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### EScan 2015 Early Release: Summary of key findings

In September, CS&HISC conducted an online survey as one of four methods employed by CS&HISC to collect stakeholder feedback that informs the development of the 2015 EScan. An early release of key findings from over 500 respondents is now available for [download here](#).

### Upcoming Webinar: 'The Great Outdoors'

Save the date for the next ECA Learning Hub webinar: 'The Great Outdoors' on Thursday 11 December. As Australians, we tend to think of ourselves as an 'outdoors' culture. But do we really make the best use of our outdoor spaces? How can we provide spaces that invite genuine, meaningful learning for children - not just a space for physical play, but one for inquiry, curiosity and exploration as well. This webinar will help to show you how. Bookings for this webinar can be made on the ECA [website](#).

### Mapping Tool for Early Childhood Education Qualifications

The Community Services & Health Industry Skills Council (CS&HISC) has created a mapping tool to assist Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) with their transition to the new CHC Early Childhood Education qualifications. It summarises the changes and identifies the gap training that will be required for those people who hold the CHC08 qualifications and are seeking recognition toward the new CHC qualifications.

Find out more in [Appendix A - Mapping of units of competency in Certificate III and Diploma of Early Childhood Education Qualifications](#). A copy of the mapping tool has also been placed on the [Skills Plan Website](#) along with the earlier mapping tool developed by Tasmanian RTOs in collaboration with ECA.

### Australian School based Apprenticeship (ASbA) Project Update

This year ECEC services across the state have participated in initiatives targeted at students in years 10, 11 and 12 with the aim of giving them a real insight into the role of an educator and highlighting the career and qualification pathways available. These initiatives have included career awareness days, prepare for work sessions and work experience. Over 100 aspiring educators have participated, culminating in over 40 formal applications for Australian School based Apprenticeships. The selection and recruitment phase is still underway but has already identified a number of very capable and highly motivated students who have been offered an ASbA for 2015. These students will be employed for between 1 and 2 days per week in their service. We are currently in the process of planning how this program will operate in 2015 with a view to services offering ASbAs in 2016. If you would like to provide feedback or receive further information about this valuable recruitment program please get in touch with me.

**Please Note:** It is not too late to employ an ASbA, students can still be signed up early next year. There are a number of high quality candidates across the state that have been screened, interviewed and rated as worthy of an ASbA. The only barrier is lack of employment opportunities. If you are interested in considering any of these students please let me know.

### February Roundtable

The next Roundtable meeting on the 11th Feb 2015 will be an open invitation to the sector and is a joint meeting being held in conjunction with RTOs from across the state. The day will provide a unique opportunity to connect with the broader sector. Possible agenda items and working group activities could include:

- Evaluation of an LLN assessment tool for the sector
- Interpretation of ASQA standards
- Moderation and Compliance issues
- Development of a 'Work Placement Guidelines Book', including protocols and expectations for work place visits, time frames for visits, development of training plans, expectations of workplace mentors and of students.

Feedback on agenda items would be greatly appreciated and can be forwarded to me up until the end of December. A formal invitation to participate will be sent out in January. I urge the sector to support this Roundtable!

### Reminder: add your voice to the VET reform discussion

If you have yet to do so, I strongly encourage you to take the time to complete the VET reform discussion [survey](#). Your feedback needs to be submitted before 8 December 2014.

### Dates to Remember

#### December

- 19 school holidays commence
- 8 VET reform survey closes

#### February

- 5 school resumes
- 11 Roundtable meeting Campbell Town

*Cheers*

Roger

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