

November

2026 NEWSLETTER

Important Dates...

- *Seniors visits –*
  Friday 6th November
  Tuesday 17th November
  Tuesday 8th December
- *End of year family celebration – Tuesday 8th and Friday 11th December*
- *Childrens Party Day – Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th December*
- *Last day of Term 4 is Thursday 17th December - Preschool is Closed from 18th December for School Holidays.*
- *Preschool re-opens for Term 1 on Monday 1st February 2027.*

Nov 2026

'Like' us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/springwoodpreschool

Visit our Website

for information & events:
www.springwoodpreschool.org.au

Christmas hamper donations

Gateway FAMILY SERVICES

This Christmas, let's come together to help Gateway Family Services support families who are doing it tough 💛
Gateway's Christmas Hamper Program is back—and with the cost of living rising, the need has never been greater. We're calling on our amazing community to help collect food donations that go straight to families facing hardship.
Every item donated supports people in your community, and helps make Christmas Day special for families and children who are doing it tough.

Food items will be collected by Gateway on the morning of Friday 4th December. Please look for the boxes near the sign-in area to drop off your donations.

Thank you





Springwood and District Preschool Kindergarten Inc. ABN: 70 745 650 688
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Scan the QR codes to find us

Please pack a hat every day

As the weather begins to warm up, please remember to provide a hat for your child to wear while playing outdoors.

To meet child safety standards, hats should not have cords as they can present a choking hazard. Hats should have a broad brim around it to protect children's ears and neck.

Unfortunately, we no longer have any spare hats available at preschool. Please check that your child comes each day with a hat that is clearly labelled with their name.

Thank you for your support.





For these and other important dates, please refer to the Calendar on our Website anytime . . . .

springwoodpreschool.org.au/calendar/



Term 4 ends Thursday 17th December

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Please help us Protect our Preschool

*The Government's proposed **Universal Preschool Funding Model**, due to commence in 2027, will have significant impacts on NSW Community based Preschools. **Every voice matters. Together, we can influence positive change and make a real difference.***

By now you would have seen this very shocking poster that we created to demonstrate a "worst case scenario" under the proposed changes. Please don't fear, this is not happening, it is a visual of would could happen without changes to the proposed funding. We are working hard to find a way to keep our preschool viable to be here for all future generations of children. We are very reassured by your reactions that our community values our team and our preschool as highly as we do.



We are calling on our community to help advocate for change. If you are willing to help by writing to members of parliament, you can refer to Jessica's letter over the page. We encourage you to contact these government representatives directly. Relevant contacts are provided below.

Prue Car MP: londonderry@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Trish Doyle MP: bluemountains@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Premier Chris Minns: www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/premier-of-nsw/contact-premier





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Springwood and District Preschool Kindergarten Inc.

Wednesday 21st October 2026

Dear Premier Minns and Minister Car,

We are writing as Early Childhood Teachers and educators working in a community-based preschool in NSW to express our serious concerns regarding the new 2027 Universal Preschool Funding model and the serious impact it will have on community preschools, educators and, most importantly, the children in our care.

While we welcome the Government's commitment to making preschool more affordable, improving educator's wages and increasing access to early childhood education, we are deeply concerned that the proposed funding arrangements may undermine the very quality and safety standards the government is seeking to strengthen.

In recent years, there has rightly been an increased focus on child safety within early childhood education. Services are being asked to strengthen supervision, implement additional safeguarding measures, improve documentation and ensure that children are protected at all times.

However, we struggle to understand how the government can place greater expectations on early childhood services while introducing a funding model that will place financial pressure on community preschools to reduce staffing levels.

The new funding guidelines suggest that services operating significantly above minimum educator-to-child ratios and are paying staff above the minimum pay rate, should plan for adjustments within the funding framework. We find this particularly concerning.

Minimum staffing ratios should be viewed as a legal baseline, not as the ideal standard for providing safe, high-quality early childhood education. As stated by the Early Learning Commission, who we quote, "adequate supervision is fundamental to children's safety but involves MORE than simply meeting minimum educator-to-child ratios." So WHY are you funding us at a bare minimum ratio? This irony is so outrageous, and you seem to be completely misinformed. We seriously question your reasoning to fund to ratio when children's paramountcy MUST be at the forefront of everything we do. (You will find not-for-profit community preschools have been ensuring this is the case for decades).

Having additional educators is NOT a luxury. It allows services to maintain effective supervision across indoor and outdoor environments, respond to children's individual needs, support children and families with additional needs and ensure educators can provide meaningful interactions without compromising the safety of other children.

We cannot continue to demand higher standards of child safety while reducing the financial capacity of community preschools to employ the educators needed to meet those expectations.

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I am also concerned about the long-term viability of community-based preschools and the potential pressure to increase enrolments, alter operating arrangements or reconsider existing staffing structures simply to remain financially sustainable.

Community preschools have a long history of providing high-quality, play-based early childhood education. Many deliberately operate above minimum staffing requirements because they recognise the importance of relationships, individual attention and children's wellbeing.

These practices should be supported and encouraged, not placed at risk through funding arrangements that may fail to recognise their value.

We respectfully ask the NSW Government to consider the following questions:

1. How does the government reconcile its increased focus on child safety with a funding model that may financially disadvantage preschools operating above minimum staffing ratios?
2. What safeguards are in place to ensure community preschools are not financially pressured to reduce educator numbers?
3. How are we expected to retain our educators when the funding only gives wages to educators for 44 weeks of the year and not 52?
4. Will the government review the funding formula to recognise the genuine cost of maintaining staffing levels above regulatory minimums?
5. How will the government protect existing educators' wages, Enterprise Agreement conditions and employment arrangements?
6. What assurances can the government provide that community preschools will not be pressured to extend operating hours or alter their traditional educational model to remain financially viable?

We strongly believe that investing in early childhood education must mean investing in the educators who provide it. Improving access and affordability should never come at the expense of children's safety, quality education or the working conditions of teachers and educators.

Kind Regards

J Jefferies

Jessica Jefferies
Director

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