



**MEDIA STATEMENT
14 July 2015**

Queensland parents welcome support in state budget

Australia's leading parenting advocacy and campaigning body *The Parenthood* has today welcomed some of the key features of the Queensland State Budget that will be of direct benefit to Queensland parents including the 6,500-plus *Parenthood* members living in Queensland.

Executive Director Jo Briskey said Queensland parents were particularly pleased with the \$6.6 million Parenting Support Program as previously announced.

"What a great resource for parents to access" Ms. Briskey said.

"Parents don't always have all the right answers when they need them so it's good to know that help is there.

"Having access to an evidence-based parenting program to help parents navigate the highs and lows of parenting will make a huge difference for thousands of parents across the state."

The Parenthood also welcomes record spending in education but is disappointed at the lack of focus on early learning.

"It's been fantastic to see a record spend in education, but a broad focus on early learning was noticeably absent from the details announced in today's budget." Ms. Briskey said.

"Funding for more teachers will mean more one-on-one attention for our kids and more specialist teachers will help broaden our children's learning and career opportunities - which is great."

Of particular note is the increased funding that will help more kindergartens better support children with disabilities.

"We know how important access to high quality early learning is for our kids and so it's great to see those needing additional support will be able to get it in our kindy's." Ms. Briskey said.

"Yet it was disappointing that early learning more broadly appears to have been overlooked,

"Governments at all levels need to be doing more to ensure Queensland parents and children have access to high quality early learning and care."

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