

Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support Plans: 'Positive Behaviour Support' Appears Nowhere in the Rules

Which source says so - a citation card

DOCUMENT CONTROL

- Programme: Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support Plans: 'Positive Behaviour Support' Appears Nowhere in the Rules (OBA-NRP-2026)
- Audience: Anybody who has to say where a rule comes from
- Version 1.0 | Issued 28/09/2026 | Review due 28/03/2027
- Provider: OBA Nursing Academy

Why this card exists

Six sources carry this subject, and FOUR OF THE SIX ARE THINGS THIS PROGRAMME DID NOT READ. Saying which one you are relying on - and saying when you are relying on none of them - is most of professional credibility here, because this is an area where confident statements about 'the NDIS rules' are made constantly and checked rarely.

The six sources - and four of them were not read

Source	What it settles
NDIS (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018	The five regulated practices, the authorisation conditions, the decision tree in Part 2, the two clocks, the contents of the plan, reporting and records. READ IN FULL for this build, in its AS-MADE version F2018L00632.
NDIS Act 2013	s9 the definition, s73H the power, s73J the civil penalty, s73ZK(4) reportable incidents, s181H the Commissioner's function. READ ONLY AS QUOTED in the Rules and the Commission's Guide.
Your own State or Territory authorisation instrument or policy	WHETHER THE PRACTICE IS PROHIBITED, AND WHETHER AND HOW IT CAN BE AUTHORISED. The single most important source for any real decision. NOT READ IN THIS BUILD, and not knowable from here.
NDIS (Incident Management and Reportable Incidents) Rules 2018	Whether and when a use of a regulated restrictive practice must be reported as a reportable incident. NOT READ IN THIS BUILD - so this programme states no reportable incident timeframe.
NDIS (Provider Registration and Practice	Registration group 0110 Specialist positive

Standards) Rules 2018, and the Quality Indicators Guidelines 2018	behaviour support, and the practice standards. NOT READ IN THIS BUILD.
Your provider's own policies, and the behaviour support plan itself	What you are actually required to do on a shift, and what the plan says. Binding on you, and present in none of the documents above.

Things people say, and what actually settles them

What gets said	What settles it	What it actually is
'We do positive behaviour support, so we're compliant'	NDIS RP&BS Rules 2018	The phrase appears ZERO times in the Rules. What they condition registration on is authorisation, a plan, lodgement and the deadlines - and section 20 describes the substance of positive behaviour support without using the label.
'It's not a restrictive practice, we didn't do it to control behaviour'	Rules s6	True for chemical, mechanical and physical restraint, which are defined by PRIMARY PURPOSE. NOT true for seclusion or environmental restraint, which have no purpose element at all.
'The Commission authorised it'	Rules s9 and s24(2)	The Commission does not authorise. Authorisation is a State or Territory process 'however described', IF that jurisdiction has one. What goes to the Commissioner is EVIDENCE of authorisation, and the PLAN - which must be lodged regardless of whether authorisation was required or obtained.
'It's in the plan, so it's lawful'	Rules s8 and s21(3)(b)	A plan is not an authorisation. Section 8 prohibits what the jurisdiction prohibits, and s21(3)(b) requires the practice to be authorised where a process exists. The plan and the authorisation are two different things.
'There's no plan yet, so the rules don't apply'	Rules ss11, 12 and 13	Those three sections exist precisely for use that is not in a plan. Each imposes a one-month interim and six-month comprehensive plan deadline, running from THE FIRST USE.
'We're waiting on the behaviour support practitioner, so the clock is on them'	Rules ss11-13 and s19	Two different clocks. The provider's one month runs from THE FIRST USE; the specialist provider's runs from BEING ENGAGED. A late referral does not move the provider's deadline.
'We referred it, so we've done our bit'	Rules s11(2)(a)	The duty is to TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO

