## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## CASTLE HILL FAMILIES SET TO BENEFIT FROM BEFORE AND AFTERSCHOOL CARE VOUCHERS

Parents and carers of children enrolled in primary schools in NSW will benefit from a new \$155 million program for Before and After School Care (BASC) services to provide greater support and access to BASC services.

The \$500 voucher will assist families who use BASC services by contributing to the parent gap fee component of their session fees.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said this will be a much needed support for working families.

"It's been challenging for families with school-aged children, many have had to juggle the demands of supervising their kids' education while working remotely," Mr Williams said.

"These vouchers will help ease the financial burden and allow greater access to BASC services."

Minister for Education and Early Learning Sarah Mitchell said that both providers and users of BASC would benefit from this announcement.

"These vouchers are all about providing affordable access to care for families, particularly after a tough two years that have disrupted access to school and BASC," Ms Mitchell said.

"Every family with children at a NSW primary school is eligible for one voucher per child, which will provide each child with approximately 60 sessions of free BASC." The NSW Department of Education has partnered with Service NSW to roll out the program, which will be delivered through Service NSW and will follow a similar premise to the current Dine and Discover Vouchers.

Providers and customers can register and apply online via a MyServiceNSW account, in the app, or by visiting their nearest Service Centre.

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