



SCSEEC

Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood

27 March 2013

New early childhood education and care quality ratings to be available from May

New quality ratings of children's education and care services will be published online from May 2013 as part of new national registers under the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (NQF).

The registers for approved services under the NQF will be published on the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website. Quality ratings will also appear on www.mychild.gov.au.

The Chair of the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC), Adrian Piccoli MP, said the public release of ratings was the next step in the NQF journey.

"All Australian governments have agreed that it is important families are able to make informed choices about education and care for their children. The progressive publication of ratings will give more and more families information about the quality of education and care provided at each service," said Minister Piccoli.

Approximately 13,000 services are currently approved under the NQF and more than 10 per cent have so far been rated against the National Quality Standard, which focuses on quality and continuous improvement.

All approved services, providers and certified supervisors will eventually be listed in three national registers on the ACECQA website, with ratings added to service listings as each service is assessed.

Last year, SCSEEC commissioned the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to evaluate the new assessment and rating process and ensure there is national consistency with the application of ratings. ACER confirmed the validity and reliability of the assessment and rating process as implemented nationally.

Following endorsement of the evaluation report by all Ministers, state and territory governments will proclaim the relevant parts of the National Law to allow the publication of ratings. It is expected proclamation will be completed by early May 2013.

For more information about the validity and reliability of the assessment and rating process, read the ACER evaluation report at www.scseec.edu.au.

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