



Australian Government  
Department of Education,  
Skills and Employment

Dear Colleagues,

Please see below email sent to providers and services in Queensland this afternoon.

Kind Regards,  
Digital Communication Team

## Update: Queensland lockdown

Due to a local outbreak of COVID-19, the Queensland Government has announced a three-day period of restrictions for the Greater Brisbane area starting at 5 pm 29 March.

During this time, schools and child care centres remain open for vulnerable children and the children of essential workers.

At this stage there is no change to fee charging and or allowable absences. Only services directed to close by a local authority because of COVID-19 can waive gap fees until 30 June 2021.

The department is monitoring the situation closely and should the situation change, we'll contact you with additional information and advice.

### Actions to take

- Update your vacancy details in [Child Care Finder](#). Do this via the [Provider Entry Point](#) or through your third-party software.
- Update your contact details (particularly email addresses) in the Child Care Subsidy System so you don't miss important information. Do this via the [Provider Entry Point](#) or through your third-party software.
- Ask families to maintain their enrolments. This will ensure their children receive continuity of care and early learning.
- Keep an eye on the [Queensland Government's COVID-19 site](#) for up-to-date information in your region.

### Support for families

Families can get Child Care Subsidy when their child is absent from a session of care they would normally attend for up to 42 days per financial year. These absences can be used for any reason.

Families looking for alternative child care options can visit [Starting Blocks](#) or [Child Care Finder](#).

Nationally, the activity test has been eased until 4 April 2021 for Australian families whose employment has been affected by COVID-19. Affected families can access up to 100 hours of subsidised child care, per child, per fortnight.

### Useful links

[Queensland Government COVID-19 response website](#)

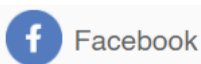
[Queensland Department of Health](#)

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