

Barnardos New Zealand

Bethlehem Tertiary Institute

Christian Early Childhood Education Association of Aotearoa

Hospital Play Specialists Association of Aotearoa/New Zealand

Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand

National Association of ECE Directors in Universities

NZ Educational Institute Te Riu Roa

NZ Home-based Early Childhood Education Association

NZ Kindergartens Te Putahi Kura Puhou o Aotearoa

Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand

Te Wananga o Aotearoa

The Early Childhood Service of Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu: The Correspondence School

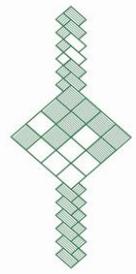
The Early Intervention Association of Aotearoa NZ

The Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools in New Zealand

The Open Polytechnic

World Organisation for Early Childhood Education OMEP Aotearoa NZ

# Early Education Federation



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## News Update – 22 November 2017

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### **EVENTS/MEETINGS/SEMINARS/CONFERENCES**

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#### **Brainwave Conference 2018: Advancing Effective Child-Centred Practice**

**For professionals working with vulnerable families in our community.**

**When:** March 6<sup>th</sup> in Auckland and March 8<sup>th</sup> in Wellington

After many months of planning, Brainwave is pleased to announce the 2018 Brainwave Conference which will take place in both Auckland and Wellington in March.

Brainwave is delighted to bring from the USA, Professor Philip Fisher, Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University. Prof. Fisher's work focuses on developing and evaluating early childhood interventions in socially and economically marginalized communities, and on translating scientific knowledge for use in social policy and programs. He is particularly interested in the effects of early stressful experiences on children's neurobiological and psychological development, and in prevention and treatment programs for improving maltreated children's functioning in areas such as attachment to caregivers, relationships with peers, and functioning in school.

Brainwave has a range of national speakers who are best placed to share their collective knowledge and bring you the most up-to-date information for Advancing Effective Child-Centred Practice.

The following link [http://www.brainwave.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/BW\\_Conference\\_2018\\_press.pdf](http://www.brainwave.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/BW_Conference_2018_press.pdf) gives you information about the speakers and programme. This conference promises to be informative, innovative and practical to allow you take away and implement ideas into your own working practice.

Brainwave is offering an early bird discounted rate available until the end of the year, so do visit their website <http://www.brainwave.org.nz/whats-on/conference-2018/> to reserve your place.

They look forward to seeing you next March.

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## ***Kids' Exposure to Gambling: What's the problem and what to do about it?***

### **WELLINGTON**

**Where:** Wellington School of Medicine, 23a Mein St, Newtown WELLINGTON

**When:** 27<sup>th</sup> November 9.30 to 12.30

### **AUCKLAND**

**Where:** Pasifika Community Centre, Manukau Institute of Technology, North Campus, Gate 13, Alexander Crescent, Otara,

**When:** 29<sup>th</sup> November 9.30 to 12.30

Do you work in the problem gambling or child health sector?

Would you like the opportunity to hear the latest New Zealand research on children's exposure to gambling activities and gambling marketing, how it impacts them, and what they think about it?

Would you like the opportunity to workshop effective solutions to prevent future gambling harm with experts and colleagues in the sector?

YES, YES, and YES?

Join researchers from the University of Otago, Wellington, for a **free, half-day workshop** to learn about the latest research on the gambling activities and marketing 12-year-old children see throughout their day, every day, and what they think about it. Kids'Cam is an innovative, world-leading research project in which children wore wearable cameras to record, from their perspective, features in their day-to-day lives that impact their health. Findings will be presented from Kids'Cam Gambling, and from focus group discussions with children that aimed to understand the impact of gambling and its promotion on children. Attendees will have the opportunity to workshop effective solutions with sector experts and colleagues.

