

# Early Learning **EVERYONE BENEFITS**



ACCS IS PROUD TO BE AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF THE  
CAMPAIGN FOR TWO DAYS A WEEK OF QUALITY EARLY  
LEARNING FOR ALL AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN



To find out more visit: [www.everyonebenefits.org.au](http://www.everyonebenefits.org.au)

*Early Learning: Everyone Benefits* is a positive national campaign which aims to:

- increase public awareness and understanding of the benefits of investing in early learning (birth to five years) for Australia's future prosperity
- increase access to quality programs that amplify children's development by securing political commitment to increasing early learning.

It is supported by leading Australian early childhood peak bodies, research and advocacy organisations, and service providers.

**Early learning** means the vital stages of children's development from birth to age five, including brain development, cognitive skills, motor skills, social and emotional wellbeing—all of the skills needed for lifelong learning. Early learning occurs in formal settings (early childhood education and care) with educators but also at home and in relationships with family members and caregivers. Our campaign recognises that the main vehicle for children's learning is play.

## Why invest more in early learning?

- One in five Australian children start school vulnerable in their social, emotional or cognitive development and will fail to catch up, according to the [Australian Early Development Census](#). For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children it's more than two in five who are vulnerable.

- Australian and international research tells us that attending at **least two days of early learning per week** improves children’s educational outcomes at school up to 13 years later.
- Children who attend a high-quality early childhood program in the year before school are up to 40 per cent ahead of their peers by the time they reach Year 3 in primary school.
- By age five, a child’s vocabulary will predict their educational success and outcomes at age 30.
- All children benefit from early learning, and vulnerable children benefit the most.

### **Why this campaign is important:**

- Australia is in the bottom third of OECD countries for attendance of three year olds in early learning.
- Participating in quality early learning (birth to five years) can greatly improve young children’s:
  - social and emotional skills
  - physical wellbeing
  - communication and cognitive abilities in literacy and numeracy—up to 13 years later.

This campaign is about educating the Australian community and politicians about the importance and benefits of early learning.

### **Our goals**

- To have all Australian children benefit from participating in early learning, particularly vulnerable children who will gain the most.
- To have political parties commit to policies that will support 100 per cent of four year olds and 90 per cent of three year olds to attend early learning for at least two days per week, and for younger children to be able to attend as needed by their families.
- To change the national conversation on the value of early learning and convince our politicians that supporting attendance in early learning today will increase the future prosperity for all of us.

Join us to spread the word that our future prosperity depends on how we invest in our children today!

### **Campaign Partners**

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) (National Office & State branches)  
 Early Learning Association Australia  
 Family Day Care Australia  
 Goodstart Early Learning  
 Reggio Emilia Australia Information Exchange (REAIE)  
 UnitingCare Australia

**Campaign Supporters**

Australian Research Alliance for Children and Young People (ARACY)

Centre for Community Child Health at MCRI, (Melb)

Early Childhood Management Services (ECMS)

KU Children's Services

C&K—Crèches and Kindergartens Assoc. (Qld)

The Benevolent Society

Australian Community Children's Services (ACCS)

The Parenthood