

PROTECT OUR PRESCHOOLS.



FACT SHEET

WHY PRESCHOOL FUNDING IS AT RISK AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

HOW IS PRESCHOOL FUNDED?

- Four-year old preschool is funded jointly by state and federal governments, so that all children can have access to 15 hours a week of quality preschool.
- The current funding agreement began in 2013, and we now have 95% of four-year-olds enrolled in preschool.
- That's important because we know that quality preschool gives children a head start on learning and prepares them for school.
- Joint funding means both levels of government share the cost of providing this vital service.

WHY IS FUNDING AT RISK?

- The Federal Government is providing funding at the moment, but they have only committed to funding until the end of 2017.
- There was nothing in the 2016 Federal Budget for preschool funding after 2017, and the Federal Government still won't guarantee that it will continue to pay its share.

WHAT WILL FUNDING CUTS MEAN?


- Things will be different in each state, but if we lose funding for preschool, then some children will miss out on their 15 hours a week.
- Children won't get the benefits of quality preschool before they start school.
- Parents and early childhood education centres won't have the certainty they need to plan for the future.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- We need to let the Federal Government know preschool matters.
- To support our campaign visit www.protectourpreschools.com.au and sign our petition for ongoing funding.
- Look out for postcards at your local preschool with a message for Education Minister Simon Birmingham. Fill one in and our campaign will make sure it reaches him.
- Tell people you know that preschool is at risk.

SIGN THE PETITION

protectourpreschools.com.au

PROTECT *our* **PRESCHOOLS**

Invest in early learning.
Invest in educators.