

Election Snapshot

Education and care is in the spotlight and is shaping up to be one of the most significant issues of this federal election.

Now is your opportunity to make a real difference.

To help you and your families get your heads around what's on offer here is a snapshot of election announcements to date!

The Greens



Have released a comprehensive **affordable, quality and accessible early childhood education and care policy**

- Abolish the activity test for access to the Child Care Subsidy
- Make child care fee-free for families with a combined income of up to \$171,958
- Raise the rate of subsidy for all other families with a combined income of less than \$351,248
- Allocate funds for quality community controlled and culturally safe early years services in areas of high First Nations Populations and high levels of disadvantage
- Support Big Steps campaign for fair pay
- Develop a workforce strategy to achieve better pay and working conditions for educators
- Make TAFE and university free for those studying early childhood
- \$200 million grants fund to reduce waiting lists in areas of need. Targeted at community and NFP child care to assist with capital works or additional staffing.

The Labor Party



Have made a series of welcome announcements:

- Fund professional pay for early childhood educators – 20% pay increases over 8 years
- Increase child care subsidies for all families earning up to \$174 000 – applies to all approved centre based child care including family day and outside school hours and vacation care
- Review child care subsidy for children and families in vulnerable circumstances including impact of activity test
- Task the ACCC with investigating unnecessary fee increase and price control mechanisms
- **Ongoing** funding for 3 year olds to access 15 hours of subsidised early childhood education
- **Ongoing** funding so 4 year olds can access 15 hours of funded preschool
- Develop a National Workforce Strategy and a National Early Years Strategy
- Fund 10,000 fee free TAFE places for early childhood educator qualifications
- Reinstate \$20 million of funding for the NQF Partnership
- Ban child care centres from offering inducements to enrol...no more free ipads or holiday packages.

The Liberal National Coalition



Have said they will continue their current policies focused on affordable accessible child care:

- Commitment to continue the current Child Care Subsidy
- Funding commitment only made until the end of 2020 for 4 year olds to access 15 hours of funded preschool
- Have been actively opposing proposed wages funding