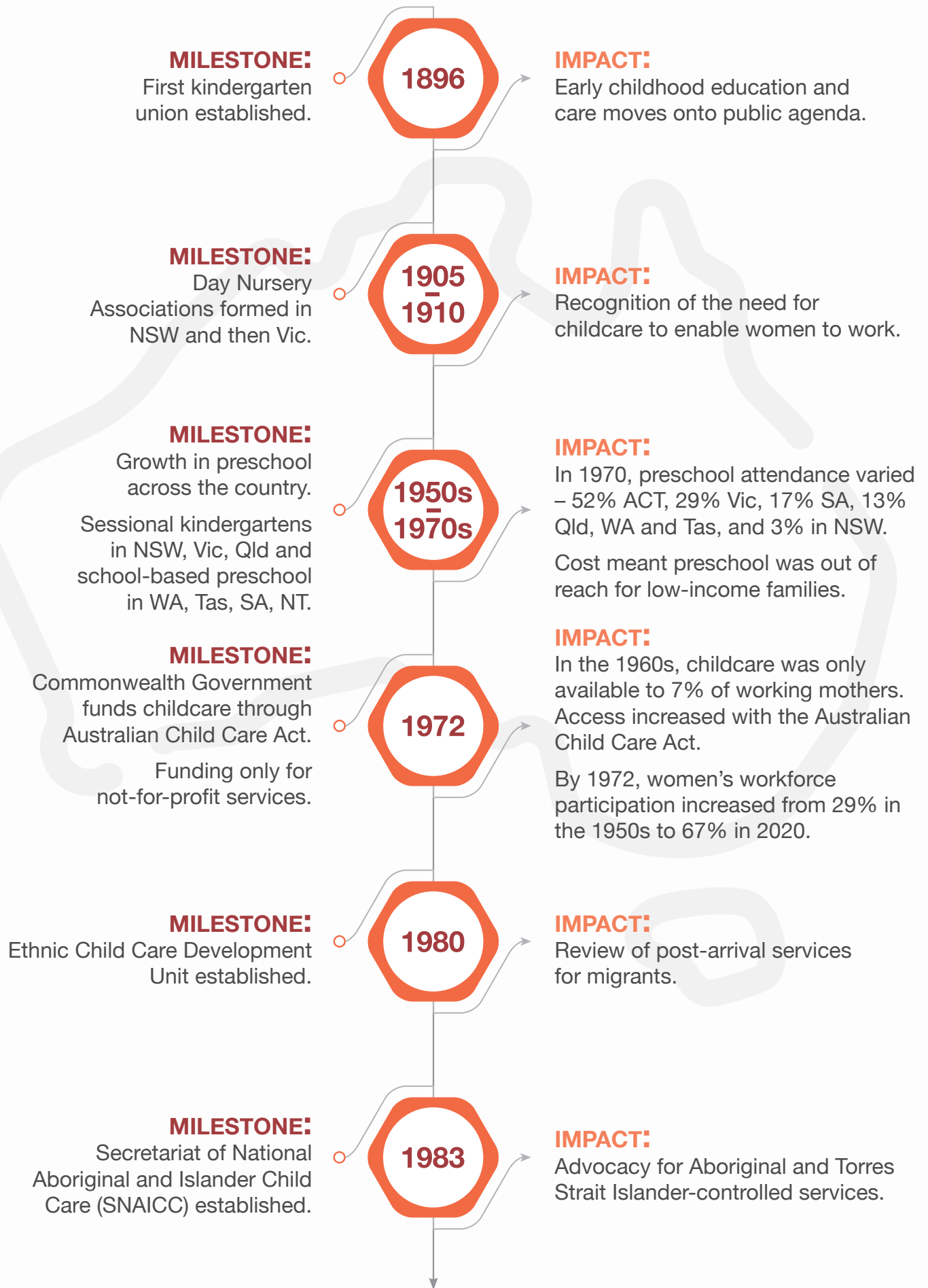


THE EVOLUTION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE POLICY AND DELIVERY IN AUSTRALIA



MILESTONE:
Commonwealth funding
extended to all providers.

1991

IMPACT:

In 1990, 15% of 0–5-year-olds were accessing early learning. By 2020, 50% of 0–5-year-olds were accessing early learning.

The Commonwealth Government budgeted \$8m for childcare in 1973–74 – this grew to \$9.8bn in 2019.

MILESTONE:
Day Nursery
Associations formed in
NSW and then Vic.

1994

IMPACT:

Recognition of the need for
childcare to enable women to work.

MILESTONE:
Universal Access National
Partnership established.
Early Years Learning Framework
established.

2009

IMPACT:

In 2008, 12% of children were
enrolled in 15 hours of preschool. By
2019, 95% of children were enrolled
in 15 hours of preschool.

MILESTONE:
National Quality
Framework established.

2012

IMPACT:

In 2013, 55% of services were meeting
or exceeding the National Quality
Standard, rising to 82% in 2020.

Improvements between quality
assessments have been seen in 55%
of services.

Between 2004 and 2019 there has
been a shift from two thirds of the
workforce holding a qualification to all
of the workforce holding a qualification.

MILESTONE:
Child Care Subsidy introduced.

2019

IMPACT:

Families can access subsidies for
early learning more easily, through
a single model that has separate
funding streams.