

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.

**Despite the fact that I have obtained a Masters in Special Education / Sensory Impairment (a qualification which is used by BOTH primary and early childhood teachers to work with children with hearing impairment) I still am not paid at the equivalent rate.**

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  
Moira Hickman