

News

Weekly wrap for the early childhood education and care sector



31 August 2022

New: Becoming an approved provider

We've updated the information about <u>becoming an approved provider</u> on our website. The information is for:

- prospective providers who intend to apply for Child Care Subsidy (CCS) approval
- existing providers who intend to add or remove a service from their approval
- prospective or existing providers who have purchased a service
- existing providers who have undergone a restructure of their legal entity.

Providers must be approved to operate a child care service and administer CCS in Australia. You must be approved by the Australian Government and your state or territory government. Find step-by-step guidance on our website about the approval process, including:

- the two types of approval required
- checking your eligibility
- getting ready to apply
- submitting your application
- what you need to know after you apply
- adding, removing or relocating a service
- suspension of approvals.

Find out more on our website.

What happens if you get an infringement?

We issue infringements to providers that don't follow the rules under Family Assistance Law (FAL). Providers must make sure that they, their employees and educators follow the rules.

An infringement is a fine, like a parking ticket. Find out more about <u>infringements</u> on our website.

We send infringements by email and by post. Emails will come from ccinfringements@dese.gov.au. Please add this address to your safe list and check your mail often.

Infringements are issued for a range of reasons. Some examples include:

- not correctly reporting your fee information
- failure to meet reporting requirements, such as keeping contact details or details of persons with management or control (PMC) up to date
- failure to submit session reports on time.

See the <u>full list of FAL civil penalty provisions for which we can issue an infringement</u>. Our website has a range of resources to help you avoid an infringement, including:

- information about the <u>Child Care Package</u>
- information about your obligations
- a comprehensive table of reporting obligations, tasks and timeframes
- a series of short videos covering common compliance issues
- <u>handbooks, guides and task cards</u> on key programs.

COVID-19: immunisation advice for families

The Department of Health and Aged Care has published new information regarding COVID-vaccines and children aged 6 months to under 5 years old.

We encourage you to share the resources available on the <u>childhood immunisation commun</u> <u>kit</u> with families at your service.

The kit contains:

- helpful information for parents and guardians
- a poster with the latest information on the Moderna vaccine
- fun and educational activities for children to teach them how to stay safe, even if they
 can't be vaccinated.

Share with families: myGov is changing

The look and feel of myGov is changing from Monday.

Families don't need to do anything. myGov will continue to be a central place to find, access and manage government payments and services.

Services Australia has resources you can share with families so they're aware of what's changing.

Find a poster and fact sheet to display at your service in the <u>eKit on Services Australia's</u> website. The fact sheet is available in 11 languages.

Useful information

Handy resource

Understand your obligations under FAL with our <u>compliance video series</u>. We've got videos about:

- what to do if children are absent from care or on holidays
- rules for Family Day Care educators who care for relatives
- what you need to know about fee reporting
- when to notify us about changes to your service and more.

Good to know

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 4 - 10 September 2022



National Child Protection Week starts this Sunday.

This year's theme shines a light on children growing up safe and supported. Early childhood services play an important role in sharing National Child Protection Week messages with staff and the local community.

Find ideas for educators on the National Child Protection Week website.

Join the conversation

The <u>Australian Child Care Providers and Services Facebook group</u> is your place to learn, explore and connect with us and others in your sector.

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