



The Hon Jason Clare MP
Minister for Education

The Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Minister Assisting the Minister for
the National Disability Insurance Scheme

Reference: MC25-001107

Mayor Matt Burnett
President
Australian Local Government Association
8 Geils Court
DEAKIN 2600 Australia

By email: president@alga.asn.au

Dear Mayor Burnett

Thank you for writing to the Hon Anika Wells MP, Minister for Sport, on 12 September 2024 regarding resolutions from the 2024 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) in relation to anti-choking devices. We note that your letter indicates the resolution was shared with us last year, however, our Offices have been unable to locate a record of that correspondence.

We note the details of NGA motion 99, which calls on the Australian Government to fund anti-choking devices in all schools and childcare centres and encourage sporting clubs to include them in first aid kits. The Government takes matters relating to safety in education seriously and is committed to ensuring that schools and early childhood education and care (ECEC) services are safe environments.

While the Australian Government plays a leadership role in education and provides substantial funding for schools, state and territory governments and non-government education authorities are responsible for the day-to-day administration and operation of schools. This includes ensuring appropriate measures are in place to support the safety of students. If you have not done so already, you may wish to contact state and territory Ministers for Education for consideration of this motion at the jurisdictional level. I have enclosed contact details for your reference.

The safety and protection of children attending ECEC services is the paramount objective for providers and services approved under the National Quality Framework (NQF). The NQF is a comprehensive national regulatory system, administered by state and territory regulatory authorities that ensures the safety, health and wellbeing of all children attending ECEC services. All approved services are required to have a policy and procedure in relation to nutrition, food and beverages and incident, injury, trauma and illness. ECEC services must also ensure reasonable precautions and adequate supervision to protect children from harm and hazard are in place. Determination of the use of anti-choking devices in a service would be a matter for approved providers of that service, subject to any policies or legislative requirements of the state and territory in which they are located.

Yours sincerely


JASON CLARE

11 / 3 / 2025

Encl. State and territory Education Ministers contact list


ANNE ALY

18 / 03 / 2025