

As a Director of a large preschool in regional NSW I have found that it can be difficult to employ university trained teachers as most graduates are attracted by the higher salaries offered in the school sector. I was therefore 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. Pay parity would help to acknowledge and validate the important work that early childhood teachers do.

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.

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
Rosie Gibbs
(Director, Mudgee Preschool)