

Academic's Pledge of Support

Babies in early childhood centres have an undeniable right to responsive and respectful education and care with adults who know and understand them and can respond to their needs appropriately.

Research has repeatedly demonstrated that poor quality settings with low staff to child ratios can have detrimental effects on children's emotional, social, cognitive and language development, health and well-being. Responsive, synchronistic encounters, nurturing relationships and optimal development are only possible when there is a higher staff to child ratio in formal settings.

I support the 1:4 campaign and urge the NSW Government to put the quality of children's early learning and experiences at the forefront of their early-childhood-education policy. Regulating for adequate ratios such as the move to a 1:4 would indicate a move in the right direction: 1:3 would be better still.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Institution: _____

**Additional
comments:** _____

Please fax this form to 8922 6445

Organisations that have committed to supporting this campaign include:

Charles Sturt University (CSU), Community Child Care Co-operative (CCCC), Contact Inc, Country Children's Services Association (CCSA), Early Childhood Australia (ECA), Ethnic Child Care (ECC), Illawarra Area Child Care (IACC), Illawarra Children's Services (ICS), Independent Education Union (IEU), KU Children's Services, Lady Gowrie Child Centre, LHMU – the child care union, McArthur Children's Services Staffing, Macquarie University, National Association of Community Based Children's Services (NACBCS), NSW Council of Social Services (NCOSS), SDN Children's Services, Semann & Slattery, Social Justice in Early Childhood (SJIEC), UnitingCare Children's Services.