

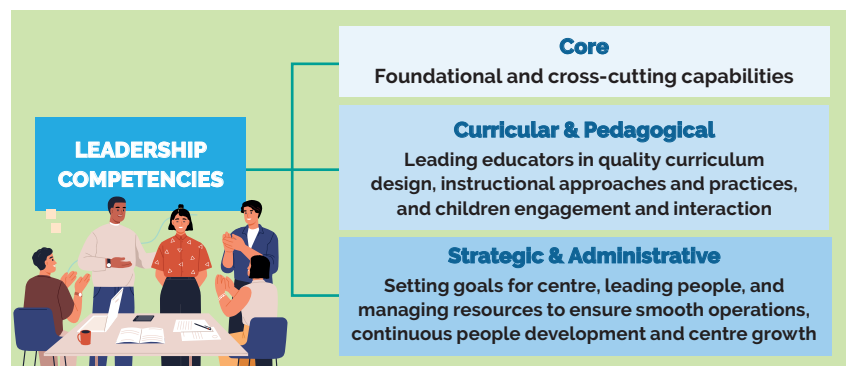
BOOSTING QUALITY AND SUPPORT

INITIATIVES TO RAISE THE QUALITY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD (EC) PROFESSIONALS AND PROGRAMMES, AND ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.

ENHANCING QUALITY OF EC PROFESSIONALS

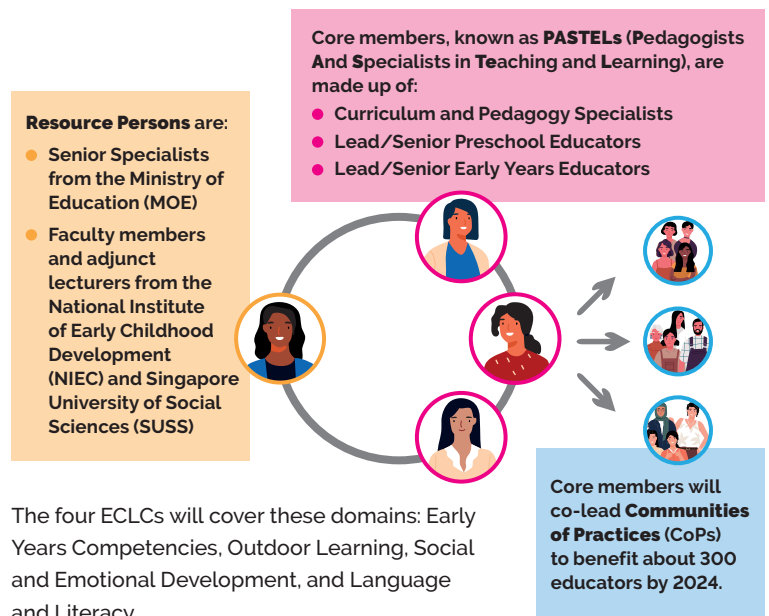
Two initiatives to support the professional development of EC educators and leaders.

➤ A **Leadership Development Framework (LDF)** will be introduced to guide the holistic development of centre leaders in three competency areas.



A **leadership training roadmap** will guide EC leaders in acquiring LDF competencies through continuing professional development (CPD) courses and milestone programmes.

➤ The **Early Childhood Learning Communities (ECLCs)** will nurture pedagogical leaders and foster peer sharing and learning of pedagogical knowledge and practices across the sector. Each ECLC comprises up to 20 **core members** and a **resource person** appointed by ECDA.



PASTELs will hold a **two-year ECLC membership** which includes:

- A minimum **commitment of 24 hours and 40 hours in the first and second years respectively**, to attend ECLC sessions and customised professional development (PD) programmes, and contribute at sector level
- Fully-funded PD programmes and a **\$1,500 PD grant** in the second year
- An annual **\$800 manpower relief fund** to employers of PASTELs when they are fulfilling ECLC commitments

RAISING QUALITY OF PRESCHOOL PROGRAMMES

Two curriculum frameworks to guide programme and curricular planning will be refreshed.

END 2022 An updated **Nurturing Early Learners (NEL)** framework for educators of children aged 4 to 6.

END 2023 A revised **Early Years Development Framework (EYDF)** for educators of children aged 3 and below. It will include:

- Enhanced content in new areas such as teaching Mother Tongue Languages and creating inclusive learning environments
- Training programmes and supplementary resources to support preschools in implementing these changes



EXPANDING KidSTART

Nationwide expansion to support more children and families.

Targeted at lower-income families with children up to 6 years old, **KidSTART** supports parents with the knowledge and skills to nurture their children's early development, including physical/ socio-emotional health and well-being.

- To date, KidSTART has benefitted over 3,000 children in 13 Social Service Office (SSO) regions. It will be scaled nationwide to all 24 SSO regions from 2023.
- To be carried out in phases, starting with home visits to pregnant mothers and parents of infants in new regions.
- To support KidSTART families, corporations and individuals have contributed \$4 million in cash and in-kind donations since 2019.

ENHANCING QUALITY OF TEACHING

A new teaching tool will be developed to further support EC educators.

A **Quality Teaching Tool (QTT)** will be developed to establish a common standard for quality teaching in our local context, which will:

- Be guided by evidence-based pedagogical practices
- Focus on quality teacher-child interactions
- Enable educators to evaluate and build on their pedagogical practices



MORE ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE PRESCHOOLS

Parents can look forward to more affordable preschools.

MORE FULL-DAY PRESCHOOL PLACES

90,000 places in 2012 → **200,000** places today

10,000 more places by 2023

By 2025, **80 per cent** of preschoolers can have a place in government-supported preschools, up from over **60 per cent** today.

