

### What will happen when my child reaches year 3?

Children who complete year 2 in an early childhood school are even better equipped for the transition to the next stage of their schooling. Children moving on to Year 3 will be able to access the public school for the Priority Enrolment Area (PEA) in which the family lives. They will also have access to an out-of-area school in a suburb near the Early Childhood School if the school has vacancies. You will need to contact the school of your choice for enrolment details and to discuss the availability of placement with the school principal.

### Will childcare continue to be available?

Yes, child care will continue to operate at the O'Connor Cooperative School.

The school has provided a range of childcare options for children and their families. This has included before and after school care for kindergarten – year 2 aged children, as well as long day care for preschool aged children.

Please contact the school for more information concerning child care arrangements for 2009.

### How do I enrol my child?

Please contact the school to enrol your child for 2009.



### Map showing location of school



### Contact details

O'Connor Cooperative School  
MacPherson Street  
O'Connor ACT 2602

### Enquiries

Telephone: 02 6205 6340



Education and Training

# O'Connor Cooperative School



ACT Public Schools *So much more to offer*

## From the Ministers

The ACT Government is committed to giving Canberra's children the best start in life.

With increasing recognition throughout the world of the important role education plays in children's early years, our early childhood schools are an important part of this commitment.

The O'Connor Co-operative School is the forerunner of the new early childhood schools opening in 2009. The early learning programs delivered at the O'Connor Cooperative School are widely recognised by the Canberra community as high quality and as a result there is strong demand for places at the school.

We encourage you to make contact with the school and have a look at what is on offer for your family.

### **Katy Gallagher**

Deputy Chief Minister  
Minister for Health  
Minister for Disability and Community Services

### **Andrew Barr**

Minister for Education and Training

## Early childhood schools

From 2009 five early childhood schools will be available to Canberra families. The new early childhood schools located in Lyons, Isabella Plains, Southern Cross (Scullin) and Narrabundah will operate as early learning and development centres providing integrated services for children (birth to 8 years) and their families.

The O'Connor Cooperative School will continue to operate as a Preschool to Year 2 early childhood school.

This is a nation-leading approach to the early years of learning that will give children a great start to their education. It will provide a range of services, including healthcare, family support and counselling to help parents and carers.

The new schools are an exciting addition to public education provision in the ACT and build upon the model developed at the O'Connor Cooperative School.

## The O'Connor Cooperative School

O'Connor Cooperative School has a strong record of providing high quality education from preschool to year 2. The model developed by the O'Connor Cooperative School community has informed the development of the other four early childhood school sites.

The school is located in a garden setting and is supported by an active parent community. This secure environment and all those that work in partnership within it, enable stimulating, challenging and developmentally appropriate learning to take place, with the best possible outcomes for children.

O'Connor Cooperative School is committed to excellence in early childhood education. The school works with its parents, staff and students to create strong, positive and respectful connections within the school community. The school aims to develop intellectual, personal, social and environmental responsibility with students, parents and staff.

The school will continue to provide a high quality and innovative early childhood education program for children in preschool, kindergarten, year 1 and year 2.

## Early Childhood Schools Framework

The *Early Childhood Schools Framework* provides the background and rationale for this exciting new approach to early childhood schools. In particular the Framework outlines the key goals and elements guiding the development of early childhood schools.

The Framework is available from O'Connor Cooperative School or from the Publications section of the ACT Department of Education and Training website: [www.det.act.gov.au/](http://www.det.act.gov.au/)

## Frequently asked questions

### **Will O'Connor Cooperative continue to be a school offering teaching and learning programs?**

The school will continue to operate as a school with a principal, teachers and support staff.

The teaching and learning program at the O'Connor Cooperative School will continue to be based upon the following values:

- A thriving school community where staff and families openly work as willing partners;
- A safe, inclusive setting where strengths and needs of all members of our school community are recognised, respected and valued;
- A family-friendly environment where privacy of personal information is respected and safeguarded; and
- The professionalism of staff as educational leaders committed to play-based best practice in early learning.

The education component (preschool to Year 2) is consistent with the early childhood band of the ACT curriculum framework.

