

Department of Defence

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DEFENCE CHILD CARE PROGRAM—UPDATE ON TRANSITION TO NEW PROVIDER B4KIDS PTY LTD

The purpose this DEFGRAM is to update interested Defence employees and families on the transition of management of Defence Child Care Centres to the new provider, B4Kids Pty Ltd.

B4Kids assumes management responsibility for all 18 Defence Long Day Care Centres, and three Out of School Hours Care Facilities, from Monday, 18 May 2009. The transfer of child care licences and associated approvals in all States and Territories have been confirmed. This is extremely good news for families as it will ensure continuity of care for their children.

B4Kids have confirmed that all Defence Child Care Centres are operating today and are fully staffed and compliant with legislated ratios. Staff have been offered employment contracts that comply with the relevant award conditions in each State and Territory.

B4Kids has a significant responsibility to families and their children and their philosophy is to ensure that the staff are of the highest quality and are suitably qualified to provide the highest level of care possible.

Despite not being legally obliged to do so, B4Kids are honouring all employees' rates of pay and their previous service with ABC. This means staff start dates with ABC will be recognised and all paid leave entitlements—holiday, sick and long services leave—will be honoured by B4Kids.



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