

Media release



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Qld's new Child Protection Commission will help make children safer

Queensland's largest provider of early learning and care, Goodstart, has welcomed the Queensland Government's announcement that it will establish a New Child Protection Commission saying it would strengthen the focus on safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

"Any investment in child protection that improves coordination between major child safeguarding functions, including Working with Children Checks, the Reportable Conduct Scheme and Child Safe Standards is a positive step," the charity's CEO, Dr Ros Baxter said.

"The Queensland Government's proposal will bring Queensland more closely into line with other states and territories that have already established Commissions for Child Safety and is one step closer to a nationally consistent Child Safety regime in Australia.

"Strong oversight is an important part of ensuring accountability, transparency and continuous improvement not only in the early childhood education sector but for every part of the child protection system.

"We know that keeping children safe, requires investment in robust systems, a coordinated approach to safeguarding, supervision and vigilance.

"At Goodstart we're committed to ensuring children can grow and thrive in safe learning environments where they can feel safe, be safe and be heard.

"It will be critical that reforms, including the establishment of the commission, are delivered in genuine partnership with organisations, frontline services and communities, to ensure they are effective, sustainable and prevent harm and protect children.

"We look forward to seeing further detail on how the Commission will be implemented in practice and stand ready to work collaboratively with the Queensland Government to help translate this commitment into meaningful, on-the-ground change" Dr Baxter said.

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For more information

Contact **0429 553 103** or media@goodstart.org.au.

Notes for editors: Goodstart Early Learning is Australia's largest not for profit early learning provider with centres nationwide committed to improving the lives of Australia's children and their families. Website: goodstart.org.au.

Acknowledgement of country

Goodstart acknowledges all Traditional Custodians across Australia and recognises First Nations peoples' continued cultural and spiritual connection to the land, sky and waterways that surround us. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.