

ANONYMOUS 17466 - New submission from Early Years Strategy - Public Submissions

Parental leave isn't long enough and options to non-institutional based care is insufficient such as family day care especially for younger kids. 1 carer to 8-10 kids does not allow for the relationship to be a priority as the person they are with when without their parent. Professional development for childcare staff is lacking as I often see outdated behavioural principles used. They don't get paid enough nor does the role attract good quality people who have the psychological capacity to develop a secure relationship with a child. Parent child relationships and family stress should be the most prioritised outcome given the research shows you'll get most bang for your buck focusing on this, including long term outcomes for society. The rates of birth trauma are astronomical and sets mother's up for poor mental health and has such a profound long term effect on infants. Medicalisation i.e., viewing this process through a pathology lense is majorly problematic. Obstetricians should be there for when things don't go well, not creating the stress and pressure and abuse to result in a situation where they can feel most useful. More supports and education for home births and midwife led births in non hospital looking settings. There is not enough support for postpartum e.g., rebates for postpartum doulas