***Flyer attached***

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## **GOVERNMENT POLICY and LEGISLATION**

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### ***Time to take the politics out of child poverty***

**From: Andrea Jamison – IHC NZ (Child Wellbeing Network) – 21 November 2017**

The Children's Commissioner was on RNZ this week talking about why he is offering to broker talks aimed at getting cross party consensus on child poverty. The Commissioner clearly explains what needs to happen and why this moment in time holds such exciting potential for children's wellbeing. A great listen.

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetonoon/audio/2018622407/it-s-time-to-take-the-politics-out-of-it-judge-becroft>

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### ***List of government ministers in new government:***

#### **Jacinda Ardern**

Prime Minister

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

**Rt Hon Winston Peters**

Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Minister for State Owned Enterprises  
Minister for Racing

**Kelvin Davis**

Minister for Crown/Māori Relations  
Minister of Corrections  
Minister of Tourism  
Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)

**Grant Robertson**

Minister of Finance  
Minister for Sport and Recreation  
Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

**Phil Twyford**

Minister of Housing and Urban Development  
Minister of Transport

**Dr Megan Woods**

Minister of Energy and Resources  
Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration  
Minister of Research, Science and Innovation  
Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission

**Chris Hipkins**

Minister of Education  
Minister of State Services  
Leader of the House  
Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

**Andrew Little**

Minister of Justice  
Minister for Courts  
Minister Responsible for the GCSB  
Minister Responsible for the NZSIS  
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations  
Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry

**Carmel Sepuloni**

Minister for Social Development  
Minister for Disability Issues  
Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage  
Associate Minister for Pacific Peoples

**Dr David Clark**

Minister of Health  
Associate Minister of Finance

**Hon David Parker**

Attorney-General  
Minister for Economic Development  
Minister for the Environment  
Minister for Trade and Export Growth  
Associate Minister of Finance

**Hon Nanaia Mahuta**

Minister for Māori Development  
Minister of Local Government  
Associate Minister for the Environment

**Stuart Nash**

Minister of Police  
Minister of Fisheries  
Minister of Revenue  
Minister for Small Business

**Iain Lees-Galloway**

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety  
Minister of Immigration  
Minister for ACC  
Deputy Leader of the House

**Jenny Salesa**

Minister for Building and Construction  
Minister for Ethnic Communities  
Associate Minister of Education  
Associate Minister of Health  
Associate Minister of Housing and Urban Development

**Hon Damien O'Connor**

Minister of Agriculture  
Minister for Biosecurity  
Minister for Food Safety  
Minister for Rural Communities  
Associate Minister of Trade and Export Growth

**Clare Curran**

Minister of Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media  
Minister for Government Digital Services  
Associate Minister for ACC  
Associate Minister of State Services (Open Government)

**Ron Mark**

Minister of Defence  
Minister for Veterans

**Tracey Martin**

Minister for Children  
Minister of Internal Affairs  
Minister for Seniors  
Associate Minister of Education

**Hon Shane Jones**

Minister of Forestry  
Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister for Regional Economic Development  
Associate Minister of Finance  
Associate Minister of Transport

**Kris Faafoi**

Minister of Civil Defence  
Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
Associate Minister of Immigration

**Peeni Henare**

Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector  
Minister for Whānau Ora  
Minister for Youth  
Associate Minister for Social Development

**Willie Jackson**

Minister of Employment  
Associate Minister for Māori Development

**Aupito William Sio**

Minister for Pacific Peoples  
Associate Minister for Courts  
Associate Minister of Justice

**Meka Whaitiri**

Minister of Customs  
Associate Minister of Agriculture  
Associate Minister for Crown/Māori Relations  
Associate Minister of Local Government

**James Shaw**

Minister for Climate Change  
Minister of Statistics  
Associate Minister of Finance

**Julie Anne Genter**

Minister for Women  
Associate Minister of Health  
Associate Minister of Transport

**Eugenie Sage**

Minister of Conservation  
Minister for Land Information  
Associate Minister for the Environment

**Michael Wood**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Ethnic Communities

**Fletcher Tabuteau**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Regional Economic Development

**Jan Logie**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Justice (Domestic and Sexual Violence Issues)

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***UNCROC Monitoring Group report: Getting it Right. The Children's Convention in Aotearoa***

**From: Sarah Morris, Office of the Childrens Commissioner – 13 November 2017**

[The UNCROC Monitoring Group released a report](#) on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November about how New Zealand is putting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Children’s Convention) into practice, and where it can do better.

