



The Hon Kate Ellis MP

Minister for Early Childhood Education, Child Care and Youth
Minister for Sport

Ms Sue Lines
Assistant National Secretary
Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union
Locked Bag 9
HAYMARKET NSW 1240

4 - JAN 2010

Dear Sue

I am writing to thank you for your support of the National Quality Agenda for early childhood education and child care, and more broadly the support of the Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union (LHMU).

In particular I would like to thank the LHMU for co-ordinating over 6000 letters from parents and child care professionals calling on all Governments to support quality reform for the sector.

This demonstration of support for quality changes contributed to the great outcome on the 7 December when the Council of Australian Governments agreed to quality improvements for early childhood education and child care.

I look forward to working with you, the LHMU and all your members to implement these important reforms in the coming years.

I would also like to thank the LHMU for organising child care professionals to attend recent quality events in Adelaide and Perth. I greatly enjoyed the opportunity to chat to them about the quality changes.

Can I also thank you and the LHMU for your hard work in supporting child care workers throughout the ABC Learning collapse and receivership. I am pleased that the future of nearly all centres has been resolved, and the vast majority of ABC Learning employees will be retained.

It is also a great result for the sector and for ABC Learning employees that the buyer for the vast majority of ABC Learning centres is GoodStart who have a clear focus on providing high quality and socially inclusive child care.

It certainly has been a big year for the early childhood education and child care sector. Thank you again for your hard work and I look forward to working you and your members next year as we continue to implement important reforms.

Yours sincerely

Kate Ellis
23 DEC 2009