preschool Inclusion Consultants are funded by the NSW Department of Education to:

- ▶ Increase educators' capacity to include children with disability and additional needs on the same basis as their peers
- ▶ Increase educators' capacity to provide specialised transition to school support for children with disabilities and additional needs
- ▶ Enable equitable education outcomes for children with disability and additional needs consistent with the five outcome areas of the Early Years Learning Framework (Identity; Connectedness; Wellbeing; Confident and Involved Learners; and Communication)
- ▶ Support educators to understand the external support options for children with disability and additional needs, and how these supports can be used to complement the preschool program

## How can we help you?

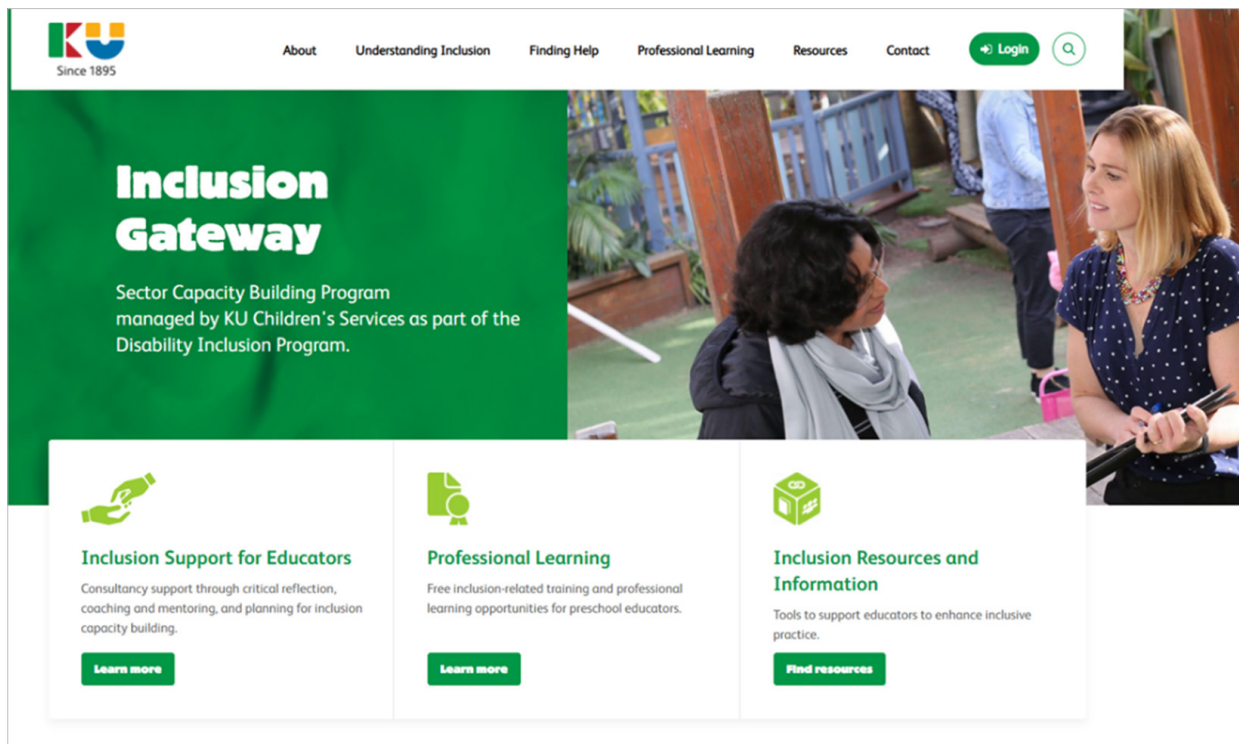
Your preschool is entitled to 8 hours per term of support from the Sector Capacity Building Program. Here are some of the ways we can help:

- ▶ Meet with you, in-person or virtually to discuss inclusion priorities at your preschool
- ▶ Provide free inclusion consultancy visits to your preschool
- ▶ Provide free professional development and networking sessions both face to face and online
- ▶ Coach and mentor educators and support them to reflect on inclusive practice
- ▶ Support a team approach to guiding children's behaviour
- ▶ Support you to collaborate with visiting professionals, e.g. therapists

- ▶ Link you with support such as applying for Disability Inclusion Program funding for children with high learning support needs
- ▶ Provide current information about where to refer families for further support
- ▶ Search for information and relevant resources to support your inclusive practice
- ▶ Provide tailored in-service training and guided reflection on inclusion-related topics

Please note that travel time also makes up part of the time allocated to your preschool.

