



**NATIONALS** for Regional NSW

**Austin Evans MP**

**MEMBER FOR MURRAY**



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **MORE RELIEF FOR PRESCHOOLS IN MURRAY**

Parents in Murray struggling through tough drought conditions will have even more support to help their children attend preschool, thanks to an additional \$2.6 million from the NSW Liberals & Nationals.

Member for Murray Austin Evans welcomed the second round of the Preschool Drought Relief payments which includes over \$420,000 to preschools throughout the Murray electorate.

“The funding will be hugely helpful for families in Murray and across the State,” Mr Evans said.

“The drought in Murray has not relented, nor will the NSW Government’s commitment to supporting families doing it tough.

“Last year, we announced a \$3 million Preschool Drought Relief package for preschools in Murray and other drought-affected areas of NSW, and the funding was used to reduce fees, allow more flexibility with travel arrangements and increase sustainability.

“This boost will allow preschools in our region to continue to ease the pressures of the drought on our local families.

“The drought is still biting us here in Murray, so it is crucial that as a Government we continue to lend a hand where we can.”

Minister for Early Childhood Education Sarah Mitchell said the payments will go to preschools in areas that need it the most.

“Last year, I was made aware of some families making the heartbreaking decision to stop sending their children to preschool because it was just too expensive during these adverse conditions,” Ms Mitchell said.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals knew we needed to help, because every child needs access to those crucial years of preschool education to ensure they’re prepared socially, emotionally and cognitively for primary school.

“Services have so far reduced fees, reduced travel costs for parents who have to travel long distances and invested in their preschools to ensure they can operate as best as possible during these tough conditions.”

Further information is also available on the Department of Education’s website.



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