



# ANNE WEBSTER MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MALLEE

**THE NATIONALS**  
*for Regional Australia*

The Hon. James Merlino MP  
Minister for Education  
Level 3  
1 Treasury Place  
East Melbourne Vic 3002  
Via email: [james.merlino@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:james.merlino@parliament.vic.gov.au)

6 April 2022

Dear Minister,

I met this week with the Dunmunkle childcare advocacy group in Murtoa along with the Yarriambiack. Among them are 2 ICU nurses, teachers and dental workers- all desperately needed, but no access to childcare which means they cannot work.

I strongly support the groups suggested proposal to move the current kindergarten facility from its location which is in need of major works to the one of the Dunmunkle Cluster school grounds and to include a childcare facility on the same grounds.

These rural communities are defying the trend of country towns slowing dying, but without up-to-date facilities like childcare it puts hurdles in the way for young families who may be looking at moving to or staying the community.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your timely response given the urgency of this situation.

Kind regards,

Dr Anne Webster MP  
Federal Member for Mallee  
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