



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Ms Judy Hebblethwaite, Chairperson**

On behalf of the Board and staff of the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA), I would like to thank the Hon. Dan Tehan MP and the Australian Government for this welcome decision to continue funding the Authority on an ongoing basis from 1 July 2020.

With more than 900,000 families and 1.7 million children accessing almost 16,000 services, early childhood education and care (ECEC) is a growing and vital part of Australia's education sector.

The importance of early learning and outside school hours care to our community is acknowledged in the intent of the National Quality Framework: to build and grow national consistency and better practice regulation, to reduce red tape for services and to provide children and their families access to safe and high quality services.

Across Australia, we work with all governments to provide guidance, resources and services to support the sector to improve outcomes for children. Now, more than ever, Australia is seen internationally as an example of co-operation and success as ECEC services continue to improve in quality, year by year.

With today's announcement, we look forward to adapting and growing our support of Regulatory Authorities and the sector in delivering a world class early learning and care system for Australia's children.

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