

As an early childhood teacher in NSW, 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.

I am currently not working in a service as I can earn more by working as a project officer with an organisation that supports early childhood services. If early childhood teachers were paid equally, I would consider returning to the teaching profession!

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,

Gai Lindsay