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@ECEVoice

Every child deserves the best early childhood education

Children are being short-changed by government underfunding. This looks like:

- **A teacher shortage** - There are now more children in early childhood education, but since 2010 there has been a 55% drop in trainee early childhood teachers.
- **A funding crisis** - A lack of funding for 100% qualified teachers means our centres are stretched to the limits when trying to create the best quality environments.
- **Ratios** - Teachers want to see the Government fulfil its commitment to lowering child to teacher ratios. This means more teachers working in smaller groups – research shows this is what our youngest learners need to thrive.

On average, early childhood teachers are paid up to 52% less than colleagues in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools – despite being just as qualified. Children, parents and teachers all pay the price for a lack of investment in our youngest learners.

It's got to change!

Every child should have access to quality ECE no matter how much their parents earn or where they live. That means we urgently need to keep and attract great teachers. It's time for the government to value ECE. Investment in the workforce and our centres/ services is an investment in children. It's time for:

- A plan from the government to fix the pay gap in ECE
- Better funding for quality and lower ratios.

We're asking you to show support for teachers by:

- Support what they're asking for at ECEVoice.org.nz
- Share your story about why you value ECE on social media and tag @ecevoice or use #ValueECE #FixtheGap
- Talk to friends, family and community or write to your local MP.