

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 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.

Our sector loses too many talented early childhood teachers because of the conditions that we work under. Pay parity will help to rectify this. Our children deserve the best early childhood teachers that our country can provide.

Regards

Renee Smyth