



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Yurauna Early Childhood Centre rated Exceeding National Quality Standard**

Yurauna Early Childhood Centre has received its Final Assessment and Rating Report, following the completion of the recent Assessment and Rating process under the National Quality Framework.

Yurauna has received an “Exceeding” rating in all seven Quality Areas, with an overall rating of Exceeding National Quality Standard. This is an exceptional result, and is the highest possible rating that can be received under the National Quality Framework.

Yurauna Early Childhood Centre is an early education service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children whose parents are studying at CIT Yurauna. CIT Yurauna is the lead agency, and sub-contracts Northside Community Service to operate the service. The service is directly funded by the ACT Government, and is free to access.

The service is an example of positive outcomes for children, families and the wider community when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are supported to lead and implement programs. CIT Yurauna has had a long history of working to remove barriers from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, and Yurauna Early Childhood Centre has seen that approach extend to the youngest members of the community.

The Exceeding result for Yurauna Early Childhood Centre is not just a success for Centre Director Mel Crawford, her educator team, and the CIT Yurauna community. It is a success for programs that invest in addressing structural inequalities that have systemically disadvantaged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children deserve free access to high-quality and culturally-safe early education, owned and led by community. Yurauna’s positive Assessment and Rating result gives us further evidence and credibility as we continue discussions with Governments about the funding and expansion of Yurauna specifically, and early education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children more generally.

This result is also thanks to the generosity, patience, wisdom and guidance of Ngunnawal Elder and Director of CIT Yurauna Caroline Hughes, and the entire CIT Yurauna team. As we always say, we are guests in their space. We are supporting their children and families. This rating belongs to them as much as us.

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