



## Mentoring Master Class in Early Childhood Education and Care

Early Childhood Education and Care Industry Roundtables were held across regional and remote Australia to assist the child care and early learning sector meet the requirements of the National Quality Framework.

Child care and early learning service providers on the New South Wales mid-north coast are clued in and collaborating thanks to an innovative mentoring master class run by Department of Education staff.

Responding to local child care and early learning providers' need for more information and guidance about changes to the sector, the department's NSW/ACT office invited 23 centre directors to participate in a two-day mentoring master class on best practice.

The master class focused on developing Workforce Development Plans, with the plans tailored to meet

the specific needs of each child care and early learning service. The plans primarily focused on strategies to better attract, recruit and retain staff in line with the National Quality Framework and the Early Years Workforce Strategy.

To ensure better connection and information sharing among the 23 services, the [mid-north coast early childhood sector website](#) was created and linked into a Facebook page.

Future projects such as the creation of a shared labour and training pool are already being discussed, stemming from discussions and networking at the master class. These

collaborations will greatly benefit the sector and the services which providers will be able to deliver.

The master class was an outcome from Early Childhood Education and Care Industry Roundtable discussions held across the region, supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Education. It was co-facilitated by Regional Educational, Skills and Jobs Coordinator, Don Mackenzie, Mid-North Coast Local Employment Coordinator (LEC) Renee Hawkins, and Local Early Childhood Education (ECE) Champion Marina Hynes.

