



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

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

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 5 May 2025

EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA CONGRATULATES THE ALBANESE LABOR GOVERNMENT

ECA congratulates all members of the 48th parliament on their election/re-election to this public office. ECA congratulates the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and the returned Albanese Labor government on the mandate to deliver on the generational reform of high-quality universal early childhood education and care for every child.

We are particularly encouraged by the Prime Minister, who identified universal and affordable early childhood education and care (aka child care) as the legacy he would like to be remembered for.

ECA welcomed the passage of the Three Day Guarantee in the last sitting days of the 47th parliament, and the subsequent removal of the activity test which has locked many families out of the system. ECA has long advocated for universal access for children, which is not dependent on the activities of their parents/carers, or where they live.

On 5 February 2025, the Hon Anne Aly MP, Minister for Early Childhood, stated that *'[The 3 Day Guarantee](#) is about making sure that every child, no matter their background and no matter where they live, has access to the transformative benefits of early childhood education and care. We're laying the foundation for a truly universal early childhood education system through improving affordability, boosting supply, increasing accessibility and securing the vital workforce families rely on.'*

ECA is working to support the government to address access barriers for children and families in 'unserved and underserved' communities (also known as 'thin markets'). This can occur due to challenges related to regionality or remoteness, supply in growth corridors, inclusion and/or cultural safety. In some communities, the supply of early childhood education and care is persistently lacking. ECA has welcomed the \$1 billion Building Early Education Fund and the investment in the professional early childhood workforce as critical to the successful delivery of a universal system.

We also recognise that there is considerable bi-partisan and cross-parliament support for investing in early childhood education and care, particularly in relation to improving access, affordability and child safety as well as the importance of raising educator wages and improving working conditions to build the workforce.

ECA Chief Executive Officer Samantha Page said, *'ECA is grateful for support from across the parliament for the importance of early childhood and early childhood education and care in the lives of children and their families. This was evidenced by the excellent and thoughtful discussion at the Federal Election Forum on Early Childhood with the Hon Anne Aly MP, Angie Bell MP, Zoe Daniel MP and Senator Steph Hodgins-May prior to Saturday's Federal Election.'*

ECA undertakes advocacy aligned with its vision of **every young child is thriving and learning**, and contributes towards the national reform agenda for early childhood education and care. ECA is committed and ready, able and motivated to work towards a universal system for Australia's children.

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