

## ACCS 2016 ELECTION POLICY SCORECARD

Based on election policy announcements and recent initiatives released up to 29 June 2016  
See below for explanatory notes

ACCS policy platform*	ALP**	Liberal National Coalition***	Greens****
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the fee subsidy to 90 per cent of the full costs of early childhood education and care (ECEC) for low income families and 100 per cent of the full costs for children who are experiencing vulnerability or are at risk</li> </ul>	✗	1/2 ✓	1/2 ✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All children, including those of non-working parents, are eligible for subsidised ECEC for at least 2 days per week – from a minimum of 18 hours up to 24 hours per week reflecting the operating hours of the service</li> </ul>	✓	✗	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build a skilled and professional early childhood workforce – no HECS, free TAFE</li> </ul>	1/2 ✓	✗	1/2 ✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No children and their families in detention in Australia or off-shore</li> </ul>	✗	✗	✓

### LEGEND



Compatible with ACCS demands



Meets with some measure of improvement but does not fully meet ACCS demands



Policies are not compatible with ACCS demands

## ACCS 2016 ELECTION POLICY SCORECARD Explanatory Notes

\* The full detail of ACCS Election Demands and the ALP and Greens responses are available on the ACCS website [www.ausccs.org.au](http://www.ausccs.org.au)

\*\* **ALP** (see [www.100positivepolicies.org.au/investing\\_in\\_early\\_education\\_care](http://www.100positivepolicies.org.au/investing_in_early_education_care) and [www.ausccs.org.au](http://www.ausccs.org.au) for the ALP response to our election policy platform)

- Recognise ECEC as both a workforce strategy and an investment in children's outcomes
- Will increase CCB by 15% and lift the CCR cap from \$7,500 to \$10,000 per child per year
- Recognise educators should be supported – commit to an Early Years Workforce Strategy including an EC Educator Professional Development Program and support for increased wages
- Will appoint an Independent Children's Advocate for asylum seekers and refugees
- Propose continuing and increasing funding to Budget Based Funded services – vital services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families and families in remote locations
- Investment in up to 1,200 Outside School Hours Services
- Investment to expand services in areas of high demand with priority to community and not for profit providers

\*\*\* **LIBERAL/NATIONAL COALITION** (see [www.liberal.org.au/our-policies](http://www.liberal.org.au/our-policies))

- The Child Care Package includes an 85% subsidy for those earning the least.
- Additional Child Care Subsidy will provide additional fee assistance to disadvantaged and vulnerable families meeting 100% of their child care fees (up to 120% of the relevant fee cap). In most cases that is free child care irrespective of their family's income. These families will also either be exempt from the activity test or have much reduced and simpler activity requirements.
- Focus on child care primarily as a workforce strategy
- Proposed changes to the activity test remove access to universal subsidies for ECEC
- Significant increased investment in subsidies for families but not until 2018 and significant investment in initiatives to give vulnerable children a strong start
- The Coalition claims that no children are being held in immigration detention; however the ABC fact check <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-06-27/fact-check-coalitions-record-on-refugees/7541522> shows that a number of experts view the situation of 50 children in Nauru as a form of detention. ACCS calls on the parties to commit to unequivocal release from detention for all children and their families.

\*\*\*\* **GREENS** (see [greens.org.au/policy](http://greens.org.au/policy) and [www.ausccs.org.au](http://www.ausccs.org.au) for the Greens response to our election policy platform)

- Propose that low income families receive a subsidy of 85% of actual fee
- Propose elimination of cost barriers to EC degree qualifications but no commitments with regard to vocational ECEC qualifications
- Will ensure every child has access to a minimum of 24 hours of quality education and care
- Reducing waiting list grants