



## Help us stop cuts to preschool hours

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The Turnbull government may not fund 15 hours of preschool per week beyond 2017.

Victorian children could go back to 10 hours of preschool per week unless funding is guaranteed and permanent.

Since 2013, children and families have benefited from Universal Access to preschool education. But on two occasions now we have had to fight for continued funding.

We know that 15 hours of preschool education makes a significant difference to young children. It sets them up for life.

As identified by the Productivity Commission Inquiry report into Childcare and Early Learning, *“Universal access to a preschool program in the year before children start school should continue to be supported by all governments as a key measure for child development and transition to school.”*

Further, the report recommends *“The Australian Government should continue to provide per child payments to the states and territories for universal access to a preschool program of 15 hours per week for 40 weeks per year.”*

Preschool children deserve nothing less. This is important for their long-term development and to make a successful transition into school.

As parents and caregivers, you deserve certainty about your child’s education. For many families it will result in cutting preschool access by a day. Parents will be scrambling to secure childcare in an already overburdened system. It will impact on parents’ own work arrangements.

Preschool staff deserve job security. Teachers and educators should not be questioning whether their hours or jobs will be cut every twelve months.

We need secure, permanent funding to deliver 15 hours of preschool education to all children.

Join us in telling the Turnbull government how much early education matters. Whilst this may not have a direct impact on you and your child, we hope you will join us in fighting to stop these cuts to our kids’ education.

Sign the online petition here [www.protectourpreschools.com.au](http://www.protectourpreschools.com.au).

Ask your preschool staff how you can further support the campaign.