

Former Jumpstart childcare operator Thomas Fanous banned from NDIS following ABC investigation ^[1]

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Excerpt

The former operator of a Sydney childcare centre where children were force-fed until they vomited, strapped in highchairs for hours and had their heads shoved into garbage bins, has been permanently banned from working in the disability support sector.

Thomas Fanous, who was the sole director and person in control of Jumpstart childcare centres, was exposed in March in a Four Corners investigation which revealed he had moved into the NDIS.

The revelations prompted a formal investigation by the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, which has now issued him with a permanent banning order, effective from April 24, across all states and territories, banning him from delivering all NDIS services or supports.

"Permanent banning orders are issued for the most serious cases of non-compliance with the NDIS Code of Conduct, where a provider or worker is deemed to be unsuitable to provide supports or services to people with disability," a spokesperson for the commission said.

It said it was continuing to look into the matters identified and could not comment further at this stage.

Court records show that during Mr Fanous's time operating Jumpstart, children were subjected to repeated abuse.

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