

Preschool Reform Agreement – Appendix A.3

Preschool Outcomes Measure(s) Implementation

Preschool Reform Agreement (PRA) Appendix A.3 builds on Appendix A.2 to the PRA and sets out high-level principles that will inform decision making on the future of the outcomes measures¹. Any consideration of future implementation arrangements, including implementation approach, methodology, cost-sharing arrangements and data arrangements, will be negotiated and agreed by all governments following the outcome of the National Applied Trial.

Principles

1. For the purposes of the Preschool Reform Agreement (PRA), the purpose of the outcomes measures has been clearly stated and agreed by Ministers as being to support high-quality practice by equipping teachers and educators with access to a validated national tool to inform children's learning. This will support a research agenda agreed by Education Ministers outside of the PRA with appropriate governance structures to be developed by the Early Childhood Policy Group.
2. Services will be encouraged to use outcomes measures. The Australian Government will not mandate use. Services may use any nationally-aligned tool, or combination of tools, available in their jurisdiction. Implementation will seek to leverage participation by services that are willing and able to participate first.
3. PRA Appendix A.3 provides the basis for the future of the outcomes measures should there be a decision to implement. These principles may be revised following learnings from the National Applied Trial.
4. Should a decision be made in relation to the implementation of the outcomes measures under the life of the Agreement, an additional appendix will be negotiated and agreed by all governments. Recognising that States will continue to have flexibility in how they participate in the outcomes measure, details on participation will be included in the annual Implementation Plans.
4. Any assessment tool submitted by a jurisdiction, including those developed in the future, that can validly and reliably demonstrate alignment to the national learning progressions will be considered nationally-aligned tools, including the tool developed by the Australian Government. Nationally-aligned tools are validated and aligned to facilitate the "Rosetta Stone" approach, using the approach set out in PRA Appendix A.2.
5. Data from the outcomes measures will not be tied to performance reporting or funding, now or in the future.
6. Data storage and sharing arrangements will be negotiated and agreed by all governments. These arrangements will be guided by the principle that data is to be held at the state and territory level and not at a national level, and that data sharing should be guided by intergovernmental data agreements (where possible).
7. PRA Appendix A.3 recognises that jurisdictions and their services have different starting points and circumstances. This includes the process of aligning tools against the national learning progressions and levels of support required by a broad range of services and providers.

¹ In these principles 'outcomes measures' encompasses the national learning progressions, the Australian Government formative assessment tool and nationally-aligned tools. Outside of the Preschool Reform Agreement (2022-2027), changes may be considered to the term 'outcomes measure' to better align this terminology with the agreed purpose (see Principle 1).

8. The requirements and process for aligning tools for the purpose of the national applied trial are outlined in the Alignment Criteria and Process Guide agreed by Ministers. A tool that is deemed to be nationally-aligned will only be required to make modifications if changes to the Early Years Learning Framework-aligned national learning progressions are significant².
9. If Education Ministers agree to implement the Preschool Outcomes Measure after the National Applied Trial, all governments recognise that there will be significant costs, including for communications and engagement in quality resources and appropriate professional learning to support families and the workforce with change management for potential ongoing use. Responsibility for costs will be considered as part of an additional appendix (if implementation is to occur under the life of the Agreement), or through a future long-term early childhood education and care reform agreements.
10. Any professional development materials developed in relation to the national outcomes measure will be made available to all jurisdictions for use by teachers and educators, regardless of which tool is used. As such, all materials should be created with jurisdiction input to ensure they are applicable to all nationally-aligned tools, where possible.
11. Ministers should agree the process for processing any significant² updates, including consideration of nationally-aligned tools. The addition of new learning progressions and domains, or updates to existing ones, for the Australian Government assessment tool will need to be agreed by Ministers, developed in collaboration with jurisdictions and aligned to the Early Years Learning Framework.
12. For any future implementation of the outcomes measures, the following components will need to be negotiated and agreed by all governments, including (but not limited to):
 - a) implementation of the:
 - i. national learning progressions;
 - ii. the Australian Government assessment tool;
 - iii. existing jurisdiction tools which are validated against the national learning progressions (nationally-aligned tools); and
 - iv. professional development materials;
 - b) governance arrangements;
 - c) data storage and sharing arrangements;
 - d) approach to changes and the alignment process for national tools;
 - e) decisions and authorising environment, including when the Education Ministers Meeting will endorse products;
 - f) the implementation timeline;
 - g) approach to stakeholder engagement and communications, including with sector bodies and unions;
 - h) financial support for the implementation of the outcomes measures and the allocation of financial responsibility; and
 - i) licensing and hosting arrangements.

