

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: 556834

Registration status: [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

Definition: An early childhood education program is a structured, play-based learning program, delivered by a qualified teacher 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 NP UAECE in states and territories are:

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

A quality early childhood education program is a program which is delivered in the year before full-time schooling by a qualified early childhood teacher, in accordance with the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standard.

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: An early childhood education program may or may not be delivered in such a way that meets the Universal Access goal. The requirements for Universal Access are listed below.

The National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education is a commitment to joint Commonwealth, State and Territory action to maintain universal access to quality early childhood education programs.

Universal access means that every child, in the year before they commence full-time school, has access to:

- quality early childhood education program(s)
- delivered for at least 600 hours per year
- in a form that meets the needs of children, parents and community
- and at a cost that does not present a barrier to participation.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Early Childhood Data Sub Group (ECDSG)

Steward: [Early Childhood Data Sub Group \(ECDSG\)](#)

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Preschool program](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 19/09/2013
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 28/05/2014

Has been superseded by [Early childhood education program](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 05/07/2022

Metadata items which use this glossary item: [Child—early childhood education program attendance indicator, yes/no code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—early childhood education program enrolment indicator, yes/no code N](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—early childhood education program fees charged per week, total Australian currency N\[N\(8\)\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—early childhood education program hours attended \(per week\), total hours N\[N\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled \(per week\), total hours N\[N\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—early childhood education program received from a qualified teacher indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—early childhood education program repeater indicator, yes/no/unknown/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Child—maximum early childhood education program hours available, total hours N\[N\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Early childhood education and care contact worker](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Early childhood education and care worker cluster](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Early childhood education program enrolment hours](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Maximum early childhood education program hours available per week](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Person \(employed\)—role of early childhood education and care worker, code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Person \(employed\)—type of work activity, early childhood education and care, code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—early childhood education program attendance hours, total hours N\[NNNN\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—early childhood education program delivered by a qualified teacher indicator, yes/no code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—early childhood education program weekly tuition fee schedule amount, total Australian currency N\[NNNNN\].NN](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—government funding type, early childhood education and care, code N](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—maximum early childhood education program hours available per week, total hours N\[N\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—number of children attending an early childhood education program, total N\[NNNN\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—number of early childhood education program enrolments, total number N\[NNNN\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—number of early childhood education program hours enrolled, total hours N\[NNNN\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

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

[service operation weeks \(calendar year\), total NN](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—number of Indigenous children attending an early childhood education program, total number N\[NNNN\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—number of Indigenous children enrolled in an early childhood education program, total N\[NNNN\]](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

[Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X\(15\)](#)

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 28/05/2014