



22 April 2020

Dear friends in Christ,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your work in recent months. This has been a challenging period for all of us and, in particular, industries like childcare and education which have been hard hit. These are unprecedented times and your efforts are acknowledged.

The below advice is provided based on recent announcements.

- [JobKeeper](#): If your childcare service or educator has their own ABN, pays their own staff and shows the PAYG figures on their BAS and has had a 30 per cent (for educators) or 15 per cent (for childcare centres) reduction in GST turnover then they should apply for this JobKeeper payment and ensure employees complete the [employee nomination forms](#). Further information regarding the [JobKeeper package](#) has been released by the Federal Government.
- [Boosting Cashflow for employers](#): We encourage you to complete your BAS to ensure that any eligible payments or subsidies are received.
- [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package](#): Childcare services will be receiving funds as a result of this government package. No action is required in order to obtain this payment. Services will have received at least the first and second week of payments. Please note that the second week was a double payment.
- [Exceptional Circumstances supplementary payments](#): For those childcare services that are unable to access JobKeeper and do not have their own ABN, supplementary payments are available for childcare services through this package. Applying for this payment occurs through the Synod office. To apply for this payment, please complete the [template](#), and return it to [Lynde Davy](#) at the Synod office as a matter of urgency.
- The Queensland Government last week announced a package to support [community kindergartens](#) in Term 2. We are seeking further information on this payment and will provide clarity when this becomes available.

Updates will continue to be communicated to you as soon as practical. You can also refer to the [Synod coronavirus update website](#), as well as the [Australian Government](#) and [Queensland Health](#) websites. If members of your staff or the families of the children who you have in your care have been impacted as a result of COVID-19, they should refer to the [fact sheets developed](#) by the Federal Government in the first instance.

Unless there is a need to provide an extra-ordinary update, I anticipate the next update will be provided on Wednesday 6 May 2020.

Every blessing,

Rev Heather den Houting
General Secretary
Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod