

MEDIA RELEASE

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NOT FOR PROFIT CHILDREN'S SERVICES LEAD THE WAY WITH QUALITY

Today for the first time ever the national quality authority will reveal how not-for-profit child care stacks up against its commercial competitors.

As the national peak body for the community not-for-profit sector, Australian Community Children's Services (ACCS) is not surprised that this report shows substantially better quality in the community sector.

Prue Warrilow, National Convenor of ACCS said today 'We have always known that on average, not-for-profit services provide higher quality early learning and care for Australia's children.'

'Our members have no competing interests about where the money goes. It is directed towards the best care and learning experiences for children.'

The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority *NQF Snapshot for Q4 2015* is the first to provide quality rating results by provider management types, such as private for profit, private not for profit, schools and government managed. It will show that:

- Three-quarters of not-for-profit children's services are meeting or exceeding the national quality standard – compared with 60% of commercial services ('private for profit')
- Nearly forty percent of not-for-profit children's services are operating at quality standards higher than the minimum required – while only 4% of commercial services meet this higher standard

'The quality standards set by ACECQA are based on strong evidence of what is good for children's learning and development.' Ms Warrilow said. 'Families must have the choice of good quality not-for-profit services. Governments can support this by investing in capital for new buildings so every community can have a not-for-profit option.'

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