

Responding Together Webinar

On 9 July 2025, one week after the news of the arrest of Joshua Dale Brown was made public, our team hosted a webinar for the early childhood education and care sector.

Responding Together, brought a panel together comprised of Body Safety Australia CEO, Deanne Carson, Professor Daryl Higgins, Lisa Bryant and Justeen Fitzgibbon. Over 2,500 people registered for the webinar. We conducted pre and post surveys with the following responses.

97% of the 765 people who responded to the survey told us they wanted further training and support in child safety. The following graph shows the areas where they wanted the most support.



Approximately **1/3** of attendees endorsing CCTV – yet of these the majority (~60%) still also were concerned about privacy and data security.



*stats are rounded up to whole numbers for visualisation

"I have seen it [CCTV] used inappropriately towards staff. Apps accessing cameras to spy on staff. Performance wise and to sexually target staff"

"I think that CCTV is a "bandaid fix" that will be implemented by profit driven centres as a means of abducting responsibility for implementing other concrete measures to ensure children's safety such as increased adult to child ratios, empowering educators and staff members to build a culture of questioning and reflecting and believing concerns that are raised about co-workers actions"

Post forum and parent data

The Parenthood also held a similar webinar for a parent audience. Deanne Carson was a panellist, and we again conducted a post forum survey. 66 early childhood staff and 55 parents responded to the survey.

Educator data included:

- Educators and parents showed high levels of endorsement for sector-wide changes to keep children safe, such as improved screening, standards for service ratios and
- **83%** of educators said the government needs to invest in increased access and support to teach body safety
- **78% of educators** wanted whole community prevention and **75%** said they wanted tailored service level approaches for the whole team.
- Only **3%** of ECEC endorsed CCTV post-forum, however **36%** of parents did.

"I was in a professional meeting for my VIT and none of the teachers in it besides the mentors could speak to the child safe standards. People aren't learning enough about it to be allowed to enter the workforce." – ECEC worker

"The current system is fragmented and dysfunctional. All parts of the system that children and young people interact and engage with need to be supported to ensure the failures of the past are not repeated. We need to create a new, strengthened regulator and advocate for children and young

people's rights and safety to ensure focused and accountable delivery of child safety reforms. All children and young people should have access to consistent, robust safeguards and support systems, enabling them to thrive in safe environments.” – Parent