



Nation-wide Assessment of CCTV in ECEC Settings

Sector Briefing | 19th December 2025



Acknowledgement of Country

From the Land of the Ngunawal and Ngambri people

National Child Safety Reform

These reforms reflect both government and community expectations, reinforcing a culture of child safety above all else, and aligning with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.



NQF legislative changes from 2026



Updated legislation strengthens oversight to embed child safety into every service. New National Laws will include safe use of digital devices, making inappropriate conduct an offence, expanding powers of Regulatory Authorities, mandating nationally consistent child safety training and additional measures for family day care.



Transparency and information for parents

Expanding service quality and safety information available to families, empowering informed decisions on education and care. Phase 1 implemented, with Phase 2 being implemented November 2025.



CCTV assessment in services

National CCTV assessment at nominated services to explore the use of CCTV with a focus on ethics, safety and transparency.



Additional measures

- Rapid assessment of child supervision practices (i.e. under the roof practices)



New child safety training

Mandatory child safety training will support educators to have the knowledge, skills ability to detect abuse, escalate concerns and report. The training is being developed by the Australian Centre for Child Protection, with the foundation training package available from February 2026.



National Early Childhood Worker Register

A National Early Childhood Worker Register will give regulators clear visibility of who is working in the sector and where. Testing phase to start in December 2025 with a national roll out from February 2026.

The National Quality Framework (NQF) operates through an applied law system, comprising the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations.



Australia's system for regulating and improving the quality of early childhood education and care services.



Key objective is to ensure children experience safe, high-quality early education and care.



All Australian Governments have agreed to the NQF.



Approved learning frameworks place the highest expectations on learning, development and wellbeing for children.

Today's session

OBJECTIVES

- Present an overview of the CCTV Assessment's **objectives and timelines**.
- Outline the **Expression of Interest (EOI)** process to participate in the Assessment
- Explain the Assessment **data collection and monitoring process**, including what would be required of participating providers/services.

AGENDA

- Welcome and overview
- Assessment design, including scenario overview
- Participation and eligibility requirements
- Implementation arrangements and timeline

The Assessment will build a strong evidence base on what role CCTV might play in enhancing child safety in ECEC settings.

Stage 1: Initiation

Oct-Nov 2025

Understand the existing research and establish foundations for the Assessment.

Stage 2: Assessment design

Dec 2025 – Early Jan 2026

Work with experts, governments and sector stakeholders to agree the Assessment parameters.

Stage 3: Implementation

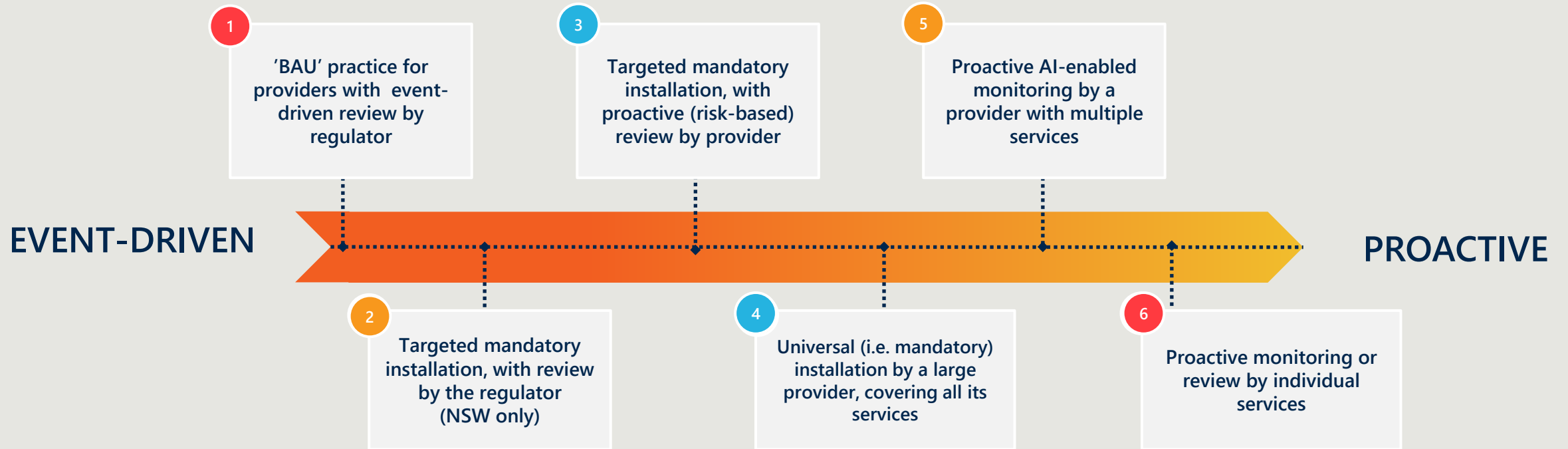
Mid Jan – July 2026

Support participants to implement the Assessment and generate a strong evidence base.