## Accessing the Inclusion Gateway website



We hope all the new preschools have enjoyed exploring our Inclusion Gateway website and its wide range of free inclusion information, online professional development, podcasts and resources that can support you in your work with children and families.

We encourage your whole team to check out the Inclusion Gateway website regularly to view newly added material.

**VISIT INCLUSION GATEWAY**

### One new easy log in for all preschools

We have streamlined access to the Inclusion Gateway website with a single new login and password for all preschools to use:

**Username:** CommunityPreschool

**Password:** CommunityPreschool

# What's new on the Inclusion Gateway

## Challenging Conversations with Parents – Webinar Recording

At times, educators need to talk with parents about topics we think they might find challenging, such as their child's development or behaviour.

In this webinar recording, Social Worker Bronwen Elliot explores these challenges by sharing a model of change and providing practical strategies for having effective conversations with parents on difficult topics.

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/resources/having-challenging-conversations-with-parents-webinar>



## The Brave Program



A free resource from the University of Queensland for the prevention and treatment of childhood anxiety.

This interactive, online program is for parents and caregivers of children aged 3 to 7 years who are experiencing some form of worry, anxiety or fear.

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/resources/the-brave-program>

## NDIS Early Childhood Approach booklet and NDIS factsheet

This booklet is designed to help families and those around them to understand the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) early childhood approach. This booklet covers:

- ▶ The NDIS early childhood approach
- ▶ What is an early childhood partner?
- ▶ Setting goals for your child
- ▶ Getting supports and services for your child

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/resources/ndis-early-childhood-approach-booklet>

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/resources/ndis-factsheet-help-for-children-under-7>



## Share and Show game set – print and play



A fun and interactive way to engage your team in reflecting on and building skills around a range of inclusive practices.

Each guidebook and matching card set can be used with or without the accompanying game board.

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/resources/share-and-show-game-set-professional-development-tool>

## New ACECQA inclusion legislation and policy documents



ACECQA has developed a suite of resources to help services understand their obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

See our page below for further information.

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/understanding-inclusion/inclusion-legislation-and-policy-documents>

## 2023 Disability and Inclusion Program Guidelines released

The 2023 High Learning Support Needs (HLSN) and Minor Capital Works (MCW) funding guidelines are now available on the NSW Department of Education [website](#).

Applications for HLSN and MCW funding opened on [Monday 7 November 2022](#). Applications will close at 5:00pm on [Friday 2 December 2022](#) for Quarter 1. The full schedule for 2023 can be viewed in the guidelines.

### Key updates to the HLSN Funding Guidelines

- ▶ Funding for applications supported by preschool observations will now be available on an annual basis for eligible applications.
- ▶ Optional templates to assist with gathering observations data are now available to use and can be accessed on the department's [website](#).
- ▶ Cost escalation has been applied, and the new funding rate for 2023 calendar year is \$24.27 per hour for the equivalent of up to 600 hours of support per year.
- ▶ NDIS plans will now be considered as evidence to support an HLSN application. As with other types of documentation, the responses to the application questions need to demonstrate that the child requires significant adjustments to be included in the education program.

### Updated questions for HLSN Funding Applications

The 2023 HLSN Funding Application form includes the following updated questions:

1. How does the child function in the preschool environment? Consider the child's strengths and needs in relation to the developmental domains and the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) outcomes.
2. What adjustments would enable the child to participate in the educational program on the same basis as their peers? This may include adult guidance, teaching strategies, or environmental modifications. Please describe the adjustments required, for example: reviewing transitions, using a visual routine, small group work, physical prompting, task breakdown, modelling, or specialised equipment and facilities. Please note that stating "the child requires 1:1 support" is not a sufficient response to this question.
3. Is there anything else that you would like the Department of Education to know about the child when considering this application? This is an optional question.

### Upcoming webinar

Community preschools will have the opportunity to join a webinar on [Wednesday 9 November 2022](#) to learn about the 2023 DIP. [Register now](#) to join the webinar.

### For more information

If you have any questions, feel free to talk with your Preschool Inclusion Consultant.