From 2018, the UNCROC Monitoring Group will publish progress reports focusing on legal and policy developments for children and young people in New Zealand and how those developments align with the principles of the Children’s Convention.

See media release from the Office of the Children’s Commissioner is copied over page:

**A new chapter for children’s rights in New Zealand?**

**Media release – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

The Children’s Commissioner is calling on the country to embrace children’s rights to ensure their overall well-being.

“The new Government has declared that ‘if we put child well-being at the heart of what we do, then the well-being of all New Zealanders will be lifted’.” said Judge Andrew Becroft.

“The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child shows us the many different ways that government can influence the well-being of children and young people. We have an opportunity now to cement our approach to child rights.”

The [UNCROC Monitoring Group has released a report](#) about how New Zealand is putting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Children’s Convention) into practice, and where it can do better.

The report makes three recommendations that Government can put into place immediately:

- Make sure children’s rights and needs are at the centre of policy and legislative reform. Identify where children’s rights are not being met, what needs to be done, who will do the work, when it will happen and how the work will be monitored.
- Allocate responsibility and resources to coordinate the implementation of the Children’s Convention across government.
- Ensure children and young people’s views are taken into consideration in the development of legislation and policies.

“Children’s voices need to be heard in our country. We are very bad at seeking out their voices, listening to them, factoring them into our decision making and then reporting back to children the decisions made.

“If the practice was ingrained in government departments and community groups, there would be a significant change in the way policy is created here – for example in areas of education, health and housing, and in the way we respond to child poverty.”

Upholding the Children’s Convention can improve the lives of children and young people living in the most difficult circumstances.

“We need to be much more positive about the Convention and what it can do for our children. Yes, 70% of our children do well, and some do outstandingly well. But 20% are struggling, and 10% do as badly, if not worse, than most comparable OECD countries. All our children would benefit significantly from the Convention if fully applied, but especially those whose needs are not being met.”

From 2018, the UNCROC Monitoring Group will publish progress reports focusing on legal and policy developments for children and young people in New Zealand and how those developments align with the principles of the Children’s Convention.

#### **Notes for editors**

*Getting It Right. The Children’s Convention in Aotearoa:* available from <http://www.occ.org.nz/childrens-rights-and-advice/uncroc/>

The report will be launched at 1.25pm today, at the Childhood Studies Colloquium at Victoria University of Wellington (Kelburn campus)

The Children’s Commissioner will be speaking at the launch, to be livestreamed from <http://www.facebook.com/childrenscommnz/>

#### **About the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC) Monitoring Group**

The UNCROC Monitoring Group monitors the New Zealand Government’s implementation of the Children’s Convention, its Optional Protocols and the Government’s response to recommendations from the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The Office of the Children’s Commissioner convenes this group. Permanent members include Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa (ACYA), the Human Rights Commission, Save the Children New Zealand and the United Nations Children’s Fund New Zealand (UNICEF).

## ***A stronger Healthy Homes Bill will be a pillar for child wellbeing***

**From: CPAG - 14 November 2017**

### **Media Release**

<http://www.cpag.org.nz/news/a-stronger-healthy-homes-bill-will-be-a-pillar/>

More than 40,000 children are hospitalised each year with preventable illnesses that can be attributed to poverty and poor living conditions, and vastly improving legislation around the quality and safety of rental homes is imperative if the wellbeing of children is to improve, says Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG).

