

Not-for-profit childcare and kindergartens better quality in Victoria

Not-for-profit childcare services provide higher quality education and care in Victoria. This is the key finding from a report released today by Australian Community Children's Services in conjunction with Community Child Care Association.

At a time when the Victorian Government has announced a record \$773.8 million investment in early childhood education, it is important to recognise that not all education and care is of the same quality. This research sought to understand what it is that not-for-profit services do differently that makes them higher quality services as a group.

Key findings include:

- **47% of Victorian not-for-profit services exceed the National Quality Standard for education and care services, whereas only 12% of for-profit services do. Fewer not-for-profit childcare services are low quality compared to services run for profit.**
- Not-for-profit services maintain or improve on their already high quality ratings.
- Not-for-profit services have higher numbers of educators and teachers than they are legally required to.
- Not-for-profit educators are engaged in study to improve their qualifications.
- Not-for-profit services have the major structural requirements needed to be nurturing early education environments.

In launching the report, *2019 Trends in Community Children's Services*, Community Child Care Association Executive Director Julie Price said, "The Victorian Government has recognised that education and care matters for children. These services help children to get the best start to life and help parents to return to work knowing their children are safe and receiving high quality early education."

"Questions need to be asked about who the providers of that early education should be. Should it be provided by businesses and corporations or should it be provided by high quality not-for-profit entities only?"

"Are our children just too precious for profit?"

The research is the result of the 5th wave of a longitudinal study of not-for-profit childcare services that has been conducted nationally. The next survey, also being launched today, will explore the impacts of COVID-19 on the viability of not-for-profit services and their workforces.

To view the report, go to bit.ly/TICCSSreport

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact Daniela Kavoukas on 0488 300 911



Community Child Care Association Inc.

ABN 90 494 504 678 Reg. No: A0030026F

PO Box 1730 Preston South VIC 3072

Ph. (03) 9486 3455 | Email reception@cccinc.org.au | www.cccinc.org.au