

## 5 Facts About Early Childhood Education

1. Every dollar we invest in early childhood is an investment in our future

For every dollar invested in quality ECE there is a return on investment of 11% lasting for 30+ years per child.

2. ECE teachers are essential workers

The COVID-19 lockdowns have shown how essential ECE teachers are – both in supporting families and children in centres when parents have to work, and in continuing to provide quality teaching and pastoral support online.

3. Early childhood education helps our children succeed in their education journey

Children who regularly take part in quality ECE are likely to be confident and curious about the world. This helps them do better when they go to school or kura and ultimately benefits their family, whanau and the wider community too.

4. Early childhood teachers are the lowest paid teachers in Aotearoa

Trained early childhood teachers are paid up to 52% less than teachers in kindergarten, primary and secondary schools despite being just as qualified.

We face a chronic shortage of early childhood teachers

There are more children in ECE than ever before but enrolments in ECE teacher training have plummeted by 55% in the last decade.

WE CAN WORK TOGETHER TO FIX THIS. IT'S TIME TO VALUE ECE AND OUR YOUNGEST LEARNERS. GO TO ECEVOICE.ORG.NZ TO HAVE YOUR SAY.