Passing of the Healthy Homes Guarantee Bill (No 2), which is due to be debated in Parliament today, will herald a meaningful step forward for the health and wellbeing of hundreds of thousands of children.

CPAG supports ActionStation's call for further improvements to the new Bill, presented in an open letter to Parliament this morning, that will ensure health and safety standards are met and adequately monitored.

All houses, including those built before 2000 should be required to be insulated to the 2008 standard. Evidence shows that tenanted housing tends to be in worse condition and inadequately insulated compared to owner-occupied housing. Specific exemptions should not apply where the standards are not able to be met.

An adequate complaints procedure whereby solutions can be actioned immediately must be well-funded and supported as part Tenancy Services.

"Tenants should not have to wait for court proceedings to deem a landlord liable for maintenance when a well-qualified inspector may be able to expedite necessary repairs or upgrades," says Frank Hogan, CPAG law and housing spokesperson.

CPAG co-convenor Alan Johnson says that renters rights are an area of primary concern and ensuring that a process is in place that supports tenants to have their concerns addressed should be set out in a further amendment to the Residential Tenancies Act.

"The new Government has set out a number of changes to support tenants, especially for those in hardship, such as yearly rent increases as opposed to twice-yearly. We need to see this and more outlined in a new Bill to ensure that families are not being subjected to excessive increases they cannot afford," says Johnson.

CPAG also agrees that a process for escalation and increasing of sanctions for failure to comply should be added as a clause to the Healthy Homes Guarantee Bill (No 2).

"At the risk of landlords simply paying a fine and continuing to breach their obligations, there must be a process in place to escalate sanctions for continued non-compliance," says Hogan.

"If a health and safety issue is not addressed according to the timeframe provided to comply, landlords must be held to account.

"If you fail a Warrant of Fitness for your car, you can have your car taken off the road if you do not comply with the standard. In the same manner, a higher sanction must be applied for landlords who continuously fail to comply with the minimum standards outlined under the new Bill."

Minimum standards must also apply to other areas of safety, particularly the safety of children is concerned. These areas include lighting and electrical fixtures, landing and veranda barriers, handrails and latches. Housing must not only be able to be heated, but safely and efficiently.

CPAG says that if these standards were set out in legislation, and processes for compliance and complaints made much more robust, we would be much closer to a Warrant of Fitness-like certification for rental housing, and to increasing the standard of living for many children in low-income situations.

"We would see many fewer children in hospital with preventable illnesses and injuries, and avoid tragic deaths such as that of Emma-Lita Bourne," says Hogan.

Click here to read [CPAG's 2016 submission on the Healthy Homes Guarantee Bill \(No. 2\)](#).

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## ***We absolutely can do better to support the rights of children, says CPAG***

**From: CPAG – 13 November 2017**

**Media Release – 13 November 2017**

<http://www.cpag.org.nz/news/we-absolutely-can-do-better-to-support-the/>

Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) welcomes the new report "Getting it Right" by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC) Monitoring Group.

The group, convened by the Office of Children's Commissioner, reports on the concluding observations from the 2016 examination of New Zealand by the UN Committee, on our commitment to UNCROC. It recommends steps to ensure that as a nation, New Zealand upholds the principles of the Convention through policy reform, ensuring children have protection from the effects of poverty, violence and discrimination.

The report reinforces CPAG's child-centred policy recommendations which will reverse the work-focused systemic changes that have failed our children, and contributed to the vast levels of poverty we now see.

"For the last almost 25 years, since the New Zealand Government first committed to the principles of UNCROC, we have failed to take our responsibilities to that Convention seriously" says Janfrie Wakim, CPAG Co-convenor.

Implementing effective strategies to sustain reduced rates of child poverty and preventable illnesses, enable access to healthy homes and quality education and importantly provide income support for children without discrimination are critical.

