

2013-14 PAEC Presentation

The Hon. Wendy Lovell MLC
Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development



Vision for Early Childhood Development

Investment in the 2013-14 Budget will support the Government's vision for Early Childhood Development.

Government's Vision

- To support families realise their aspirations for their children
- To set children on a path of lifelong learning
- The Government is committed to helping all Victorian families



2013-14 State Budget

- Improve support for families of children with a disability or developmental delay
- Improve access to kindergarten for Victorian families
- Improve quality of early childhood workforce



Challenges for 2013-14 Budget

The 2013-14 Budget responds to a number of key challenges facing the Children and Early Childhood portfolio.

Births &
Migration

+

Commonwealth
Reform

+

Prevalence of
Disability

Lead to:

Increased demand for
Kindergarten places

Requirement for
increased quality

Increased demand for
other early years
services

**Government's
Response**

- Increased access and hours for kindergarten
- Increased quality of early childhood education provision



Funding of \$46.1 million in 2013-14 will meet challenges by:



Providing additional places in services for children with a disability or developmental delay



Capital investment to address shortfall in funded kinder places



Ensuring adequate kindergarten teacher quality and numbers



Strong Foundations – *better and earlier support for children with a disability or developmental delay*

\$34.2 million to fund an additional 1,000 Early Childhood Intervention Services (ECIS) places

The Victorian Government has provided an additional **1,300 places** since 2011



ECIS is undergoing a reform process to increase efficiencies and deliver better services



Children's Facilities Capital Program

\$7.0 million will support demand for kindergarten places



The Children's Facilities Capital Program prevents a major shortfall in kindergarten places



This funding builds on the \$86 million allocated to early year's facilities since 2011-12



Access to Quality Early Childhood Education and Care

\$4.6 million to increase qualifications of early childhood workforce



Up to 190 scholarships per year for four years will be provided for early childhood educators to improve their qualifications

This will support the early childhood sector to address demand pressures and meet COAG-agreed ratio and qualification requirements under the National Quality Framework



\$46.1 million invested in early childhood in 2013-14

This brings the total additional investment in early childhood to \$251.0 million since 2011-12

