



ECEC Multi Employer Bargaining Service Update

Huge year ends on a positive note

After seven intensive meetings held over just nine short weeks, negotiations for the ECEC multi-employer agreement ended on a positive after the parties reached in principle agreement on several issues.

While negotiations are continuing on several other issues including funded wages, agreement on these issues continue to show all parties are committed to working towards a positive outcome for educators and teachers.

So far we have reached in principle agreement on key items including:

- Professional development
- Support for graduate teachers
- Objectives for the sector and multi-employer bargaining in the future
- Protections for current conditions (savings clause)
- Recognition of the role of union delegates; and
- Resolution of disputes

Final details on these matters are subject to further discussions and agreement on wording and implementation.

Government representatives return to the table

Representatives from the federal government attended the final meeting of the year held on 19 December in Sydney.

The representatives were pleased to hear a report back on the significant progress made by all the parties towards a new agreement, and that the process was working at providing a platform for the ECEC sector to deliver improved wages and conditions.

The government also reiterated its commitment to fully participate in the process to support the resolution of the agreement, acknowledging its role as majority funder and its commitment to maintaining affordability for families.

It is clear the government sees the multi-employer bargaining process as a key opportunity to support the sector to deliver on its policy goals including improving quality and inclusion for children.

Next steps

The next bargaining meetings will be held on the 17th of January in Sydney, with further meetings scheduled in February.