



# QUEENSLAND INDEPENDENT EDUCATION UNION

BRISBANE  
346 TURBOT ST  
SPRING HILL Q 4000  
P O BOX 418  
FORTITUDE VALLEY

Phone: 07 3839 7020  
Fax: 07 3839 7021  
Freecall: 1800 177937  
Email: [enquiries@qieu.asn.au](mailto:enquiries@qieu.asn.au)  
Internet: [www.qieu.asn.au](http://www.qieu.asn.au)  
ABN: 45 620 218 712

Monday, 23 November 2009

ECE-CB09018js

## *Early Childhood Education*



## **CHAPTER BRIEFING No. 16**

### **Negotiations involving ACSEA Agreement to be balloted**

Dear Colleagues

Following protracted negotiations, a draft document has been produced for consideration by employees, and if approved to be filed for certification with the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission.

The hours of work for teachers and payment for 52 weeks for assistants were two key concerns identified by members. The proposed Agreement contains the existing Award provisions relating to each of these issues. Consequently, these existing conditions will be protected.

Wage increases of 4% effective from 1 July 2009 and 4% from 1 July 2010 are contained in the proposal. Significantly, the proposed Agreement also contains a commitment to match the wage outcomes for State school teachers if DECKAS funding is increased to cover such additional increases.

The Queensland Government must now demonstrate the value it places on Early Childhood Education by increasing the level of DECKAS funding.

The proposed Agreement has a nominal expiry date of 31 December 2010. Previous briefings have identified that this time period is the extent of the guaranteed funding under DECKAS. However, unless it is replaced by a new Agreement, or it is terminated by order of the Industrial Commission, the proposed Agreement will continue to operate past that date.

The proposed Agreement contains a provision that a number of issues (including a review of wage rates for assistants, remote area incentive arrangements, redundancy provisions, paid maternity leave, and pupil free days) will continue to be negotiated during 2010.

The proposed Agreement is the best that could be achieved through negotiations at this stage. We acknowledge that it does not directly address a number of issues which have been raised by members. Your Union will continue to pursue these matters in the new year.

The employers will now make a copy of the proposed Agreement available to all employees, and advise employees of the ballot process. Members with any questions or concerns regarding the proposed Agreement are invited to contact their Union.

Kind regards

**John Spriggs**  
**Senior Industrial Officer**