

# Early childhood education program

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# Early childhood education program

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**Synonymous names:** Preschool program

**METEOR identifier:** 762661

**Registration status:** [Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

**Definition:** An early childhood education program is a structured, play-based learning program, delivered by a qualified teacher and aimed at children in the year or two before they commence full-time schooling, irrespective of the type of institution that provides it or whether it is government funded or privately provided. Programs may be delivered in a variety of service settings including separate preschools or kindergartens, long day care centres, in association with a school, etc.

The terms most commonly used to describe early childhood education programs which are subject to the Preschool Reform Agreement (PRA) in states and territories are:

- Kindergarten – Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania.
- Preschool – New South Wales, South Australia, Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Department of Education

**Steward:** [Early Childhood Policy Group \(ECPG\)](#)

**Origin:** Council on Federal Financial Relations (CFFR) 2021. Preschool Reform Agreement. Canberra: CFFR, viewed 4 August 2022  
<https://federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/agreements/preschool-reform-agreement>

**Reference documents:** Australian Government (2018). National information agreement on early childhood education and care. Canberra: Australian Government

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Early childhood education program](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 05/07/2022

**Metadata items which use this glossary item:** [Child—early childhood education program attendance indicator](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program attendance indicator, yes/no code N](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program enrolment indicator](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program enrolment indicator, yes/no code N](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program fees charged per week](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program fees charged per week, total Australian currency N\[N\(8\)\]](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program hours attended](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program hours attended \(per week\), total hours N\[N\]](#)  
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled \(per week\), total hours N\[N\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program received from a qualified teacher indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program received from a qualified teacher indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program repeater indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—early childhood education program repeater indicator, yes/no/unknown/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—Hours of an early childhood education program received from qualified teacher\(s\)](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—Hours of an early childhood education program received from qualified teacher\(s\), Total hours N\[N\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—maximum early childhood education program hours available](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Child—maximum early childhood education program hours available, total hours N\[N\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education and care contact worker](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early Childhood Education and Care DSS 2022](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 15/08/2023

[Early Childhood Education and Care DSS 2023](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 15/08/2023

[Early childhood education and care service activity type code N\[N\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education and care service delivery setting code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2022](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 15/08/2023

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2023](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 15/08/2023

[Early childhood education program attendance hours](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program attendance indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program delivered by a qualified teacher indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program enrolment hours](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program enrolment indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program fees charged per week](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program received from a qualified teacher indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Early childhood education program repeater indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Hours of an early childhood education program received from qualified teacher\(s\)](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Hours worked in early childhood education program delivery \(per week\)](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Maximum early childhood education program hours available](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Person \(employed\)—hours worked in early childhood education program delivery \(per week\)](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Person \(employed\)—hours worked in early childhood education program delivery \(per week\), total hours NNN](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Person \(employed\)—role of early childhood education and care worker, code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Person \(employed\)—type of work activity, early childhood education and care, code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Quality early childhood education program](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Service provider organisation—early childhood education program delivered by a qualified teacher indicator](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Service provider organisation—early childhood education program delivered by a qualified teacher indicator, yes/no code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Service provider organisation—government funding type, early childhood education and care, code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Service provider organisation—management type, early childhood education and care, code N\[N\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Service provider organisation—number of early childhood education program service operation weeks](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022

[Service provider organisation—number of early childhood education program service operation weeks \(calendar year\), total NN](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 05/07/2022