



## **Protect EBASCC – Your Urgent Action is Needed!**

Dear EBASCC Families and Staff,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm reaching out to you today with some important news regarding our community-based Eastwood Before and After School Care Centre (EBASCC) which has been operating under parent management for the past 36 years. The Department of Education have notified us that the running of EBASCC will now be open to private and commercial operators via an application process known as tendering. If EBASCC are not successful in winning the tendering process to continue running this service, there will be significant implications for all families, children, staff and our community.

### ***What might change if EBASCC is run by a private/commercial operator?***

- **Increase in costs:** Privatisation often leads to increased costs and decreased service quality. We may see higher fees for parents and caregivers, along with potential cuts to the services our children rely on.
- **Reduced management proximity:** Under a commercial/private operator, the local manager we know and trust may no longer have the authority they currently do. Instead, decisions about EBASCC would be made by regional directors who may not have a personal connection with our children.
- **Loss of parental involvement and input:** Currently, parents have a direct say in how EBASCC is run through our committee. If privatised, we would lose this control and be subject to the discretion of the new operator.
- **Change in values and approach:** EBASCC is more than just a place for our children to be cared for; it's a space where they can learn, grow, and have fun. The unique play-based approach may be at risk if it is in the hands of a commercial/private operator.
- **Reduced or zero financial support to the school:** EBASCC operates in a financially responsible manner, supporting Eastwood Public school programs and infrastructure. Privatisation could jeopardise this support and strain our school's resources.

### ***We cannot stand by and let this happen without a fight. Here's what you can do to help:***

1. **Contact your local MP:** Call Jordan Lane, MP, Member for Ryde on (02) 9808 3288 or email [ryde@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ryde@parliament.nsw.gov.au) and express your concerns about the potential privatisation of EBASCC.
2. **Scan the QR code and sign our petition:** Please sign and share with your family and friends!



3. **Spread the word:** Talk to your neighbours, fellow parents, and colleagues about what's happening. The more people we have on board, the stronger our voice will be.

Our EBASCC family is more than just a collection of individuals; we are a tight-knit community that cares deeply about the well-being of our children. Let's join together to protect what we've built and ensure that EBASCC continues to thrive for years to come.

**Thank you for your support! Together, we can make a difference!**