		FACILITATE the development of the plan. The evidence is a record of steps - who was approached, what was sent, what was chased and when.
'The practitioner is a psychologist, so they're qualified'	Rules s5	An NDIS behaviour support practitioner is 'a person THE COMMISSIONER CONSIDERS IS SUITABLE'. The Rules name no profession and no qualification. Suitability is the Commissioner's assessment.
'It's an interim plan, we'll do the assessment later'	Rules s20(5)	Correct, and that is the design. The functional behavioural assessment is required for a COMPREHENSIVE plan. The interim plan is the document you can write in a month.
'We report it monthly'	Rules s14(1)(b) and the note to s14	Monthly unless you hold a SHORT TERM APPROVAL, in which case it is EVERY TWO WEEKS while the approval is in force. And if the use is also a reportable incident, the monthly report does not discharge that - it must ALSO be reported under the Incident Management Rules.
'We keep the records for three years'	Rules s15(3)	Seven years from the day the record is made.
'The plan was lodged when it was written'	Rules s24(1)	'Including a reviewed plan.' Every twelve-month review generates a fresh lodgement.
'A single emergency use doesn't need anything'	Rules s9(2)(a)	A single emergency use is carved out of the AUTHORISATION condition only. It is not carved out of the reporting in s14, the records in s15, or the plan deadlines in ss11 to 13.
'He's got a plan, it's been the same for three years, it works'	Rules s21(4) and s22	The person must be given opportunities to participate in community activities and develop new skills that have the potential to reduce or eliminate the need. And the plan must be reviewed at least every twelve months.
'It's the same as aged care'	Rules s6	It is not. In aged care all five practices are defined by primary purpose; here only three are. And the NDIS plan is LODGED WITH THE REGULATOR, which

		the aged care plan is not.
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The local things that have to exist

- Your jurisdiction's authorisation process - and whether it is LEGISLATION or POLICY
- Whether your jurisdiction PROHIBITS any practice you use - section 8
- Who in your organisation holds the EVIDENCE OF AUTHORISATION that was lodged under section 9(2)(b)
- The name of your specialist behaviour support provider, and the date they were engaged
- The date of the FIRST USE of every regulated restrictive practice in use here
- Where the section 15 records live, and whether they run to seven years
- And who lodges the plan with the Commissioner - including every reviewed version

If you cannot find one of these, that is a finding about the service rather than about you - and it is a specific one you can raise.

SCOPE, CURRENCY AND THE LIMIT OF THIS PROGRAMME

- This programme is professional development. It states what the NDIS (RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES AND BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT) RULES 2018 say, quotes them where the words matter, and cites the section every time. IT IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE AND IT IS NOT CLINICAL ADVICE. It states NOTHING about what any State or Territory authorisation process requires, permits or prohibits - the Rules defer to those instruments twenty-six times and THIS BUILD READ NONE OF THEM. It contains no behavioural intervention, no medication, no physical technique and no de-escalation sequence. It does not decide whether any particular practice is a regulated restrictive practice, whether it is authorised, or whether anybody complies with anything. Decisions about an individual belong to that person, their guardian or decision-maker, the NDIS behaviour support practitioner, the provider, and the authorisation process where they live.
- WHAT WAS READ, AND WHEN. The NDIS (RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES AND BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT) RULES 2018 were read IN FULL on 28/09/2026, and the counts quoted in this programme were taken TWICE - once from the extracted text and once directly from the PDF, case-insensitively and on stems - because a count of ZERO is the kind of claim that has to be right. AN IMPORTANT LIMIT: the version read in full was the AS-MADE version, F2018L00632, an authorised version registered 18/05/2018. The current compilation is F2020C01087, compilation C01, in force 1 December 2020, amended by the NDIS Legislation Amendment (Transitioning Aged Care Providers) Rules 2020, Schedule 1 items 14 to 26. THAT COMPILATION WAS NOT READ PROVISION BY PROVISION. Its only amending instrument is titled 'Transitioning Aged Care Providers' and Part 4 of the Rules is the transitional Part, so the amendments are very likely confined there - but that was not confirmed section by section. Every section quoted here was cross-checked against the NDIS Commission's own current published description of the obligations and matched at every point tested. If you are about to rely on an exact form of words, open the current compilation.