"We absolutely can do better to support the rights of children in New Zealand. We agree the Children's Convention needs to be implemented across government, and children's rights must be at the centre of government policy and reform, so that all children in Aotearoa-New Zealand can flourish," says Wakim.

"The UNCROC Monitoring Group is a step in the right direction for children living in poverty, to assess how we are tracking, where we are falling short, and what steps need to be taken to ensure children's rights are better protected and respected in New Zealand."

CPAG commends the initiative by the UNCROC Monitoring Group, and agrees that if policies were created based on the fundamental principle that a child's needs must be met and their rights upheld, the result will be a society in which every person has the opportunity to do well in life, and in which all children thrive.

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### ***A good start to tackling CP***

**From: CPAG - 10 November 2017**

More news from CPAG, an op-ed on Newsroom by Susan St John.

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/@future-learning/2017/11/09/57870/susan-st-john-a-good-start-on-tackling-child-poverty>

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### ***Child Poverty Bill passed in Scotland***

**From: CPAG - 10 November 2017**

"Holyrood has passed "historic" legislation making Scotland the only part of the UK with statutory targets to cut child poverty."

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15649302.MSPs\\_pass\\_39\\_historic\\_39\\_legislation\\_aimed\\_at\\_cutting\\_child\\_poverty/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15649302.MSPs_pass_39_historic_39_legislation_aimed_at_cutting_child_poverty/)

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### ***Do we need a multi-party agreement on child poverty reduction?***

**From: Amanda d'Souza - 8 November 2017**

Many thanks for engaging with this discussion about how to help promote a non-partisan, high-level commitment to reduce child poverty, enshrined in law, so that it will endure – good to have some overall coherence and agreement that such an approach would be desirable. It was also great to see broad agreement on paid parental leave ([www.newshub.co.nz/home/politics/2017/11/national-does-u-turn-on-paid-parental-leave.html](http://www.newshub.co.nz/home/politics/2017/11/national-does-u-turn-on-paid-parental-leave.html)), which is widely recognised as another key aspect of good public policy for children. It would be great to extend this approach and build on the pre-election commitments from the major parties to tackle child poverty. I've had a few conversations and will follow-up some of the ideas. If you'd like to help and haven't already been in touch – please let me know: [amanda.dsouza@otago.ac.nz](mailto:amanda.dsouza@otago.ac.nz)

Regarding widening the focus to include child and whānau wellbeing and human rights. I think most of us agree, have that in mind, and are working towards that. Our political window of opportunity relates to child poverty reduction. It's politically courageous and has taken a long time. The risk is that we could overly complicate things or lose focus/momentum. Avoiding a narrow, deficit-based approach, and embedding a broader wellbeing perspective and UNCROC obligations etc is possible as part of the child poverty reduction work and might be more strategic in the current circumstances, laying the foundations for future development.

## ***Scrapping of Pay Equity Bill is great news for educators***

**From: NZEI-Te Riu Roa - 1 November 2017**

### **Media Release**

Low-paid workers in the education sector will be elated about today's announcement that the former National Government's Pay Equity Bill has been scrapped, says NZEI Te Riu Roa President Lynda Stuart.

"That bill was mean-spirited and shortsighted. It would have put more roadblocks in the way of women who were seeking pay equity and would have made it extremely difficult for more female-dominated sectors to repeat the success of Kristine Bartlett and her union E tū, who won significant pay rises for aged care workers," she said.

"We congratulate Labour, New Zealand First and the Greens for moving quickly to scrap this unjust bill, just as they promised during the election campaign."

NZEI is currently in negotiations with the Ministry of Education over a pay equity settlement for teacher aides. Claims for other school support staff will follow.

In June, NZEI also launched a claim for pay equity for early childhood teachers and staff, uniting the private and public early childhood sector in a historic bid for fair pay. NZEI has a group of potential claimants and is in the process of putting a case together.

