

# Media release

28 January 2025



## Government reforms making a difference for families and educators

Australia's largest early education and care provider, Goodstart Early Learning, today welcomed the release of new data which shows higher government subsidies are providing families with lower early learning costs.

Goodstart Early Learning Acting Chief Executive Officer Jeff Harvie said Federal Government reforms were having real impact, giving children access to early learning to set them up for success in school and life.

"Childcare costs for families are 8.4% lower than before the June 2023 CCS reforms were made, and 7% lower than in March 2022. That is particularly important for families who are experiencing cost of living pressures," Mr Harvie said.

"The 15% worker retention payment paid by the government is also achieving its policy objective, encouraging more educators and teachers to stay in early learning with a 22% reduction educator vacancies sector wide since December 2023.

"Goodstart has seen a 28% decrease in vacancies, the lowest levels in three years. We're also seeing increased interest in open vacancies and internal expressions of interest as educators and teachers return to the sector or decide to stay.

"As a not for profit we are particularly focused on the next stage of reform where all children will be guaranteed access to at least three days of Child Care Subsidy.

"This will be a game changer for many children especially those children from the most vulnerable families across the country that have been missing critical early learning and care."

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For more information contact media team on 0429 553 103 or [media@goodstart.org.au](mailto:media@goodstart.org.au).

### Notes for editors

Goodstart Early Learning is Australia's largest early learning provider with 655 centres nationwide. We're 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**

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