## Introducing our new team members

As the KU SCB Program has grown, so has our team of experienced and knowledgeable Consultants. You can view full profiles of the whole team at: <https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/contact>

### Central Coast



**Tracy Scott**

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Phone: 0493 459 338

### Murrumbidgee



**Cahli Wall**

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**Tegan Veliscek**

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**Maree Rusconi**

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### Northern Sydney



**Carol Nagel**

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**Kath Boyd**

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**Kelly Slip**

Email: [kelly.slip@ku.com.au](mailto:kelly.slip@ku.com.au)

Phone: 0493 514 666

### South Eastern Sydney



**Belinda Fellingham**

Email: [belinda.fellingham@ku.com.au](mailto:belinda.fellingham@ku.com.au)

Phone: 0493 522 452

## Western Sydney



**Jen Day**

Email: [jennifer.day@ku.com.au](mailto:jennifer.day@ku.com.au)



**Sandy Luo**

Email: [biyun.luo@ku.com.au](mailto:biyun.luo@ku.com.au)

Phone: 0493 463 622

## Administration Support



**Chris Seroukas**

Email: [christina.seroukas@ku.com.au](mailto:christina.seroukas@ku.com.au)

## New ACECQA Disability Discrimination Act information

As we embark on enrolling our children for 2023, information about The Disability Discrimination Act can support us to make clear decisions around the inclusion of children with additional needs.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) is a law that protects all Australians from discrimination based on disability. The DDA makes it unlawful to discriminate on the ground of the person's disability and this includes discrimination that occurs in the context of accessing and participating in children's education and care services.

All early childhood education and care services must comply with the DDA.

If you require further information about the DDA, please contact your Preschool Inclusion Consultant. You can also access the full range of ACECQA resources regarding the DDA at:

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/nqs-and-dda-posters>



## Upcoming Term 4 professional development – Free KU Sector Capacity Building workshops

Please note our professional development activities can be used towards teacher identified hours for NESA requirements. Teachers need to record this activity in their NESA online account.

These workshops are also a great opportunity to network with other educators in your region and wrap up a successful preschool year together.

All workshops are free and open to preschools supported by the KU Sector Capacity Building Program.

Everyone is welcome to attend any of these workshops regardless of the region you work in. We hope to see many of you there!

## WORKSHOP: CREATING CALMING SPACES



We all need some calmness after another busy year!

We welcome you to this workshop and networking session that focusses on understanding and supporting sensory processing through environmental adaptations.

Come along and learn about creating a calming space in your preschool, hear from an occupational therapist about some important considerations, share ideas with colleagues and enjoy a light supper with us.

### Aligns with the National Quality Standard:

Quality Area 3: Physical environment

Quality Area 5: Relationships with children

### Professional Standards for Teachers:

2 hours of elective PD towards maintaining NESA accreditation can be claimed under:

Standard 1: Know students and how they learn

Standard 4: Create and maintain supportive and safe learning environments

### Sessions:

- ▶ **Beacon Hill Community Kindergarten** – 35 Willandra Road, Beacon Hill  
Monday 14 November 2022, 4:30pm - 6:30pm  
Facilitated by KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=8e6468fd73da4c0f96343c6c3a2b6245>
- ▶ **Binnowie Kindergarten** – 6 New Line Road, West Pennant Hills  
Tuesday 15 November 2022, 4:30pm - 6:30pm  
Facilitated by Tracy Scott and Carol Nagel, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=e7e4c5c7214841b4af46c7b623f558f5>
- ▶ **Diocese of Broken Bay ELC Terrigal (Our Lady Star of the Sea)** – 165 Serpentine Road, Terrigal  
Wednesday 16 November 2022, 4:30pm - 6:00pm  
Facilitated by Tracy Scott and Kelly Slip, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=8b972f7f331943889331ac27b66dea0f>
- ▶ **Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child & Family Centre** – Community Room, 31 Holloway Road, South Nowra  
Thursday 24 November 2022, 4:30pm - 6:30pm  
Facilitated by Belinda Monkman and Carol Nagel, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=5faf8e03290b40c482a63929138333d7>
- ▶ **Keiraville Community Preschool** – 36 Gooyong Street, Keiraville  
Monday 28 November 2022, 4:30pm - 6:30pm  
Facilitated by Belinda Monkman and Carol Nagel, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=0e3eb61346dd4255bfbefbc8c6623eb47>



## WORKSHOP: SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S SENSORY NEEDS AND EMOTIONAL REGULATION

In this workshop we will learn about children's sensory needs and explore how these can be supported in the preschool environment.

As many educators are reporting that there is increased need to support children with emotional regulation, we will share practical strategies to support children to understand and regulate their emotions.

You will also hear from an occupational therapist about some important considerations in terms of sensory environments, have an opportunity to network with colleagues, and enjoy a light supper with us.

