Kia ora te whānau,

As a grass roots organisation, we advocate for the interests of families and children, with 1200 members across the motu. Not a member? You can **sign up for free here**.

Every month, we send out a newsletter to update you on things that have been happening in the early childhood sector that affect children and/or parents and caregivers.

You're most welcome to share this newsletter with friends and other families.

Family Boost gets a boost

The Government has changed the criteria for the Family Boost rebate so more families will be able to access it, and those who already qualify will get more money back.

Families can now claim up to 40% of their ECE fees. From October 1, the household annual income threshold will also be raised from $180,000 to $230,000.

What do you think of the changes?

Will they make a big enough difference to your budget?

Do you anticipate your ECE service will put its fees up knowing that parents will have more money in their pockets?

Are you among higher earners who will now qualify for the first time?

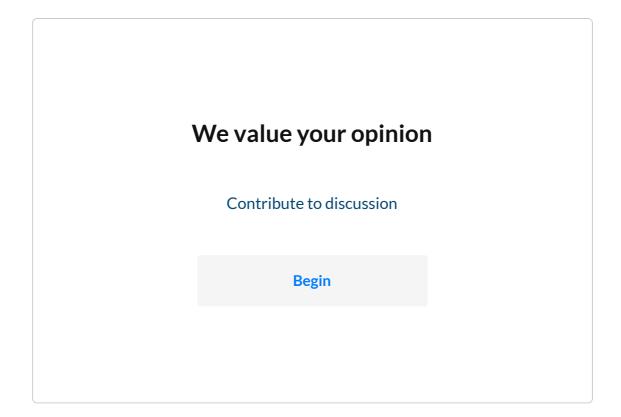We'd love to hear your thoughts, either via the opinion form below or on **Facebook**.

Your baby or child can be out of sight of teaching staff and checked only every 15 minutes when napping, under revised regulation

As part of the ECE regulation review, Cabinet has signed off a rule change which will require teachers or adults working in ECE centres to only check on sleeping children every 15 minutes.

Currently, an adult needs to check on children in sleep rooms or sleeping every 10 minutes.

What do you think of the proposed rule change?

For those who are keen for more information: **this New Zealand Herald story** discusses some of the potential implications of the regulation change.

We value your opinion

Contribute to discussion

Begin

What you should know about what ECE teachers earn – and why it matters

In last month's newsletter we touched on how government policy changes had impacted ECE teachers' pay in recent months.

Because ECE pay parity is quite a complex topic (that is usually discussed using heaps of jargon), we decided to put together an explainer on how the scheme works.

Check out our **new article on My ECE for the details**.

How to read Education Review Office (ERO) reports

If you've Googled an ECE centre's name you might have come across an ERO report for the service.

The reports are done to assess the quality of education and care at each service. But they can be difficult to read and understand for people outside of the sector.

To help parents and caregivers make sense of ERO reports, the ECE Parents' Council has published a **new guide on our website**.

Love your centre or homebased service? Give them a review

Share your experience (negative or positive) at your child(ren)'s ECE service by looking up its name on our website and posting a **review**.

This will help other families and whānau make informed decisions when they're considering enrolling their babies or children.

Got other burning questions about childcare?

Want to contribute to the discussion about changes to early childhood education?

Check out our **website**. On our website you'll find:

- information on different childcare options
- advice on how to choose an early childhood service that suits you and your child
- childcare subsidies
- ECE service fees and charges
- regulations services have to comply with
- the curriculum
- articles on topics of biting, children's safety, health, gun play, what age is best to start school, etc.

Post your questions and comments directly to the **article on the topic that's relevant.**

We'd love to connect with you also **on Facebook**.

Read reviews of ECE services in your area

Go online to the **national registry, here**.

ECE Parents' Council

Aotearoa, New Zealand

Website

Facebook page