

MEDIA RELEASE

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ACCS call on Australian government to Renew National Partnership Agreements for quality early childhood education and care

The Australian Community Children's Services (ACCS) *Trends in Community Children's Services Survey* (TICCSS available [here](#)) of community children's education and care services across Australia shows that the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care is doing what it was designed to do - lift the quality of early childhood education and care for Australia's children. And this is improving their life chances, especially those experiencing vulnerability.

At the start of National Families Week, ACCS is calling on the Australian Government to make a public commitment to renew the National Partnership Agreements with state and territory governments that are the vial underpinning of this quality improvement.

The latest TICCSS survey by ACCS found that:

- nearly 90% of community children's services are meeting the National Quality Standard and more than one third are exceeding it
- community services are working more closely with their communities and serving an increasing number of children and families who are experiencing vulnerability

The community sector reported deep concern that children experiencing vulnerability will have less access to positive learning environments when the new Child Care Subsidy activity test comes into force in July.

ACCS National Convenor, Prue Warrilow said at the launch of the report: "ACCS has strong evidence from this survey to support our calls for continuation of the National Quality Framework to lift the quality of all services so families can be confident their children will benefit from early childhood education and care.

"The research also supports our calls for government policy to extend universal access to early childhood education and care to 3 year olds and support for children and families experiencing vulnerability 2 days per week of subsidised access for all children, including those of non-working parents.'

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