



media release

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Unqualified nannies - a step backwards for families and children

The announcement by Minister Scott Morrison of a new program that subsidises unqualified nannies, with very few checks and balances, flies in the face of advice the government has received from the Productivity Commission. Their recent report into Childcare and Early Childhood Learning recommended that any nannies subsidised by the Australian Government hold a Certificate III level qualification and are in the full scope of the National Quality Framework.

Community Child Care Association, the peak body for not for profit and community owned education and care in Victoria believes that this initiative is counterproductive and unnecessary. Australia already has a flexible form of child care for families who work shift work or are unable to access other education and care service types that is approved by the Australian Government. It is called In Home Care. Families using In Home Care are already eligible for government subsidies. There are standards in place for In Home Care, covering a wide range of health and safety issues and standards that ensure carers possess appropriate knowledge, skills and experience, undertake professional development and support each child's early learning and development. Dr Anne Kennedy Chairperson of Community Child Care Association believes the existing In Home Care model, can provide the flexibility that some families need without compromising children's safety and wellbeing.

"With all the evidence available that quality provision of education and care is in the best interest not just of children and families but Australia's long term economic interest it is mystifying why Minister Morrison would want to wind back the clock. Uncapping the existing program and transitioning it into the full scope of the National Quality Framework is what Australian families need."

For further comment:

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