



Inquiry into the early childhood education and care sector in New South Wales

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. That Portfolio Committee 3 – Education inquire into and report on the early childhood education and care (ECEC) sector in New South Wales, including:
 - (a) the safety, health and wellbeing of children in ECEC services
 - (b) the quality of ECEC services and the educational and developmental outcomes for children attending ECEC services
 - (c) the safety, pay and conditions of workers within the ECEC sector
 - (d) the effectiveness of the regulatory framework for the ECEC sector as applied in New South Wales
 - (e) the effectiveness of the NSW ECEC Regulatory Authority
 - (f) the collection, evaluation and publication of reliable data in relation to ECEC services and the level of public knowledge and access to information made available about each ECEC service
 - (g) the availability and affordability of quality training institutions for early childhood education qualifications
 - (h) the composition of the ECEC sector and the impact of government funding on the type and quality of services
 - (i) the experiences of children with disability, and their parents and carers, in ECEC services, and
 - (j) any other related matters.
2. That the Committee report by 31 March 2026.

The terms of reference for the inquiry were self-referred by the committee on 20 March 2025.¹

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 March 2025, item 28.

Committee membership

Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Rachel Merton MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Anthony D'Adam MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	Independent	
Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC	The Nationals	
Hon Cameron Murphy MLC*	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Emily Suvaal MLC	Australian Labor Party	

* The Hon Cameron Murphy MLC substituted for the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC from 25 March 2025 for the duration of the inquiry.