² What constitutes a 'significant' update will be considered by all governments and agreed by Ministers.

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by*

Senator The Honourable Dr Jess Walsh
Minister for Early Childhood Education

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of New South Wales by*

Courtney Houssos
The Honourable Courtney Houssos MLC
Acting for and on behalf of the
Minister for Education and Early Learning

16 / 12 / 2025

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Queensland by*

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education and the Arts

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of South Australia by*

The Honourable Blair Boyer MP
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the Australian
Capital Territory by*

The Honourable Yvette Berry MLA
Minister for Education and Early Childhood

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Victoria by*

The Honourable Lizzie Blandthorn MLC
Minister for Children

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Western Australia by*

The Honourable Sabine Winton MLA
Minister for Education, Early Childhood

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Tasmania by*

The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Education

____ / ____ / ____

*Signed for and on behalf of the Northern
Territory by*

The Honourable Jo Hersey MLA
Minister for Education and Training, Early Education

____ / ____ / ____

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Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by

Senator The Honourable Dr Jess Walsh
Minister for Early Childhood Education

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Signed for and on behalf of the
State of New South Wales by

The Honourable Prue Car MP
Minister for Education and Early Learning

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Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Victoria by



The Honourable Lizzie Blandthorn MLC
Minister for Children

09 / 12 / 2025

Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Western Australia by

The Honourable Sabine Winton MLA
Minister for Education, Early Childhood

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Minister for Education

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The Honourable Prue Car MP
Minister for Education and Early Learning

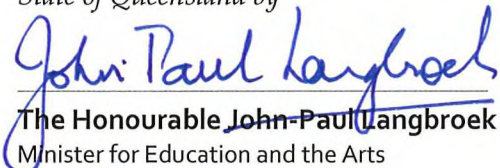
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The Honourable Lizzie Blandthorn MLC
Minister for Children

____ / ____ / ____

**Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Queensland by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Western Australia by**


The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education and the Arts

17 / 11 / 2026

The Honourable Sabine Winton MLA
Minister for Education, Early Childhood

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**Signed for and on behalf of the
State of South Australia by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Tasmania by**

The Honourable Blair Boyer MP
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

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The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Education

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**Signed for and on behalf of the Australian
Capital Territory by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the Northern
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State of Queensland by*

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Western Australia by*



The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP

Minister for Education and the Arts

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The Honourable Sabine Winton MLA

Minister for Education, Early Childhood

4 / 12 / 25

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of South Australia by*

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Tasmania by*

The Honourable Blair Boyer MP

Minister for Education, Training and Skills

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Minister for Education

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Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by

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The Honourable Blair Boyer MP
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1 / 12 / 2025

The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Education

____ / ____ / ____

Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

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The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
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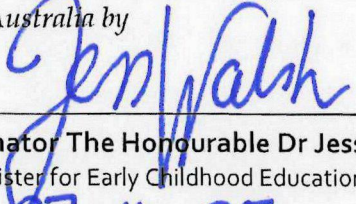
The Honourable Jo Hersey MLA
Minister for Education and Training, Early Education

24 / 11 / 25

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The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by



Senator The Honourable Dr Jess Walsh
Minister for Early Childhood Education

27 / 11 / 25

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State of New South Wales by

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Minister for Education and Early Learning

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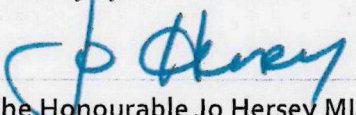
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9 / 11 / 2025