

# SHAPING OUR TOMORROW

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ECC 2018.

At the conference, Minister for Social and Family Development Desmond Lee spoke about key developments in the EC sector plus new initiatives to raise the profile of early childhood educators and enhance training and support for Mother Tongue Language (MTL) teaching in preschools.

### 1 Increase affordable and quality early childhood services



- ▶ Over **10,000** new preschool places were opened in the past year. These include:
  - 50 more centres in HDB developments and increased capacities of an average of **200** children per centre
  - Large Child Care Centres; centres in workplaces, commercial developments and near transport nodes; and Early Years Centres in partnership with MOE Kindergartens
- ▶ **40,000** new full-day preschool places by 2023



### 2 Uplift the early childhood profession



- ▶ Launch of a 3-year national campaign with the tagline 'Shape Our Tomorrow' to raise public awareness and understanding of the early childhood profession
- ▶ Increased investment in professional training and support for educators
  - More than **50%** of the expected graduates next year are ECDA Training Award recipients
  - **45%** more educators and teachers on the Professional Development Programme (PDP) in 2018
  - National Institute of Early Childhood Development (NIEC) will have its first batch of students in 2019

### 3 Strengthen Mother Tongue Language (MTL) teaching capabilities



- ▶ Launch of Certificate in Preschool Mother Tongue Language Teaching (see box below) to equip teachers with language-specific pedagogical skills and creative strategies to nurture an interest in mother tongue learning in children
- ▶ More resources in Chinese, Malay and Tamil Language to support quality MTL teaching for N1 and N2 children



The life skills and values imparted by early childhood educators have life-long impact. They shape the future of our families, communities and nation.

Minister Desmond Lee speaking at the ECC 2018



## QUICK FACTS

### ABOUT THE CERTIFICATE IN PRESCHOOL MTL TEACHING COURSE:



- ▶ Delivered in a **part-time format** to cater to in-service teachers
- ▶ Available in **Malay Language** and **Tamil Language** in 2019, for a start
- ▶ A **training bonus** of **\$2,000** will be provided to those who are deployed to teach MTL and successfully complete the certificate course over the next two years
- ▶ Upon taking up this certificate course, educators can subsequently sign up for the **Professional Development Programme (PDP)** for Teachers or Educators, and the course can count towards fulfilling part of the PDP training hours' requirement



## CHECK IT OUT

Missed the campaign's TV commercial?  
Watch it via this link: <https://youtu.be/bkzA66heXp8>