

Question on Notice
No. 2030
Asked on 7 October 2010

Mrs Miller asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how the additional funding to kindergartens in the Electorate of Bundamba will assist our children's education and development?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and her interest in supporting the Early Childhood Education Sector in her community.

Children in the Bundamba electorate will receive a flying start thanks to this Government's commitment to early childhood education.

The benefits of the rollout of extra kindergarten services in Bundamba are significant for both kindergarten-age children and their families.

Kindergarten programs offer a safe and caring environment in which children discover new learning experiences and establish relationships that create a strong foundation for their future education.

University-qualified early childhood teachers create a world of carefully constructed play that helps children develop their social and language skills as well as their physical abilities.

As part of the Bligh Government's \$321 million kindergarten infrastructure rollout, two new kindergarten services were announced to open in 2012. New kindergarten services are planned for St Francis Xavier's School in Goodna and St Augustine's College at Springfield. Each service will provide an additional 44 places for children in the local area.

Providing funding assistance to Queensland long day care services to provide kindergarten programs delivered by qualified teachers greatly expands the number of kindergarten places across the State.

It will also assist with keeping out-of-pocket costs comparable for parents, regardless of whether their child attends a kindergarten program at a long day care service or sessional kindergarten.

Importantly, it also provides families, particularly families where both parents are working, with more options for their child's early childhood education.

I have been advised by the Department that the following eight long day care services in the Bundamba Electorate were recently approved during the second funding round of the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme:

- Kindy Kapers Early Learning Centre 1
- Lead Childcare – Goodna Station
- Lead Childcare - Riverview Central
- Redbank Plains Early Education Centre
- Woodcrest Early Education Centre & Preschool 3
- Woodcrest Early Education Centre and Preschool 1
- St Augustine's Child Care Centre
- Goodna Community Child Care Centre