

To Whom it May Concern,

The staff and families at Bermagui Pre School welcome the news that the Federal Government has listened to the voices of Teachers Are Teachers campaigners and plans to lift wages.

However, it is concerned that the pay boost, part of the Government's Early Years Quality Fund, will only apply to teachers in long day care centres and not preschools, such as ours.

"We're pleased to see that early childhood teachers in long day care centres will receive pay rises in recognition of their qualifications and the important role they play in children's early education," IEU Assistant Secretary Verena Heron says. "The Government is establishing an Equal Remuneration Board to examine pay inequities in the early childhood profession and we welcome this move. However, we need to ensure that preschool teachers are included in any review. The State Government funds preschools and it is now time for it to increase funding so that preschool teachers do not become the poor relations of the education establishment. The Union demands that all teachers, regardless of where they work, are paid the same."

The Independent Education Union represents university qualified early childhood teachers in NSW. It is very unfortunate that this new grant will mean more division between long day care and Preschool.

Please reconsider the distribution of this funding to include Early Childhood Educators and Teachers in community based Pre Schools to ensure equity and access to quality early childhood education for all child and families in our communities.

Your Sincerely

Narelle Myers

Director/ Early Childhood Teacher

Bermagui Pre School

6th June 2013