



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

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

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 16 April 2025

Early Childhood Australia to host Online Federal Election Forum on Early Childhood

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) is pleased to announce an online Federal Election Forum on Early Childhood on Tuesday 29 April 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm AEST with:

- **Hon Dr Anne Aly MP**
Minister for Early Childhood Education and Minister for Youth
(Australian Labor Party)
- **Ms Angie Bell MP**
Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education
(Liberal National Party of Queensland)
- **Ms Zoe Daniel MP**
(Independent)
- **Senator Steph Hodgins-May**
(Australian Greens)

ECA will host the Forum online and members are encouraged to register, with colleagues from across the early childhood education and care sector also welcome to attend. ECA undertakes advocacy aligned with its vision of **every young child is thriving and learning**, and contributes to the important work towards the national reform agenda for early childhood education and care. Samantha Page, ECA Chief Executive Officer, will facilitate the Forum and invite key candidates from their respective parties to share their policy commitments for the upcoming Federal Election. There will also be a Q&A session informed by attendees' registered questions.

Sam Page said, *'Early Childhood Australia encourages early childhood professionals, advocates and supporters to come along to ECA's Online Federal Election Forum. This is an important opportunity to engage with Minister Anne Aly, Angie Bell MP, Zoe Daniel MP and Senator Hodgins-May, hearing directly from these key candidates and asking questions of the policies and priorities which could set what comes next for early childhood education and care in Australia post election. It's important to ECA that its broad membership of individual and institutional members are in the room. This includes educators, managers, directors, providers, school and system leaders, Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Initial Teacher Education (ITE) providers and their staff, and colleagues from across the broader ECEC sector. We also encourage colleagues working across the country, including remote, rural and regional Australia to make the time to join this important conversation and to bring your knowledge, expertise and experience into the room.'*

Early Childhood Australia thanks the Hon Dr Anne Aly MP, Ms Angie Bell MP, Ms Zoe Daniel MP and Senator Hodgins-May for making themselves available to participate in this important national conversation on early childhood prior to the 2025 Federal Election. ECA looks forward to facilitating the Forum on behalf of its broad and diverse membership base.

Early Childhood Australia Chief Executive Officer Samantha Page is available for comment on 0448 883 687.