



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

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

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 17 November 2020

VITAL SUPPORT FOR EDUCATORS AND YOUNG CHILDREN: ECA WELCOMES BE YOU EXTENSION

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) welcomes the decision by the federal government to support and extend the valuable work of Be You for another two years.

Since 2018, Be You—a joint initiative by Beyond Blue, ECA and headspace—has provided educators across Australia with the resources to support and guide children to look after their mental health and wellbeing.

Yesterday the federal government announced a funding extension of \$46 million over two years for Be You as part of a temporary mental health package.

General Manager of the ECA Be You initiative, Judy Kynaston says ‘the extension will allow Be You to increase the number of participating early learning services and develop the capacity of educators to build foundations of lifelong mental health and wellbeing in children and young people.’

‘Be You plays a vital role in supporting early learning services and schools to develop a positive, inclusive and resilient learning communities where every child, young person, educator and family can achieve their best possible mental health,’ Ms Kynaston said.

The events of 2020 have been tough on the early education and care sector. ECA CEO Samantha Page is pleased to see the government will provide a financial boost to an initiative that helps educators manage their mental health and build resilience.

‘The COVID-19 pandemic has left many educators stressed, exhausted and concerned for the future.’

‘We’re pleased to see that Be You will be able to continue its work to ensure that our youngest children and those who are dedicated to their learning, development and wellbeing are supported.’

ENDS

CONTINUE OVER FOR CONTACT INFO

ECA CEO Samantha (Sam) Page and General Manager of Be You, Judy Kynaston are available for comment.

For interviews, contact ECA Media Officer: Katie Golding 0475 554 999

For more information about Be You, visit <https://beyou.edu.au/>

For a downloadable PDF version of the media release, click here:
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.