

MEDIA RELEASE – 28 JUNE 2022

NSW COALITION & NSW LABOR CLARIFY PRE-ELECTION COMMITMENTS OF NSW PRESCHOOLS

SYDNEY: The Australian Childcare Alliance (ACA) NSW is pleased to have received clarification from both major NSW political parties about their pre-election commitments of preschools beginning 2030 and 2023 respectively.

Both the Government and Opposition released significant policies in relation to childcare last week.

“The NSW Coalition Government has informed us that their [universal pre-Kindergarten proposal](#) will leverage all long day care services’ existing preschool places, which is a common-sense approach,” said Chiang Lim, CEO of ACA NSW.

“Furthermore, the NSW Opposition has provided [additional detail](#) that their 100 preschools on new schools will firstly be built in areas of genuine need of new preschool placements.

“Across NSW, even before COVID, there was an oversupply of preschool capacity, particularly in areas across metropolitan Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle and Coffs Harbour.

“With most existing early childhood education and care services currently between 40%-70% full, creating new preschool infrastructure is not envisaged to increase any appreciable nett number of more preschool children participating in their year before school.

“With over 70% of owners and 96% of staff being women, creating new preschool capacities in oversupplied areas is short sighted and sub optimal and could negatively impact the mental health of operators and staff during uncertain economic times,” said Mr Lim.

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Australian Childcare Alliance (ACA) NSW (www.nsw.childcarealliance.org.au) is the peak body for privately owned early childhood education and care services in NSW, numbering over 1,600 childcare services. ACA NSW provides advocacy, policy and regulatory and business support and advice, member services and professional development for members and their staff across the state.

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