



SA Childcare Association

Nurturing Winners!

The state of the ECD sector – survey closed on 14 September 2020

This data is intended for informative purposes only. SA Childcare Association cannot be held liable for decisions made by stake holders on account of the information provided.

Participants

Our survey generated data from 1792 participants over all 9 provinces, 53% of these are employed by or own an ECD centre and 47% were parent/grandparents. *This is almost a 50/50 split, which is ideal.*

School open or closed?

According to the data received, currently 88% of ECD centres managed to open their doors but 12% not. *We believe the “closed schools” percentage might be higher, considering the probability of a person having access to data and Facebook and participating in the survey once their livelihood has been lost.*

How much kids returned to school?

Almost 2/3 of ECD centres have between 10%-50% of children back in school while 1/3 of ECD centres have between 60%-100% of children back in school.

Staff employment

1/3 of ECD centres retained 100% of their work force but interestingly the second highest indicator was that 15% of schools could only retain 10% of their staff. The facts are that most schools had to lay off a portion of their staff compliment but that 1/3 retained 100% shows the owners dedication to prevent job losses.

Salaries of staff

The *average* salary of an assistant is: R 3 810 with the highest being R10 000 and the lowest R1 500.

The *average* salary of a teacher is: R 6 000 with the highest being R18 000 and the lowest R1 500.

Children

79% of kids returned to school and of those, the vast majority (97%) are comfortable with the Covid-19 protocols, have adapted easily and enjoy school.

Fees

91% of parents/guardians whose children are now in school are paying the full monthly fee, the balance are paying a discounted rate.

What are the two main reasons why a child has not returned to school?

1. Risk of Covid-19 infection (48%)
2. Financial (33%)

Only 5% of children are lost to "online" schooling. We understand from this data that a fear of Covid-19 infection keeps parents from taking their children back to school.

When will the balance of children go back to school?

65% of parents indicated that they would send their kids back in January 2021.

Conclusion

Our data reflects a challenging time for the sector but understanding that if an ECD centre could “ride the storm” until January 2021, they should see a recovery of most children by early 2021.

Regards

