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# Natalie Hutchins MP

STATE MEMBER FOR SYDENHAM

Mayor Sophie Ramsey  
232 High Street  
Melton Vic 3337

19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Cr Sophie,

**Re: Continuation of Universal Access- 15 hours of funded kindergarten**

Thank you for your letter regarding the National Partnership Agreement for Universal to Early Childhood Education beyond 2017.

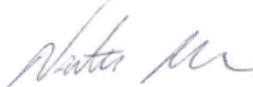
I am committed to improving early childhood outcomes in my electorate of Sydenham. I agree that access to 15 hours per week of quality kindergarten is vital to the wellbeing outcomes in our community. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Melton City Council's support the delivery of 15 hours per week of high quality kindergarten.

The Victorian Government will continue to engage with the Commonwealth through the Education Council and the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), to advocate for a sustainable and long term National Partnership.

On the 30 January 2017, the Minister for Families and Children, Jenny Mikakos MP launched a campaign urging the Turnbull Government to commit to 15 hours of kindergarten to provide security to families beyond 2017. I would encourage individuals and organisations in Melton City Council who are concerned with the Commonwealth's failure to commit to its share of funding to go online and sign the petition at <http://thismatters.org.au/kindercuts>.

If you would like to discuss this further you may contact Mr Mathew Lundgren, Director, Early Learning Participation Branch, Early Years and Primary Reform Division, Department of Education and Training, on 8392 5099 or by email: [lundgren.mathew.b@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:lundgren.mathew.b@edumail.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,



**Natalie Hutchins MP**  
Member for Sydenham

Shop 11, 28A Hume Drive, Sydenham VIC 3037

P: 9449 1511 F: 9449 1922 E: [natalie.hutchins@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:natalie.hutchins@parliament.vic.gov.au)

f NatalieHutchinsMP @NatHutchins

[www.nataliehutchins.com.au](http://www.nataliehutchins.com.au)

