

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR EDUCATION**



MEDIA RELEASE

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Lauga celebrates early childhood educators

Early childhood educators will be celebrated on September 2 for their key role in supporting CQ families through the Covid-19 health pandemic, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

She said Early Childhood Educators Day is a fantastic opportunity each year to acknowledge and thank our early childhood educators for the great work they do day-in day-out.

“This is particularly the case in 2020—a year like no other.

“The early childhood workforce has played such an incredibly important role in supporting Queensland families through the COVID-19 health pandemic by continuing to provide safe and engaging environments for children to play and learn.

“Early childhood educators are truly on the frontline of our response to the COVID-19 health pandemic,” said Ms Lauga.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to giving all our children a great start, and quality early childhood education delivered by dedicated, professional early childhood educators is an integral part of this.

Ms Lauga said since 2016, The Palaszczuk Government’s \$80 million *Education and Care Workforce Action Plan 2016–19* (the Plan) delivered an increase of 17% in the number of qualified educators and a 26% increase in the number of early childhood teachers (ECTs).

In 2020–21 key strategies will continue to support the workforce, including:

- initiatives to increase qualified ECTs by 2022;
- mentoring and leadership capability initiatives for early career teachers and educational leaders; and

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- development of resources to support workforce planning focusing on attraction, retention and upskilling of educators and ECTs.

“Our ongoing commitment is to continue the work with the early childhood sector to strengthen the capability and confidence of all educators to respond to the diverse needs of children and families and improve quality teaching and learning in the early years.”

PHOTO: Early Childhood Educator Georgia Lethbridge and Odette Lauga.

ENDS

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