

Dear Madam/Sir

I am a teacher in a community based preschool in a small country town 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 believe the Productivity Commission should convert their finding on this issue (Draft Finding 5.1) to a recommendation, recommending that the NSW Government increases funding to early childhood services so that the services can increase their teacher's salaries via registered industrial agreements. This is especially important for small rural communities, who value their early childhood service, but already find it difficult to attract degree trained early childhood teachers. If pay parity is not achieved, early childhood graduates will choose to work in the school sector, in larger towns and cities.

Please recommend that the NSW Government funds community based preschools and long day care centres to increase teacher's wages.

This recommendation will help NSW early childhood teachers to achieve pay parity.

Regards

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Director

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