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## ***New Minister of Education welcomed***

**From: Te Rito Maioha/ECNZ – 25 October 2017**

### **Media Release**

Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand (ECNZ) congratulates Chris Hipkins on his appointment as Minister of Education. "We look forward to working with the new minister to bring about real improvements in quality early childhood education (ECE)," said ECNZ Chief Executive Kathy Wolfe.

Congratulations are also extended to Tracey Martin on her appointment as Associate Minister of Education and Minister for Children; Kelvin Davis and Jenny Salesa, new Associate Ministers for Education; and Willie Jackson who will have responsibility for tertiary education under the Minister of Employment portfolio.

"Over recent years we have seen both Chris Hipkins and Tracey Martin to be strong advocates for early childhood education," said Kathy Wolfe. "It is encouraging that all the coalition partners share a great deal of common ground on key issues of importance to ECE, such as restoring the target of 100% qualified teachers in ECE centres and improving the ratio of teachers to infants and toddlers."

"The appointments of Chris Hipkins and Tracey Martin give us cause to be optimistic for the immediate future of quality ECE in New Zealand. As we observed last week on the formation of the new government, it is also essential in our view that per-child funding levels are restored and we look forward to engaging with the new ministers on all these issues without delay."

## ***New Education Minister welcomed with a briefing from educators***

**From: NZEI - 25 October 2017**

The announcement today of Chris Hipkins as the new Education Minister and Tracey Martin, Kelvin Davis and Jenny Salesa as Associate Education Ministers is great news for children and educators.

The combination of their talents and of a government consisting of Labour, NZ First and the Greens bodes well for education, says NZEI Te Riu Roa President Lynda Stuart.

All three parties have committed to reversing nine years of underfunding of children's learning in ECE and schooling.

"Educators are looking forward to real engagement with the Minister about a promised 30-year strategic plan for education. This will allow us to develop a shared vision for the sector," said Ms Stuart.

NZEI has forwarded to Mr Hipkins, Mr Davis, Ms Martin and Ms Salesa a Briefing for the Incoming Minister (BIM), compiled from the feedback of many thousands of NZEI members.

"When a government is formed, new Ministers receive a BIM from their officials, which advises them about the big issues they'll need to address. Our members were eager to give their advice too, because nobody knows the issues facing education better than the people working in our schools and ECE centres," said Ms Stuart.

The key issues identified for urgent action were additional support for special learning needs, better pay, and more teacher time for every child in primary school.

"The three parties in Government have been great supporters of quality public education, equity and fairness. We look forward to working with them and seeing their policy promises become a reality," said Ms Stuart.

"We believe every child deserves the best education in the world. And we believe that New Zealand can afford to provide this. It's just a matter of priorities, and now we have a government that thinks it is a priority too."

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## ***Abatement rates must be restored for working families to thrive***

**From: CPAG - 25 October 2017**

CPAG media release on the Labour/Green agreement.

<http://www.cpag.org.nz/news/abatement-rates-must-be-restored-for-working/>

A formal agreement between Labour and Greens may spell long sought after improvements to Working for Families (WFF), says Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG).

The agreement document says that an "overhaul" of the welfare system must "ensure access to entitlements, remove excessive sanctions and review Working For Families so that everyone has a standard of living and income that enables them to live in dignity and participate in their communities, and lifts children and their families out of poverty."

This is a significant commitment and CPAG commends the efforts of the parties to improving the lives of all children who are experiencing income poverty.

If many of the changes in Budget 2017 are maintained in principle, then there will be a noticeable improvement for many families on the lowest of incomes. But changes to the WFF abatement rate under Budget 2017 would reflect sharply on the ability of low-income working families to get ahead with their earnings.

Under its Families Package policies, Labour said it would:

Adopt the Budget 2017 changes to the Family Tax Credit base rate for subsequent children and new abatement rate.

