



Friday 19 June 2020

Dear Families,

Last week our Services continued with our 'Lighting UP with Gratitude' initiative and we took this time to focus on the most important component to be grateful for – our children.

Many activities took place including the showcasing of appreciation for our children with our Educators and Service Managers expressing their gratitude for the children in their care.

Visit our social media pages, Like and Follow us to stay up to date with everything that's happening in our Services: [Follow us on Facebook](#) | [Like our Instagram](#) | [Connect on LinkedIn](#)



Supporting our Families

As you know, the past few months have been challenging and have impacted us all in many ways and as further restrictions are lifted, we continue to support our Families' needs. We are delighted to see so many Families returning to care. We have observed a significant increase in enquiries and new Families ready to commence care over the next few weeks.

There are many options available to assist Families during the transition to the re-commencing of fees on 13 July 2020. The Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) is returning, along with new transition measures to support Families as we move back to the CCS model. The CCS Activity Test requirements will be eased for 12 weeks, from 13 July to 4 October 2020, for Families who have been impacted by COVID-19. During this period, impacted Families will be able to access up to 100 hours per fortnight of subsidised care. This will assist Families to access affordable care as they return to the level of work, study or training you were undertaking prior to COVID-19.

In addition to the relaxed Activity Test, I encourage you to speak to your Service Manager in relation to other options that exist to support you, including sessional care and Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS).

Busy Bees Australia National Support Centre

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To assist with our continued forward planning, including rostering of staff, we would appreciate you notifying your Service Manager of any changes relating to your care requirements and to discuss your ongoing care needs.

No Increase in Fees

Just a reminder that Busy Bees can also confirm that there will be no fee increase for at least the period the CCS Activity Test is relaxed.

Updating your Income and Activity Test

In preparation for 13 July it is important for Families to update your **income** and **activity levels**. This can be done via your Centrelink online account through myGov or the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.

Families who have received CCS in the 2018-2019 financial year (that is, for the period between July 2018 - June 2019), are required to confirm their income for that financial year, by 30 June 2020.

Families can do this by:

- Lodging their Tax Returns with the Australian Tax Office; OR
- Completing an 'Advise non-lodgement of tax return' with Centrelink, if you don't need to lodge a tax return.

NOTE: CCS won't be active until you have confirmed your income, and CCS will not be back dated.

How do I apply?

If you want to get CCS when it starts again, and you haven't already applied, you should [submit your claim](#) now.

Further information about updating your Family Income Estimate for the 2020-21 financial year can be found on the Services Australia website link here: <https://bit.ly/2YZbCJF>

If you have any further questions in regards to the above, please visit the Services Australia website via the following link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/>

All prior communications sent to Families for your reference can be located on the Busy Bees Website <https://www.busybees.edu.au/corona-virus-updates>

Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to welcoming you back into our Services.

Warm Regards.

Robert Hughes
Chief Executive Officer