



4 August 2026

NSW Health Early Childhood Service Centres update

The IEU is delighted to advise you that we met with the Ministry of Health on 4 August 2026 and we were advised by the NSW Ministry of Health Senior Workplace Relations Advisor, Emma Corvalan that contingent on all hospital long day care centres providing the additional information requested by the Commonwealth Government, teachers and educators will receive the 15% Commonwealth funded pay increases. In addition, the Senior Officials Wages Advisory Committee (SOWAC) has approved the Determinations regarding the uplift in wages including backpay to 2 December 2024! Please encourage Directors in all hospital centres to provide the requested information as soon as possible.

It has been a very long and challenging process. We congratulate our members on this development, especially our members at Possum Place Child Care Centre, who persistently contacted the Ministry of Health, HR in their Local Health District and the Commonwealth Government throughout 2025 and 2026 to request updates on progress with the Ministry's ECWRP funding application.

Further, the IEU has again approached the HSU to request that Certificate and Diploma qualified Educators are to be included in the *Teachers' (NSW Health Early Childhood Service Centres) Salaries and Miscellaneous Conditions Award*. The HSU indicated their agreement as of today. The Ministry expressed some concerns regarding the process and the challenges due to the current classifications in the existing Health Award. The IEU indicated we would work with the HSU and the Ministry to progress the inclusion of Educators to facilitate access to the ECWRP / any future Commonwealth funded pay increases going forward.

Your union membership

The ECWRP has been extended until 30 June 2028, and we will continue advocating for the Commonwealth Government to fund ongoing pay increases for early childhood teachers and educators. Please help us continue the fight for better pay and conditions by encouraging your teacher colleagues in LHD centres to [join the union!](#)