While the promise to raise the threshold for maximum WFF eligibility to \$42,700 is a much welcome and needed change, the abatement rate for any money received over that amount will increase to 25% in 2018. This reduces the value of each dollar earned over the threshold by reducing Working for Families entitlements by 25 cents for every dollar earned over the threshold. The abatement rate was originally 20%, increased to 22.5% under National in 2012.

CPAG urges the new government to make a firm commitment to the low-income working families, by ensuring that their ability to earn extra is not compromised by higher abatement rates, which sharply reduce the needed child tax credits intended for the wellbeing of their children.

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## ***ECE sector has high hopes for new government - ECNZ***

**From: Te Rito Maioha/ECNZ - 20 October 2017**

### **Media Release**

The formation of a new coalition government today is welcomed by Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand (ECNZ). Labour, New Zealand First and the Green Party all promised to increase investment in quality early childhood education (ECE) in their pre-election manifestos.

"The close similarity in policy between Labour, Greens and NZ First raises hopes that ECE will finally begin to make up some of the ground lost over the last decade," said ECNZ Chief Executive Kathy Wolfe.

"All three parties are committed to restoring the target of 100% qualified teachers in ECE centres. This is a vital step towards raising educational achievement in New Zealand and we hope that the new government takes that step immediately. There is no reason not to."

The three coalition partners also signalled agreement on improving the ratio of teachers to infants and toddlers in ECE centres.

“The previous government increased funding only to cover increased participation in ECE,” said Kathy Wolfe. “This meant no effective increase in the per-child hourly rate of funding since 2008. It is essential that the new government restore per-child funding levels as well as invest in teachers.

“Education starts at birth, not at 5 or 6, and New Zealand needs to invest more in the early years now in order to see benefits in the years to come.

“We are also interested to see what consensus has been reached on tertiary student funding to reduce the debt burden on those wishing to train as teachers and their ability to upskill throughout their careers to maintain the high standards required of this profession.

“Finally, we will continue to advocate strongly for pay parity for ECE and Primary teachers and look forward to engaging with the new government to address this issue as a matter of urgency,” Kathy Wolfe concluded.

ECNZ looks forward to working with the new government to ensure that early learning matters.

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## REPORTS/RESEARCH/ARTICLES/RESOURCES

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### ***ECE involvement in CoL: sector voices***

**From: Education Central - 17 November 2017**

This week, **Education Central** looked at the background to early childhood services' involvement in Communities of Learning (CoL) and spoke to a teacher and principal involved. In this article they spoke to New Zealand Kindergarten's Clare Wells and the Minister of Education about what lies ahead.

<http://educationcentral.co.nz/ece-involvement-in-col-sector-voices/>

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### ***Positive pathways: ECE within Communities of Learning***

**From: Education Central - 15 November 2017**

Early childhood education (ECE) plays an important role in a child's learning journey. Yet the parameters for Communities of Learning | Kāhui Ako (CoL) set out by the Ministry of Education did not initially include ECE services. Many now do - but what's in it for them?

<http://educationcentral.co.nz/positive-pathways-ece-within-communities-of-learning/>

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### ***Liz Craig's Maiden Speech***

**From: Child Wellbeing Network – 17 November 2017**

Liz Craig Labour MP for Invercargill triggered the Child Wellbeing Network in 2010. Here is her maiden speech to Parliament.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/southland-times/news/98936851/liz-craig-maiden-speech>

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## **Health Survey 2016/17 report released**

**From: Child Wellbeing Network – 16 November 2017**

Tier 1 statistics 2016/17 from the New Zealand Health Survey – released 16 November 2017

### **Key findings**

Rates of high or very high levels of psychological distress in the previous four weeks, indicative of an anxiety or depressive disorder, have increased to 7.6%, up from 6.6% in 2006/07.

Unmet need for GP services due to cost have decreased for children to 3.0%, down from 4.7% in 2011/12 , but remained about the same for adults (14.3%).

Similarly, the rates for unfilled prescriptions due to cost for children improved to 3.9% from 6.6% in 2011/12, but stayed about the same for adults (7.0%).

