

To Whom it may concern,

As a teacher in a NSW early childhood education and care service, I was happy to read that the Productivity Commission has recognised the need for long day care centres and preschools in NSW to offer salaries which have parity with primary teachers in the schools sector. The difference in the level of pay has been a huge barrier in our service to attract Early Childhood teachers for both casual and permanent positions.

The only way we can get pay parity is if the NSW Government funds community based preschools and long day care centres to increase teacher's wages. Early Childhood Teachers need recognition of the professionalism they bring to the sector and this should also be reflected in pay parity.

I believe the Productivity Commission should convert their finding on this issue (Draft Finding 5.1) to a recommendation, recommending that the NSW Government funds services to increase their teacher's salaries via registered industrial agreements.

It is only through such a recommendation that NSW early childhood teachers will ever achieve pay parity.

Regards,

Ann-Maree Fisher

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