



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

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VISION:
EVERY
YOUNG
CHILD IS
THRIVING
AND
LEARNING**

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 06 September 2022

ECA WELCOMES ACECQA'S NEW WORKFORCE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Early Childhood Australia (ECA), the nation's peak advocacy organisation for young children and early childhood services, welcomes the release of the National Children's Education and Care Workforce Strategy Implementation and Evaluation Plan.

The plan aims to chart a course towards building a sustainable, high-quality and professionally recognised workforce to ensure the best outcomes for children.

In response to the Implementation and Evaluation Plan, ECA CEO Ms Samantha Page said, 'The release of the National Children's Education and Care Workforce Strategy Implementation and Evaluation Plan is a welcome step that will progress the National Workforce Strategy, and ECA is pleased to contribute to some of the resources and initiatives that support the strategy.'

The development of the National Workforce Strategy has been a collaborative process and it is important to note that it has the support of the federal and all state and territory governments.

'The Implementation Plan provides much-needed certainty in relation to progressing the Workforce Strategy and we look forward to further detail around the associated resources allocated to the strategy. While ECA supports the National Workforce Strategy as a long-term approach, we are increasingly concerned about the current state of the workforce and note that there are some actions that warrant priority and immediate attention to stabilise the workforce. A workforce that is valued and recognised for the professional work they do is better equipped to support children and families,' added Ms Page.

A recent survey by ECA confirms that the sector is currently under pressure, with 70% of the participants noting they felt 'exhausted' and 'stressed' on a daily basis. The survey also reported some positive feelings of joy and hope, indicating that participants find working with young children to be satisfying and rewarding.

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ECA CEO Sam Page is available for comment. For interviews, contact ECA Media Officer Reshma Jayesh on 0475 554 999.

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.