Current smoking rates (smoke at least monthly) have fallen to 16%, compared with 20% in 2006/07.

One in five adults have a drinking pattern that carries a risk of harming the drinker or others - hazardous drinkers. One in three youth aged 18 to 24 years are hazardous drinkers.

1.2 million adults and 99,000 children (aged 2-14 years) are obese. Obesity rates have increased for adults and children since 2006/07.

### **Upcoming publications**

We will be publishing the New Zealand Health Survey Annual Data Explorer which includes over 200 indicators on 14 December 2017. The Data Explorer will consist of interactive tables, graphs and commentary.

The New Zealand Health Survey Regional Data Explorer will be published in early 2018. This will include statistics by District Health Board and Public Health Unit. The regional release will use three years of pooled data from the 2011-14 Health Survey, and three years of pooled data from the 2014-17 Health Survey. By pooling three years of data, we will be able to provide ethnic group comparisons by region.

If you have any queries about the Health Survey please email: [hdi@moh.govt.nz](mailto:hdi@moh.govt.nz)

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## **Slavery and health in NZ - open access article NZMJ**

**From: Dr Paula Thérèse King, Public Health Physician, Clinical Research Fellow, University of Otago**

**3 November 2017**

<http://www.nzma.org.nz/journal/read-the-journal/all-issues/2010-2019/2017/vol-130-no-1463-6-october-2017/7383>

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## **BRIFING PAPERS to INCOMING MINISTERS**

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### **1. Barnardos NZ**

An Aotearoa New Zealand where every child shines bright.

Here: <https://www.barnardos.org.nz/assets/Barnardos-Briefing-to-the-Incoming-Government-Nov2017.pdf>

### **2. NZEI-Te Riu Roa**

Here: [https://www.nzei.org.nz/NZEI/Media/News\\_public/2017/Briefing\\_to\\_the\\_Incoming\\_Minister.aspx](https://www.nzei.org.nz/NZEI/Media/News_public/2017/Briefing_to_the_Incoming_Minister.aspx)

### **3. A New Zealand where all children can flourish**

From: CPAG – 1 November 2017

<http://www.cpag.org.nz/news/a-new-zealand-where-all-children-can-flourish/>

Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) says that with a new minister for Child Poverty Reduction, there is hope for measurable improvement in the lives of affected children in Aotearoa-New Zealand.

It is highly significant that Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has taken this new role; children's well-being will be, at last, right at the heart of all policy.

We can expect to see some immediate improvements to income support through Working for Families, as Labour has indicated in an agreement with the Green Party. Increases in the minimum wage have also been heralded. Housing, education and health policy too will now have a different and much more child well-being focused lens.

CPAG is looking forward to seeing an agreement by Labour, NZ First and the Green party on child poverty measurements and regular reporting on the Government's progress in reducing child poverty and its distressing manifestations.

CPAG's priority for the new Government is the introduction of wide ranging policy changes recommended in a policy priorities briefing paper entitled a New Zealand where all Children can Flourish.

These policies, which have been compiled and endorsed by experts in the fields of health, education, housing, incomes and social security, would improve outcomes for all children.

We would encourage also, instating a range of indicators and goals, such as the reduction of child hospital admissions for preventable diseases by half, from 40,000 (yearly) to 20,000 by 2020. This, among other indicators, would signal that significant improvements in the wellbeing of all children have been achieved.

If implemented, these policies would ensure all children and their parents are able to access the necessary resources, supports and services that they so desperately need. Aotearoa-New Zealand would once again become 'a great place to bring up children', a country where all children can flourish.

For more information [download the paper here](#).

### **3. Social Service Providers Aotearoa**

The Provision of Social Services for Children, Young People and Families/Whanau - *Attached*

### **5. NZ College of Public Health Medicine**

A prescription for Health and Equity for All – *Attached*