## Media release

goodstart early learning

## Goodstart offers support to Families and Staff affected by Genius Childcare closures

Goodstart Early Learning the nation's largest not-for profit early childhood education and care provider is offering to support families and staff in the wake of the sudden closures of Genius Childcare centres across Australia.

Goodstart stands ready to help and will work to find places for children in our centres, many of which are neighbours to Genius Childcare centres nationally.

"Goodstart rose out of the ashes of a failed early learning provider and many of our team saw firsthand the impact the loss of educators and the closing of centres had on our smallest learners," Goodstart CEO Dr Ros Baxter said.

"This will also be a stressful time for the educators, cooks, and support teams working in Genius centres. Goodstart stands ready to welcome members of the Genius team and we will give priority to expressions of interest from Genius Childcare staff for current vacancies in their local area.

"As a purpose-driven, not-for-profit organisation we are eager to assist families and educators impacted by these centre closures," Dr Baxter said.

The Productivity Commission and ACCC inquiries into Early Childhood Education and Care found that not-for-profit providers offer higher quality services, pay higher wages, offer better conditions for educators and have higher staff retention rates. They are also more affordable on average for families.

With many regional communities suffering from a lack of early learning places, the The Building Early Education Fund, announced late last year, provides an opportunity to ensure every family has access to high quality not for profit early education. Goodstart stands ready to work with the government and regulators to deliver true choice for families.

Families and Genius team members can search Goodstart or call 1800 222 543 for assistance.



## 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 654 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.