Note that the Assessment does not seek to determine whether the number of child safety incidents goes down. Rather it seeks to assess:

- What effects CCTV may have on parent perceptions of safety, and workplace cultures and behaviour.
- How CCTV data can be best managed and leveraged.
- What are the costs and practical / technical considerations associated with CCTV use.

The Assessment will explore six scenarios for the use of CCTV in ECEC settings, reflecting different implementation approaches.



KEY:



Scenarios that you can opt-in to for the Assessment



Scenarios that you may be able to opt-in to for the Assessment



Pre-determined Assessment scenarios

The first scenario will explore current practice in most services, while the second tracks the early impact of NSW's policy on mandatory use.

1

'BAU' practice for providers with event-driven review by regulator

Services voluntarily use existing CCTV. Footage is only supplied to regulatory authorities (RAs) for use in investigations, if required.

Provider impact:

- Operate CCTV in line with current practice.
- Supply footage to RAs for use in investigations, as per standard requirements.
- Complete provider, staff and parent survey on perceived effects of CCTV in your services.
- Provide information on costs involved in installing and maintaining CCTV.

2

Targeted mandatory installation, with review by the regulator (NSW only)

Certain services will be required by to install CCTV. Footage will be accessed by the RA for use in investigations, as required.

Provider impact:

- Operate existing or install new CCTV in different configurations, determined by the Assessment.
- Supply footage to RAs for use in investigations, as per standard requirements.
- Complete provider, staff and parent survey on perceived effects of CCTV.
- Provide information on costs involved in installing and maintaining CCTV.

Providers and/or services can select from up to four scenarios.

3

Targeted mandatory installation, with proactive (risk-based) review by provider

Providers select some of their services to install CCTV and review samples of footage based on different risks factors e.g. location or time of day.

Service impact:

- Providers will determine which services will participate.
- Services review samples of CCTV footage on ad hoc basis (~2 hrs /week), to identify safety concerns guided by a pre-defined risk framework.
- Submit status and monitoring reports (~1 hour /week)

4

Universal installation by a large provider

Large providers are progressively installing CCTV across all their services and will adopt a monitoring and / or approach based on their preference. A key variable here is that installation is 'mandatory' rather than voluntary.

Service impact:

- Choose a CCTV monitoring approach; random, risk-based, incidental or for use in investigations only.
- Review CCTV to identify safety concerns in line with chosen approach – random or risk-based (~2-4 hours week).
- Submit status and monitoring reports (~1 hour week)

5

Proactive AI-enabled monitoring by a provider with multiple services

Providers/services install AI-enabled CCTV with continuous monitoring to automatically flag risks and raises alerts for any child safety concerns. These should be actioned by service staff.

Service impact

- Respond to AI-driven risk and safety alerts.
- Record accurate safety alerts and false positives, by type of harm.
- Submit status and monitoring reports (~1 hour p/week)

6

Proactive monitoring or review by individual services

Providers/services install CCTV in all, or some of their services. Each commit to regular weekly CCTV review to identify safety and compliance risks.

Service impact:

- Review CCTV footage to identify safety concerns and assess quality of practice on an ad hoc basis (~4 hrs weekly).
- Submit status and monitoring reports (~1 hour p/week)

Note that for each scenario, providers/services will also be required to supply footage to RAs for use in investigations, as per standard requirements. Providers/services will also be required to complete provider, staff and parent surveys on perceived effects of CCTV.

All centre-based day care and standalone early learning services are invited to express interest in participating in the nationwide Assessment.

Who is invited to submit a Stage 1 EOI?

- Services with CCTV systems installed and operational*
- Centre Based Day Care, and preschools (not-school based)

How will a sample be selected?

A statistically significant representation of:

- Services across metropolitan, regional, rural and remote Australia.
- Services across all Australian States and Territories.
- Mix of small, medium and large providers/services.
- Mix of community-based, not-for-profit, government and private providers/services.

What does participation involve?

