Brad ROWSWELL MP
LIBERAL MEMBER FOR SANDRINGHAM



Dear John,

Thank you for writing on behalf of Goodstart Early Learning and for sharing your priorities ahead of the Victorian State Election.

I appreciate the important work Goodstart undertakes in supporting thousands of Victorian children and families, and recognise the vital role that quality early childhood education plays in preparing children for school and giving them the best possible start in life.

The Liberals and Nationals believe every child deserves access to a high-quality education, regardless of their background or where they live.

That is why we have announced our Literacy and Numeracy Guarantee, which will set ambitious targets to improve student outcomes, and our Successful School Starters program, which will provide earlier access to specialist support for children with additional learning and developmental needs.

We have no intention of stopping the rollout of Free Kinder. It is here to stay under a Liberals and Nationals Government, in community kindergartens and through the Free Kinder offset for families accessing kinder in long day care.

More broadly, if elected, we will undertake an Early Learning Structural Review that will:

- examine how community kindergartens can be better supported with compliance, reporting and funding administration
- identify funding gaps across the sector
- assess the infrastructure and capacity of kindergartens across Victoria
- find ways to grow the number of qualified early childhood educators, particularly in regional Victoria
- ensure future early childhood facilities are built where there is genuine local need, taking into account the capacity and programs already offered by existing providers

I recognise the importance of the issues Goodstart has raised, particularly access to quality early childhood education, workforce shortages, funding pressures and regulatory burdens. A strong and sustainable early education sector is essential to supporting Victorian children and families.

If elected, we will encourage Goodstart to be involved in the Early Learning Structural Review, so that the experience of your educators and families is heard and helps shape its findings.

Thank you again for your engagement and the contribution Goodstart makes to the early education sector.

You can read our full plan for Victoria here: https://www.ourplan.au

Kind regards,

Brad Rowswell

BRAD ROWSWELL MP
Member for Sandringham
Shadow Minister for Education

16 November 2026