



## Early Childhood Education and Care Regulatory Roundtable Summary

<b>Meeting</b>	1-2025
<b>When</b>	9:30am to 11:00am - 26 February 2025
<b>Location</b>	Education Standards Board – Level 6, 131-139 Grenfell Street, Adelaide and by videoconference
<b>Chair</b>	Sean Heffernan, Acting Registrar, Education Standards Board (ESB)
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>In person</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ailsa Fahy – Manager, Regulatory Operations, ESB</li> <li>• Annie Bryce – Edge Early Learning</li> <li>• Carrie Johnson – Community Children’s Centre South Australia</li> <li>• Jen Bais – Proxy for Kate Ryan, Preschool Directors Association of South Australia</li> <li>• Komala Champion &amp; Hannah Kavanagh – YMCA SA</li> <li>• Nicholas Smith &amp; Frances Boatwright – Happy Haven OSHC</li> </ul> <p><b>By videoconference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bec Vandermoer &amp; Jenny Wei – Out of School Hours Care South Australia</li> <li>• Bronwyn Donaghey – Association of Independent Schools of South Australia</li> <li>• Chelsea Davy - Camp Australia</li> <li>• Elizabeth Death – Early Learning and Care Council of Australia</li> <li>• Kathryn Jordan - Department for Education</li> <li>• Mark Corrigan – Catholic Education South Australia</li> <li>• Merrilyn Hannaford - Family Daycare Educators Association of South Australia</li> <li>• Tara Harnett – Goodstart Early Learning</li> <li>• Ngari Boehm – Proxy for Tobias O’Connor, SA Primary Principals Association</li> <li>• Tegan Pilkington – A/Manager, Compliance and Investigations, ESB</li> </ul>
<b>Apologies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catherine Matthews – Guardian Childcare and Education</li> <li>• Helen Ketley - Stepping Stone (SA) Childcare &amp; Early Development Centres</li> <li>• Jackie Jackman - Australian Childcare Alliance South Australia</li> <li>• Kate Ryan - Preschool Directors Association of South Australia</li> <li>• Susan Jackson – Early Childhood Australia South Australia</li> <li>• Tobias O’Connor – SA Primary Principals Association</li> </ul>
<b>Next meeting</b>	Tuesday 20 May 2025

Item	Discussion/points raised	Presenter
1	<b>Welcome/apologies and Acknowledgement of Country</b>	Chair
2	<p><b>Common non-compliance findings following pre-assessment and rating visits</b></p> <p>The ESB explained that since the introduction of pre-assessment and rating visits of services previously rated under the 2012 National Quality Standards (NQS), there has been a reduction in services being rated as 'Working Towards the NQS'. Mr. Heffernan explained that while this is a positive trend, there are common areas of non-compliance being identified, being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medication management</li> <li>• Emergency evacuations</li> </ul> <p>The Roundtable discussed common reasons why non-compliance is found with medication management, including generic medication being provided over name-brand or as prescribed by the children or young persons medical practitioner.</p> <p>The Roundtable also discussed reasons why non-compliance is being found with emergency evacuations with the ESBs position being that all services must undertake an emergency evacuation and invacuation rehearsal within every three-month period.</p>	Sean Heffernan
3	<p><b>Application and process timeframes and deadlines</b></p> <p>The ESB presented information regarding timeframes and processes for regulatory activities, including applications, assessment and ratings and compliance and investigations.</p> <p>The ESB explained the process of stopping the clock, which was published in the ESBs April 2024 bulletin and the Roundtable discussed various scenarios around application timeframes.</p> <p>The Roundtable also discussed the use of waivers and the processes for waiver applications.</p>	Ailsa Fahy
4	<p><b>Update from the Acting Registrar</b></p> <p>Mr. Heffernan provided an update to the Roundtable on the status of the recruitment of the next Registrar, with the Board actively working through the recruitment process.</p>	Sean Heffernan
6	<p><b>Meeting closed – 11.15am</b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 20 May.</p>	