

# Media release



27 September 2022

## Cheaper Childcare package great news for Australian families and children

The introduction of the Cheaper Childcare bill into Parliament is great news for 1.26 million families who can expect to see substantial reductions in their out of pocket costs from next July, according to Australia's largest not for profit provider, Goodstart Early Learning.

Goodstart Early Learning CEO Julia Davison said the bill was 'groundbreaking' and would reduce out of pocket costs for families on average incomes by around 37%.

"This is great news for Australian families, and great news for Australia's children as access to early learning will become more affordable than ever before," she said.

"This is also great news for Australia's economy, with Treasury predicting parents with young children will take up an additional 185,000 days of work as a result of access to more affordable child care.

"Goodstart supports measures to increase transparency on the costs and fees of large providers as foreshadowed in Labor's election commitments as we already disclose the breakdown of our costs and our centre fees on our website. These new measures will help families make more informed choices.

"Savings from the integrity measures in the bill have helped reduce the cost of the package by around \$900 million and we urge the Government to reinvest this money to support a wage subsidy for early childhood educators.

"An interim wages subsidy will help ensure we have the early learning workforce we need to so that there are enough educators to meet the increased demand for places when Cheaper Childcare commences next July.

"Early childhood educators are paid 15-20% less than comparable roles in schools, and are leaving the sector in increasing numbers with vacancies running at twice pre-COVID levels.

"Longer term changes to funding and wage setting following the Productivity Commission inquiry and Fair Work Act changes should ensure that educators are paid what they deserve. Goodstart welcomes the Government's strong commitment to children, families, educators and the sector," she said.



### For more information

John Cherry 0477 370 634 or [media@goodstart.org.au](mailto:media@goodstart.org.au).

### Notes for editors

Goodstart Early Learning is Australia's largest early learning provider with 665 centres nationwide. It is 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](http://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.

**We're for children, not for profit**

visit [goodstart.org.au](http://goodstart.org.au)