

# Intensive Early Childhood Education and Care Research Project

Parkville Institute &

Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research

## What should case managers tell families...

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We have agreed that it would be good for **Child X** to participate in an early childhood education and care program. There is a new early education and care centre being opened in our area which is designed for children who are living with high levels of stress and social disadvantage, and I thought it might suit your child and family. Families don't have to pay fees to attend.

The research childcare centre offers intensive early childhood education and care. Previous research including research done by the University of Melbourne has found that children who participated in an intensive education and care program showed very positive learning and development outcomes when compared to similar children who attended local childcare or stayed at home. Children aged under three years of age are able to enrol and they are given a place for 5 hours a day 5 days a week. This is part of a research project to see whether an intensive model of early education and care can have the same positive benefits for children living in other suburbs of Melbourne or other parts of Australia.

Is this something you are interested in hearing more about? If so, I will pass on your names and contact details to Nichola who is co-ordinating the project and who will arrange a time to meet with you to discuss the project further. I will also need to share some brief information with her about why your family and social circumstances suggest this program would be a good fit for your child and family. Nichola can explain more about the centre and what the research involves. Once you hear more from Nichola you can then decide whether you would like to be involved in the project.