



# Early Childhood Education Weekly Update

27 June 2022

## What you need to know this week:

- Digital identity login for ECCMS
- Sector survey on Child Safe Standards – closes July 4
- Changes to button battery laws
- NSW Regulatory Authority policies – 2 policies added
- Contacting the department via phone
- Outside of School Hours Care update – industrial action planned for Thurs 30 June

## Sector wide updates

### Digital Identity Login for the Early Childhood Contract Management System

The department will launch Digital Identity login for the Early Childhood Contract Management System (ECCMS) in the coming days. The Australian Government Digital Identity System is a safe, secure and convenient way for you to prove who you are online by using your choice of identity provider, such as myGovID.

#### To log in to ECCMS:

1. Select 'Continue with Digital Identity' to log in to [ECCMS](#).

2. Select myGovID as your identity provider and enter your myGovID credentials.
3. Select a business to act on behalf of (if required).
4. Give your consent to share your details with the department.

No action is required on your end. Digital Identity will allow you to use your existing myGovID login credentials to access ECCMS. This change provides additional privacy and security assurances for you.

#### **More information**

- For more information on the Australian Government Digital Identity System, please refer to the [Digital Identity website](#).
- For information about myGovID, and for help with set up, please visit the [myGovID website](#).
- For information and support with RAM, please visit the [Relationship Authorisation Manager website](#).
- The department can provide support for issues logging in to ECCMS. For technical assistance regarding ECCMS, please contact the department at [ecec.funding@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ecec.funding@det.nsw.edu.au) or call 1800 619 113.

## **Sector survey on Child Safe Standards**

The NSW Department of Education has engaged Halloran Morrissey to identify focus areas for further resources, training or guidance ahead of the implementation of the Child Safe Standards in early childhood education and OSHC services. As a part of this work, Halloran Morrissey are seeking your views to ensure providers are supported to meet the requirements of the Child Safe Standards.

This survey is open to all staff working in services. Individual respondents and providers/centres will not be identified in the results or any subsequent report.

### **What to do next**

Please circulate this link to your teams and take a few minutes to complete the confidential survey by 4 July 2022.

### **More information**

Please contact Anna Morris at [anna@halloranmorrissey.com.au](mailto:anna@halloranmorrissey.com.au) if you have any questions about this survey.

## **Changes to button battery laws**

On 22 June 2022, world-first product standards came into effect in Australia, which require businesses that supply button batteries or products powered by button batteries, to comply with mandatory button battery safety and information standards. Under the new standards:

- products must have secure battery compartments to prevent children accessing the batteries,
- button batteries must be supplied in child-resistant packaging,
- both products and batteries must have additional warnings and emergency advice on the batteries, packaging and instructions.

If swallowed, button batteries can cause serious injuries to children. This is a timely reminder for all services and family day care educators to check for unsafe button batteries, which can be found in a large number of common items such as toys, remote controls, watches, and thermometers.

### **More information**

Further information about the changes to button battery laws is available on the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission website](#). For more information about the risks of button batteries and how services can avoid those risks, visit [KidSafe NSW](#).

## NSW Regulatory Authorities policies

The Early Childhood Education Directorate has overarching principles for implementing its functions under the National Law and Regulations. We use a number of regulatory policies to support consistent decision making.

Please review our two latest policies:

- [NSW Regulatory Authority Approach to Monitoring and Compliance Policy](#)
- [NSW Regulatory Authority Approach to Visiting Early Childhood Education and Care Services Policy](#)

## Phone contact

For any questions about your service operation, you can contact the ECE Information and Enquiries team on 1800 619 113.

Two previous 1300 phone numbers have been discontinued so we request that all phone queries are directed to the Information and Enquiries team hotline.

## Outside of School Hours Care update

Members of the NSW Teachers Federation will be taking industrial action on Thursday 30 June in the form of a 24-hour strike.

For Outside of School Hours Care (OSHC) services, this may impact the attendance of children at your service on this day.

For OSHC services based on school sites, it is recommended you contact your school principal who will advise of any expected disruption to regular school operations.

**Reminder to update NQAITS**

Services are required to notify the department of any closures using the [NQAITS Portal](#).

If your service will be closed due to the strike, please follow the [Portal guide](#) to update the status of your service in NQAITS.

If you are unable to access NQAITS to submit an update, contact us by calling 1800 619 113, or emailing [ececd@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ececd@det.nsw.edu.au).

## Don't forget

- Applications for the [Multicultural Support Program](#) are now open. Submit an [application form](#) online.
- [Register now](#) for the Australian Childhood Foundation's Responding to Trauma training.

## Families Corner

We're sharing resources made especially for families to increase their knowledge on the early childhood education and care sector. This is something you can take and pass on to families via your own communication channels.

- Translated animations for [Learning through play](#), [Learning through everyday routines](#), [A strong start to school](#) are available to be shared with families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- [Funbrain Jr](#) has a wide range of engaging and educational online reading and maths games for families to try with their children at home.

## For more information

If you have any questions about your service operation you can contact the Information and Enquiries team on 1800 619 113 or by emailing [ececd@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ececd@det.nsw.edu.au).

For the latest COVID-19 advice please visit the [COVID-19 guidelines for ECEC services](#).



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