



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NSW TEACHERS TO BOOST QUALIFICATIONS

The NSW Government continues to back early childhood educators in our region, with Minister for Early Childhood Education, Sarah Mitchell, announcing a new Rural and Remote Early Childhood Teaching Incentive Scholarship program which will provide funding to students currently undertaking their degree.

The Incentive Scholarships will target educators working in rural and remote areas of NSW, like this electorate and will contribute to the development of a higher quality early childhood education workforce.

The Incentive Scholarships program builds on the success of the existing Rural and Remote Early Childhood Teaching Scholarships program which has seen students graduating and continuing to work in early childhood services around the state.

“This new program is great news for early childhood educators in our region, with grants of up to \$9,000 to go towards study costs incurred during studies, such as textbooks, travel costs and technology.

“I had the pleasure of announcing this week that Ms Jacqueline Warr from Albury Preschool was the recipient of the Rural and Remote Early Childhood Teaching Scholarship,” Mr Aplin said.

Mrs Mitchell says the previous successful uptake of the scholarships program demonstrates the importance of supporting educators while they advance their qualifications.

“The NSW Government recognises many early childhood educators who have already commenced their course will appreciate financial support to complete their degree,” Mrs Mitchell said.

“As a result of the additional training, more children across NSW will have access to highly skilled early childhood teachers delivering quality education programs.

“High quality early childhood education for our children is critical in ensuring they have the best start to their school life, and early childhood teachers are absolutely essential in achieving this.”

Eligible candidates must be working in a rural or remote centre based preschool, mobile preschool or long day care service and have already commenced an early childhood teaching degree.

Applications for the Incentive Scholarships are currently open. For more information on the scholarships and how to apply, visit the Department of Education website at <http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/what-we-offer/regulation-and-accreditation/early-childhood-education-care/workforce/incentive-scholarships>

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