



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

**OUR
VISION:
EVERY
YOUNG
CHILD IS
THRIVING
AND
LEARNING**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Early learning services recognised for excellence in reconciliation

From learning about bush tucker on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria, to building community understanding about reconciliation in urban and country New South Wales, three early childhood education services were recognised as leading the way in reconciliation, at the inaugural Narragunnawali Awards by Reconciliation Australia.

'Early Childhood Australia (ECA) congratulates Explore & Develop Penrith South for winning the first ever Narragunnawali award for excellence in reconciliation, and commends Balnarring Preschool on the Mornington Peninsula and Uranquinty Preschool in Wagga Wagga, for their inspiring work', said ECA CEO Samantha Page.

'It's also amazing to see two primary schools as finalists in the schools category, and we congratulate Queanbeyan Public School on winning the school sector award', said Ms Page.

'The Narragunnawali program, run by Reconciliation Australia, is making a real difference to children's understanding and practice of reconciliation, with more than 1800 schools and early learning services involved around the country.

'ECA strongly supports the work of Narragunnawali to help schools and early learning services foster a higher level of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.

'It is heart-warming to see how young children really enjoy learning about local Aboriginal culture and history, learning how to sing and speak Aboriginal languages, and how these reconciliation initiatives are building bridges in communities', said Ms Page.

To find out more about the winners and finalists, click [here](#).

To view an inspiring video of the early learning finalists, click [here](#).

To view and download Narragunnawali resources, visit www.narragunnawali.org.au.

Early Childhood Australia is the peak advocacy body for children under eight, their families and early childhood professionals.

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