

Deputy Chief Minister

Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development

Minister for Housing and Suburban Development

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and
Family Violence

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Minister for Women

Member for Ginninderra

Mrs Giulia Jones MLA
Chair
Scrutiny Bills Committee

Email scrutiny@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mrs Jones MLA

I am writing in response to the Scrutiny Bills Committee (Committee) request for clarification in Scrutiny Report 40, 24 March 2020 about the 2019 amendments to the Education and Care Services National Regulations.

The consequential amendments to the National Regulations, which came into force on 1 January 2020, were the result of consultation work led through the National Authority, Australian Children's Education and Care Authority (ACECQA).

In October 2018 the ACECQA Board, following an 18-month national consultation process, made a determination on what qualifications are required for someone to be considered a 'suitably qualified person' and perform the role of an Early Childhood Teacher. The determination was made to ensure the sector had adequate time to prepare for the changes commencing in 2020.

The remaining amendments were technical in nature and mostly served to extend the operation of transitional and savings provisions of the National Regulations.

Communications with the sector included:-

- the announcement of the ACECQA Board's determination to stakeholders at the National Qualifications and Workforce Symposium in November 2018
- advice published in the qualifications section of ACECQA's website in November 201
- qualifications for a 'suitably qualified person' added to ACECQA's published list of approved qualifications in November 2018

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- emails to all providers and services commencing the week of Monday 12 November 2018 informing them of the Board's determination, and the sharing of the contents of these emails with Regulatory Authorities for onward dissemination as part of their sector communications
- ACECQA newsletter articles and social media posts commencing in November 2018
- a social media post in March 2019 and
- follow-up emails, articles and social media posts were issued to the sector in July, October and December 2019.

The ACECQA website is a conduit for accessing up to date legislation for all providers, services, educators and the community. Once the regulations are updated on the NSW Legislation Register, they are available for the nation through the ACECQA website.

(<https://www.cecqa.gov.au/nqf/national-law-regulations/national-law>)

Thank you for the valued work that the Scrutiny Committee continues to perform in the ACT. I trust this response adequately satisfies the Committee's queries regarding early childhood sector communication and knowledge.

Yours sincerely

Yvette Berry MLA
Minister for Education and early Childhood Development