- **Assessment set up**
 - Select which Assessment scenario that will be implemented.
 - Provide information on CCTV infrastructure, including camera placement and data storage arrangements.
- **Ongoing monitoring of CCTV**
 - Conduct monitoring approach specified by chosen scenario.
 - Maintain records of monitoring activity, using short templates provided.
- **Data collection**
 - **Start of Assessment:** Provide baseline operational and incident data.
 - **During Assessment:** review footage to identify safety concerns (in line with monitoring approach), and complete weekly status reports.
 - **End of Assessment:** provider, staff and parent surveys on perceived effects of CCTV.

* **Note** that services without existing CCTV, who are planning or willing to install and have it by February 2026 are also eligible to participate.

The Assessment has system requirements, and we will support you in meeting these during the expression of interest process.

System requirements*

(To be confirmed in EOI - Stage 2)

Privacy and governance

- Completed Privacy Impact Assessment
- Data governance to manage who views footage and how
- Appropriate signage and consent processes

Cybersecurity

- Have applied the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) Essential 8
- Have a cyber response plan

Technology and data

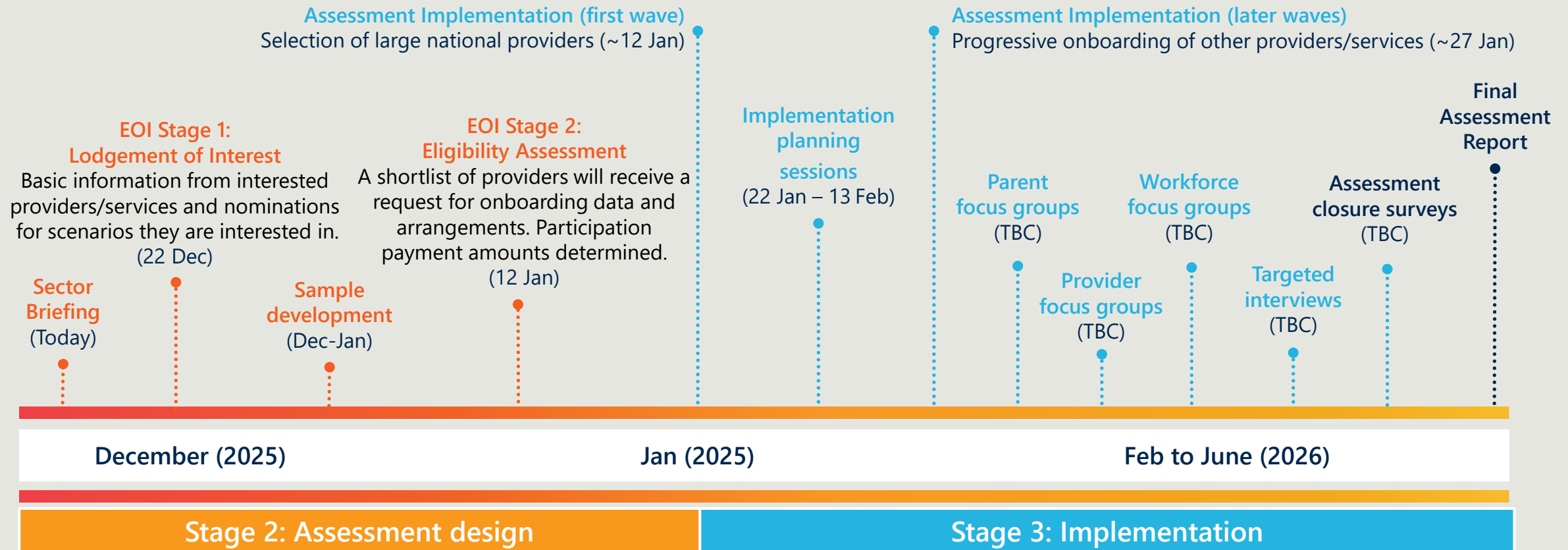
- Confirmation that camera placement is allowable by law
- CCTV footage data storage hosted in Australia
- Device standards - Still to decide with respect to *Cyber Security Act 2024*

What support we provide you

- Technology checklist, to confirm system requirements
(part of EOI – Stage 2)
- Further industry briefings and preparation calls for Assessment set up
- Weekly report templates, and proactive support to complete them
- Help desk support and central email
- CCTV footage monitoring guidance

*Applies to 3rd-party provider if used

The Assessment will commence progressively from January to June 2026.



▲
We are here

Q&A



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PEOPLE



PRINCIPALS



OFFICES