

## Key points for families:

- Every service is different so the way in which they meet the National Quality Standard will also be different.
- Consider the service's rating in each of the seven quality areas as well as its overall rating.
- Discuss ratings with the service provider to learn how they are working to meet the National Quality Standard and how you can be involved, even if your service has not yet been assessed and rated.
- Service providers need your feedback. What you think about their strengths and areas for improvement can help them develop their ongoing Quality Improvement Plan.

## More information

Visit [www.det.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/](http://www.det.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/)

For service ratings visit the MyChild website at [www.mychild.gov.au](http://www.mychild.gov.au) or the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website at [www.acecqa.gov.au](http://www.acecqa.gov.au)

Families can visit the Starting Blocks website at [www.startingblocks.gov.au/](http://www.startingblocks.gov.au/) Services can subscribe to the ACECQA newsletter at [www.acecqa.gov.au/Subscribe.aspx](http://www.acecqa.gov.au/Subscribe.aspx)

Or phone the ACECQA hotline on 1300 4 ACECQA (1300 422 327) during business hours\*.

\*Calls from mobile phones are charged at applicable rates.

Children are born ready to learn. With 90 per cent of a child's brain development occurring in the first eight years, we want to give them the best start in life and learning through quality early childhood education and care.

# Rating quality

in early childhood education and care

## What you need to know

The National Quality Framework has been introduced to raise the quality of early childhood education and care in Australia.

The National Quality Framework applies to long day care, family day care, outside school hours care, pre-Prep and kindergarten services and includes:

- improved child to educator ratios
- improved educator qualification requirements
- improved learning programs
- a new, higher National Quality Standard.

All services will be assessed and rated against the seven areas of the National Quality Standard:

1	Educational program and practice
2	Children's health and safety
3	Physical environment
4	Staffing arrangements
5	Relationships with children
6	Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7	Governance and leadership

Services will be given a rating for each of the quality areas and an overall rating based on these results.

Ratings will be published on the MyChild website at [www.mychild.gov.au](http://www.mychild.gov.au) and the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority website at [www.acecqa.gov.au](http://www.acecqa.gov.au).

Services must display their ratings.

## What do the ratings mean?

All services must meet minimum legislative requirements to ensure children's safety, health and wellbeing.

Services are also required to improve the quality of their program and practices to meet the National Quality Standard.

A service's rating shows how it is performing against the quality standards.

It is important to look at the rating for each of the seven quality areas as well as the overall rating.

## Ratings against the National Quality Standard

All services must meet minimum legislative requirements to ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of children.

Services are encouraged to continually improve the quality of education and care.



*The Queensland Government monitors all services to ensure they meet their legal requirements, regardless of whether they have been assessed and rated.*