

## Media Release

For immediate Release

### Childcare providers applaud Abbott Government commitment to preschool and kindergarten

Friday, 5 September 2014

The Australian Childcare Alliance (ACA) welcomes the Australian Government's commitment to preschool and kindergarten funding under the National Partnership for a further 12 months.

Ms Judy Atkinson, Vice President of ACA said this is fantastic news after many months of sustained and productive discussions between ACA and the Australian Government.

ACA commends the Australian Government and Assistant Minister for Education, the Hon Sussan Ley MP on insisting that this new funding should be made available to all types of accredited preschool and kindergarten programmes – regardless of whether they were delivered through schools, standalone preschools or long day care centres.

"ACA has constantly advocated for the payments to be made as it was originally intended, to all children regardless of their parents' choice of provider", Ms Atkinson said.

"Today is a great day for Australia's young children. This announcement will provide certainty for families and services for 15 hours of preschool/kindergarten programs in 2015.

The ACA is certain that this announcement will be welcomed by families, educators and early education and care services as they prepare for 2015.

**ENDS**

#### Media inquiries:

National spokesperson Ms Judy Atkinson, can be contacted today on **0411 533 706** or Mr Paul Mondo on **0411 587 170**

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