



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

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VISION:
EVERY
YOUNG
CHILD IS
THRIVING
AND
LEARNING**

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday 2 May, 2021

EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA WELCOMES FURTHER INVESTMENT IN EARLY EDUCATION

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) welcomes today's announcement by the Morrison Government to make an additional \$1.7 billion investment in early education and care in the upcoming 2021-22 Budget.

Early Childhood Australia CEO, Samantha Page, is pleased the government has listened to the chorus of voices calling for greater investment in early education to increase children's participation in early learning, boost women's workforce participation and the economy.

'Research shows that quality early childhood education and care has significant lifelong benefits for children's development and learning.

'ECA has been calling for changes to the Child Care Subsidy system to support women's workforce participation and improve children's access to quality early learning.

'We are also pleased that removal of the \$10,560 cap on the Child Care Subsidy is part of the announcement,' Ms Page said.

There is still work to be done to further improve the system, including ensuring continued funding for universal access to preschool.

'While ECA believes this investment is a step in the right direction, we are disappointed that changes are planned to come in to effect in 2022, meaning many families currently using child care won't have any relief.'

'The changes announced today add complexity to an already complex system – therefore clear information must be available to families and providers,' added Ms Page.

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ECA CEO Samantha Page is available for comment. For interviews, contact: Katie Golding, ECA Media Officer, on 0475 554 999.

For a downloadable PDF version of the media release: www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/media/

Early Childhood Australia is the peak advocacy body for children from birth to eight years, their families and early childhood professionals.