<u>17217 - New submission from Early Years Strategy - Public Submissions</u>

Childcare NEEDS to be fully subsidised by the government. The fact that it is not is having long term consequences on mothers and women, and facilitating the gender inequality gap of the patriarchy. Childcare workers must also be paid fairly for the important and skilled labour they are doing, far greater than what they are now. More staff must be also employed to enable greater access to places, as wait list times are ridiculous, and the teacher/child ratio must be far less than what it is now (ie, greater amount of staff is needed).