### Aligns with the National Quality Standard:

Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice

Quality Area 3: Physical environment

### Professional Standards for Teachers:

2 hours of elective PD towards maintaining NESA accreditation can be claimed under:

Standard 1: Know students and how they learn

Standard 3: Plan for and implement effective teaching learning

Standard 4: Create and maintain supportive and safe learning environments

### Sessions:

- ▶ **Burwood Uniting Preschool** – 134A Burwood Road, Burwood  
Monday 14 November 2022, 4:45pm - 6:30pm  
Facilitated by Vanna Lockwood and Jennifer Day, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildreancesservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=9df493d830f14512bdd57f7fde703b1c>
- ▶ **KU Randwick Coogee Preschool** – 17 Frances Street, Randwick  
Wednesday 30 November 2022, 4:45pm - 6:30pm  
Facilitated by Sandy Luo and Vanna Lockwood, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildreancesservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=097d9e2e27dd4a5a9c24da2c1ce672e8>



## WORKSHOP: EMOTIONAL REGULATION

Many educators are reporting an increased need around supporting children with emotional regulation in recent times.

In this workshop, Psychologist Marina Bailey will share her wide knowledge and experience as we explore practical strategies for supporting preschool-aged children to understand and regulate their emotions.

We will also share KU Emotional Regulation Guidebook and reflection card set and reflect on ways these resources can be used by your team.

*Marina Bailey has been working in the field of disability for over 30 years as a psychologist, trainer and clinical consultant. Marina works across a variety of settings and age ranges and specialises in young children with complex disorders. Marina has presented at a number of conferences and worked both nationally and internationally in the areas of autism spectrum disorders and complex disability.*



### Aligns with the National Quality Standard:

Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice

Quality Area 2: Children's health and safety

Quality Area 3: Physical environment

### Professional Standards for Teachers:

1 hour of elective PD towards maintaining NESAC accreditation can be claimed under:

Standard 1: Know students and how they learn

Standard 3: Plan for and implement effective teaching learning

Standard 4: Create and maintain supportive and safe learning environments

### Workshop details:

► **Miranda Preschool Kindergarten** – 246 The Boulevard, Miranda

Wednesday 16 November 2022, 4:45pm - 7:00pm

Presented by Marina Bailey, Psychologist

Register: <https://kuchildreancesservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=fb51e82361a3425b984502af8189e6b7>



# MURRUMBIDGEE ONLY WEBINAR: EMBEDDING VISUALS INTO EVERYDAY PRACTICE TO SUPPORT LANGUAGE, COMMUNICATION AND ROUTINES

In this webinar you will learn about:

- ▶ How educators can support language and communication development
- ▶ Effective, inclusive use of visual supports
- ▶ Embedding visuals in preschool settings

## Aligns with the National Quality Standard:

Quality Area 1.1.2: Child-centred

Quality Area 1.2.3: Child directed learning

Quality Area 3.2.1: Inclusive environment

Quality Area 3.2.2: Resources support play based learning

Quality Area: 6.2.2: Access and participation

Quality Area: 7.2.3: Development of professionals



## Professional Standards for Teachers:

1 hour of elective PD towards maintaining NESA accreditation can be claimed under:

Standard 1.5.2: Develop teaching activities that incorporate differentiated strategies to meet the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities.

Standard 1.6.2: Design and implement teaching activities that support the participation and learning of students with disability and address relevant policy and legislative requirements.

Standard 3.5.2: Use effective verbal and non-verbal communication strategies to support student understanding, participation, engagement and achievement.

Standard 4.1.2: Establish and implement inclusive and positive interactions to engage and support all students in classroom activities.

Standard 6.2.2: Participate in learning to update knowledge and practice targeted to professional needs and School and/or system priorities.

Standard 7.4.2: Participate in professional and community networks and forums to broaden knowledge and improve practice.

## Webinar details:

### ▶ Zoom

Tuesday 22 November 2022, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Presented by Cahli Wall, Maree Rusconi and Tegan Veliscek, KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Murrumbidgee preschools only

Register: <https://kuchildreancesservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=52fa79df4c654105ba21e680430f59a4>

## WEBINAR: CULTURAL UNDERSTANDINGS OF DISABILITY

This webinar will be presented by Sabira Sakurma, KU Manager of Adult Migrant English Program and Community Programs.

