



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

Congratulations to Australia Day Honours recipients for their services to children

January 26, 2019

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) congratulates the 2019 recipients of Australia Day Honours for their services to children and early childhood education. Whilst there are more award recipients than ever before, the number of people being recognised for their service to young children and early childhood education is still quite low.

*Do you know someone who has given outstanding service to early childhood education?
[Nominate them for an Order of Australia Award](#) and maybe we can see more recognition in the Queens Birthday Honours list.*

Australia Day Honours Awards

2019 Senior Australian of the Year

Dr Sue Packer

ECA congratulates Dr Sue Packer on her recognition as [Senior Australian of the Year](#). Since starting her career as a paediatrician in 1972, Dr Sue Packer AM has worked tirelessly to advocate for the rights of children. Dr Packer is recognised as a leader in child abuse prevention and treatment and a champion of the importance of early childhood environments for the developing brain. Read more [here](#). Watch her inspiring three minute speech at the end of this [ABC News story](#)

Companion of the Order of Australia (AC)

Jillian Broadbent AO, NSW

For eminent service to corporate, financial, clean energy and cultural organisations, to higher education and to women in business. Ms Broadbent is [Chancellor of the University of Wollongong](#), site of [Early Start](#), one of Australia's most innovative early childhood teaching, research and community engagement initiatives.

Officer of the Order of Australia (AO)

Professor Muriel Bamblett AM, Victoria

For distinguished service to the Indigenous community of Victoria as an advocate for the self-determination and cultural rights of children.

Ms Bamblett is the [Chair of SNAICC](#) National Voice for Our Children and the CEO of the [Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency](#). Read more [here](#)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Dr Joy Goodfellow, NSW

For significant service to early childhood education, to children with special needs, and to professional standards. Dr Goodfellow was a key author of the Early Years Learning Framework. She is the author of [The Early Years Learning Framework: Getting Started](#) published by ECA in 2009.

/More...

Narelle Hargreaves OAM ACT

For significant service to children and young people in the ACT and to education. Ms Hargreaves was [2016 ACT Citizen of the Year](#) - for her devoted work with the ACT Children's Week Committee, as Official Visitor for Children, Young People and Disability, and her long career as a teacher, principal and Director of ACT Government schools.

Alison Lester, VIC

For significant service to children as a children's author and illustrator and to indigenous literature. Read more about Ms Lester's literary awards [here](#). Find out about her children's books [here](#)

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)**Mary Moo Baulch, NSW**

For service to community health. As CEO of [Domestic Violence NSW](#), Ms Baulch is on the advisory group for ECA's new violence prevention program currently in development.

Judith Hewison, NSW

For service to children. Ms Hewison is Owner/Director Mimi Kindergarten (childcare and OOSHC)

Dr Jane Page Victoria

For services to children. Dr Page is a senior lecturer in the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne where she has worked in the field of early childhood for the past 18 years, focussing on the application of human rights principles in early childhood settings. Dr Page is a member of ECA's Publications Committee and Editor of ECA's Every Day Learning Series.

Jane Rowe, VIC

For service to the community through support for children of drug dependent parents. Ms Rowe is the founder of the [Mirabel Foundation](#)

Lucy and Rosy Thomas, VIC

For service to youth through anti-bullying. Co-founders of [Project Rockit](#).

Public Service Medal (PSM)**Mr Matthew Yannopoulos**

For outstanding public service through the leadership and delivery of reform to payments for Child Care. Mr Yannopoulos, a senior government officer who has worked in a wide range of major public sector agencies across his career, has been recognised for his leadership of the design, build and implementation of the new Child Care Subsidy system that was launched in July 2018.

FULL Australia Day Honours list: <https://www.gg.gov.au/australia-day-2019-honours-list>

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