

# MARKING MILESTONES


EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE MOMENTS OF LIFE (FAMILIES) APP — A ONE-STOP DIGITAL PLATFORM FOR PARENTS.


**WHAT IS IT?** Launched on 29 June 2018, the Moments of Life (Families) app provides useful services and information to help ease the transition to parenthood and support your child's development on a single digital platform.


**WHO IS IT FOR?** New parents and those with children aged 6 and below.


**WHY USE IT?** Here are some nifty tasks you can do via the app.




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**1 REGISTER THE BIRTH OF YOUR CHILD**  
Parents who deliver their child in a public hospital can register the birth via the Moments of Life (Families) app. Simply log in with your SingPass and most of your personal information will be pre-filled. It saves you the hassle of bringing multiple physical documents to collect your child's birth certificate.
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**2 APPLY FOR THE BABY BONUS**  
Parents who have not registered for Baby Bonus will be prompted automatically to apply for Baby Bonus (see box below). This means you won't need to submit another application separately.
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**3 CHECK YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNISATION AND MEDICAL RECORDS**  
With the app, parents can easily keep track of the vaccinations their child needs. The app also enables parents to manage their child's upcoming medical appointments and gives them an overview of his health.
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**4 FIND A PRESCHOOL**  
The app comes loaded with a list of preschools, searchable by location. The vacancies available, as well as the enrolment fees, are also shown. Parents can use the app to indicate interest in sending their child to a particular preschool, who will contact them directly for further discussion.
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**5 GET ADVICE ON PARENTING**  
The app offers a wealth of information under Baby Bonus Parenting Resources on topics relating to parenthood. These include parenting articles, videos, tips and guides, all customised to the local context. Parents can also view upcoming events that are aligned with their personal interests.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The Moments of Life (Families) app is the culmination of 12 months of on-the-ground surveys, interviews, prototyping and beta-testing conducted with citizens.

**IT'S A BONUS!**  
If your child is eligible for Baby Bonus, you can receive a cash gift, and open a Child Development Account (CDA) — a special savings account which can be used for your child's educational and healthcare expenses. Visit [www.babybonus.msf.gov.sg](http://www.babybonus.msf.gov.sg) to find out more.

**BE SAFE, IMMUNISE**  
Your child needs to be vaccinated according to the Singapore National Childhood Immunisation Schedule to be protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. Read more about immunisations at <https://www.nir.hpb.gov.sg/nirp/eservices/immunisationSchedule>

# UNDER ONE UMBRELLA

THE NEW NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IS TRANSFORMING THE EC TRAINING LANDSCAPE.



Mrs Loke-Yeo Teck Yong  
Director, NIEC

The latest development in the early childhood (EC) sector is the establishment of

the National Institute of Early Childhood Development (NIEC), a landmark move to uplift the quality of teaching and to strengthen the national EC ecosystem.

NIEC is set up by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and affiliated to the National Institute of Education (NIE). It is now the key training provider for the sector, with over 4,000 students enrolled in its suite of early childhood courses.

**1 NIEC, 4 CAMPUSES**

NIEC brings together the EC training capabilities and expertise at four campuses – Institute of Technical Education, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic and NTUC's SEED Institute.

Under the NIEC umbrella, these four campuses will offer a range of EC courses. These will comprise Certificate and Diploma courses for post-secondary students and mid-career switchers interested in joining the preschool sector, as well as in-service upgrading and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for existing educators.

On NIEC's vision and mission, its Director Mrs Loke-Yeo Teck Yong says, "NIEC has

a national mandate to provide unified foundational training for all EC educators, and to drive the systematic professional development of in-service EC educators. Parents can look forward to a more consistent level of professionalism by EC educators to nurture and care for our children."

The establishment of NIEC has been embraced by the EC fraternity. "With the formation of NIEC, the quality of training and CPD is standardised nationwide. As a centre leader, I can be assured that the teachers hired are well-qualified," says Ms Wan Hill Kuan, Principal of YWCA Bedok Child Development Centre.

“Parents can look forward to a more consistent level of professionalism by EC educators to nurture and care for our children.”

**MRS LOKE-YEO TECK YONG**  
Director of the National Institute of Early Childhood Development



## HIGH HOPES

NIEC is expected to:

- Centralise and drive policies and strategies on EC training offered at the four campuses.
- Develop and ensure high-quality curriculum design, academic governance and faculty development, as well as develop new courses to meet sector needs.
- Harness the expertise of EC faculty across the four campuses to enhance the training curriculum and course delivery.
- Connect with the EC fraternity to support their career progression with relevant courses.
- Leverage NIE's expertise to strengthen the nexus between research, training and practice for more impactful programmes and practices to support children's holistic development.

See [www.niec.edu.sg](http://www.niec.edu.sg) for more information.