It will focus on:

- ▶ Culture and parenting practices
- ▶ How our experiences influence our conceptions of disability and inclusion
- ▶ Cultural interpretations of developmental differences and disability
- ▶ Working in partnership with families from diverse language and cultural backgrounds
- ▶ Discussing developmental concerns with families in culturally respectful ways
- ▶ Support and resources available to educators and families



*Sabira's experience is diverse, having worked as a primary school teacher overseas and in Australia as an educator, centre Director and Manager. She has presented workshops to educators and at conferences, community events about cultural competence, bilingualism, working with CALD families, and working with refugee families.*

*Sabira is passionate about leadership in culturally diverse early childhood environments, inclusion and children's rights. Working for over 30 years with educators from over 15 countries and migrant and refugee families from Europe, Africa, Asia and India positions Sabira well to share her knowledge and experiences with educators.*

### Aligns with the National Quality Standard:

Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice

Quality Area 4: Relationships with children

Quality Area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

### Professional Standards for Teachers:

1 hour of elective PD towards maintaining NESA accreditation can be claimed under:

Standards 1.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 4.1, 5.1, 5.3, 5.5, 7.1, 7.3

### Webinar details:

#### ▶ Zoom

Tuesday 29 November 2022, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Presented by Sabira Sakurma, KU Manager of Adult Migrant English Program and Community Programs

Register: <https://kuchidrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=c9d5870fe6394a36b1e722f4b23ee730>

## WORKSHOP: PLANNING AHEAD FOR INCLUSION AT PRESCHOOL IN 2023

In this workshop we will cover:

- ▶ What does a truly inclusive preschool look like?
- ▶ A whole team approach to inclusion
- ▶ Planning for new enrolments
- ▶ Collaborating with families and therapists for inclusive practice



### Aligns with the National Quality Standard:

Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice

Quality Area 2: Children's health and safety

Quality Area 3, 3.2.1: Physical environment

Quality Area 5: Relationships with children

Quality Area 6, 6.2: Collaborative partnerships enhance children's inclusion, learning and wellbeing

### Professional Standards for Teachers:

2 hours of elective PD towards maintaining NES A accreditation can be claimed under:

Standard 1: Know students and how they learn

Standard 3: Plan for and implement effective teaching learning

Standard 4: Create and maintain supportive and safe learning environments

### Sessions:

- ▶ **Sydney CBD KU Central Office** – Level 1 Waratah Training Room, 129 York Street, Sydney  
Monday 19 December 2022, 9:30am - 11:30am  
Facilitated by Emma Pierce and Tracy Scott from KU Sector Capacity Building Team  
Register: <https://kuchildrensservices.arlo.co/register?sgid=d999aca99a5b43f087bada7079f400c9>

## Professional development from other sources

**Cerebral Palsy Alliance** supports babies and children with a range of physical and neurological conditions to build stronger foundations for better learning and development.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/cerebral-palsy-alliance-ndis-information-sessions-6008977449>

**Lifestart** is an Early Childhood Partner and delivers the National Disability Insurance Agency's Early Childhood (EC) approach to multiple regions. Upcoming events can be found here:

<https://www.lifestart.org.au/events/category/all>

**STaR** – This webinar series has been funded through the NSW Department of Education's Sector Development Program, and will introduce participants to the concept of early childhood inclusion for children with disabilities and developmental delays.

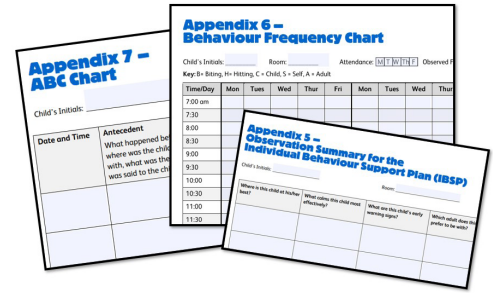
<https://www.star.org.au/what-we-do/early-childhood-early-intervention-webinar-series>

# KU SCB Observation Templates on the Inclusion Gateway

As some of you may have heard mentioned in the recent Department of Education roadshow webinar ‘Gathering HLSN Funding application evidence’, the Department is currently working to develop observation templates that can support applications for HLSN Funding based on preschool observations.

If you are looking for some other templates in the meantime, KU SCB has several available on the Inclusion Gateway. You can find them in the Resources Section (search ‘templates’) at:

<https://kudisabilityinclusion.com.au/resources?showing=1&resourcetype=33867>



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**Please let us know of any specific support you may be needing.**

*The Sector Capacity Building Program is funded by the NSW Government Department of Education as part of the Disability and Inclusion Program.*