

Media release



1 December 2025

Goodstart celebrates second phase of historic educator wage increase

Educators in Goodstart's centres across Australia are celebrating the delivery of the second phase of the Federal Government's historic 15% wage increase for centre-based teams.

For a qualified Educator working full time, the increases put at least \$53 extra per week in their bank account, on top of Goodstart's ongoing commitment to pay above the award.

Early childhood teachers at Goodstart now start on wage rates higher than in any public school in the country.

Goodstart's CEO, Dr Ros Baxter said Goodstart has long advocated for a Federally funded wage rise for educators and was the first large provider in the country to sign up to the subsidy on behalf of educators.

"We know that a strong, stable team is the foundation of every safe, high-quality early learning centre. When educators feel valued and supported, children thrive.

"This milestone represents another major step forward in strengthening wages in early childhood education and ensuring our people are recognised for the vital work they do every day and is helping to reduce staffing pressures across the sector.

"Vacancies across the sector for educators have fallen 12% and for teachers 32%, since the wage subsidy was announced in May 2024," Dr Baxter said.

"Services needing a staffing waiver, usually because they can't find a teacher, have fallen by a third in the last two years.

"The success of the Federal Government's wages subsidy in reducing staff turnover is good news for both educators, children and families.

"Having a stable team of teachers and educators in our centres is an absolute necessity to deliver quality, safe learning and care for children.

"Our staff turnover and vacancy rates are at a five year low and that's important in keeping children safe.

"With less vacancies and turnover, our usage of agency staff is down 70% meaning more consistency in care and learning for children," she said.

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For more information contact media@goodstart.org.au.

Notes for editors

Goodstart Early Learning is Australia's largest early learning provider with 655 centres nationwide. We're a not-for-profit social enterprise committed to improving the lives of Australia's children and their families. For more information, visit goodstart.org.au.

We're for children, not for profit

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