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| Children's Education and Care Assurance Alert |

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| *The Children’s Education and Care Assurance Update links professionals, providers and educators with news, resources and information that supports quality outcomes for children in ACT education and care services*8 September 2020**Official release of Set up for Success: An Early Childhood Strategy for the ACT**Setting up young Canberrans for successThe ACT Government has officially released [Set up for Success: An Early Childhood Strategy for the ACT](https://www.education.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1620347/Early-Childhood-Strategy-for-the-ACT.pdf). The Strategy provides a comprehensive, joined-up policy framework to guide the delivery of early childhood services and coordinate education, health and community service provision for young Canberrans. To read more please visit the [Education Directorate](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fow.ly%2FAEvC50Bde3n%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3B87p2zQ2Fx3CnDbS18dlS3-UdzSAWmTCtBcix_rdFI2ET6k55StQ504Y&h=AT3q0R2AckUFW6keXobtdcyWGAYCC6m2eoD3E0HcRVtQFb2ZexPrc1pTK43h0kXE0AmyoTM5SWR1-LuNXAtscYMpiUZm9f9jtKT1oO-BLBH_ZAHDqaVaqivOXePEUl1hsz0N&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT3bFrMPtszCfCVal6NCbAQZ6imVIQggJRBQI22Sam1G2KicKDNGLy7Tqf6hz1CFnzxtM8MRtnS78sFFYvOqDiX0_DtdrYcV82XX9DsxDGlgFOMxQbJHFik-X9-k7cVR_hb-2d_GX-iHEciHI5V_5nlFOyNIpA0BnTxe2qCFFJ0Cp9VKPj14trdagT3H8_o) website. **Review of the Disability Standards for Education 2005**On behalf of all governments, ACECQA is undertaking consultations with the education and care sector about their awareness and understanding of their obligations in regard to children with disability under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the DDA), including questions of access and participation. This work will help inform the Australian Government’s [2020 Review of the Disability Standards for Education 2005](https://disabilitystandardsreview.education.gov.au/early_childhood/) (the Standards). ACECQA’s consultations are based on a set of questions within the [stakeholder discussion paper](https://www.acecqa.gov.au/media/29851). The questions in the discussion paper are included in an [online survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DSEReviewECEC) providing you an opportunity to respond. If you would also like to make a written submission, email DSEfeedback@acecqa.gov.au. Examples of existing, effective approaches to inclusive education and care for children are welcomed. For more information visit the [ACECQA consultation website](https://www.acecqa.gov.au/have-your-say-DDA). Survey responses and submissions will close on Wednesday 16 September 2020. **National Child Protection Week** National Child Protection Week has commenced. With the additional pressures we are all living under, from pandemic isolation to the ongoing trauma of natural disasters, 2020 highlights the importance of child protection more than ever. NAPCAN has launched the official [Putting Children First webinar series](https://www.napcan.org.au/official-program-webinars-events/) for National Child Protection Week, with the aim of generating important life-changing conversations about how to boost the wellbeing of all Australia’s children.**ACT Education and Care Sector Meeting** CECA will be hosting the first online ACT Education and Care Sector Meeting on 25 September 2020 between 9:30am-12:30pm. This meeting will be recorded and distributed to the sector at a later date. To read the full agenda and for registration details please visit [CECA’s Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/act-education-and-care-sector-meeting-september-2020-tickets-118118336123) platform. **The Young Thinker** The ACT Public Advocate and Children and Young People Commissioner would like to hear from children and young people about the issues they feel strongly about. Given recent events, children and young people who live in the ACT are encouraged share how COVID-19 is impacting them. Families and educators can support children to share what they think and provide a submission through The Young Thinker forum. Children can submit a message or a story, create an artwork or comic strip, submit a video or audio recording, or write/record a song. For more information visit [The ACT Human Rights Commission](https://hrc.act.gov.au/childrenyoungpeople/are-you-a-child-or-young-person-with-something-to-say-become-a-young-thinker-and-tell-us-what-you-think/?fbclid=IwAR1wnXGqlIBwLQLm0TbdXKtO3SlSbTsOBk0sHrjhNGg77-bfdFi1_XI4_1E) website.**Safe transportation of children – new requirements from 1 October 2020**Transporting children may present additional risks, during the journey and the transition between a vehicle and a service premises or other location. To better manage these risks, all governments have agreed to introduce new requirements to strengthen oversight arrangements when children are being transported under the care of an education and care service. From 1 October 2020, approved providers of education and care services that offer, or arrange, transportation of children will be required to have in place transportation-specific policies and procedures. New requirements for transport-specific risk assessments and obtaining written authorisations will also apply. Minor corresponding changes relating to excursions that involve transporting children will also take effect. For more information please read this [ACECQA information sheet](https://www.acecqa.gov.au/media/29846). For enquires in relation to this notification please call CECA on (02) 6207 1114 or email CECA@ACT.gov.au. This email has been authorised by the ACT Regulatory Authority (CECA). CECA are responsible for administering the National Quality Framework within the ACT. |

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