



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Community Recognition Statement

23 June 2022

THE GATEWAY LEARNING

Ms SONIA HORNERY (Wallsend) :

My thanks to the wonderful staff at Beresfield Public School and Tarro Public School for joining with other Hunter primary schools in the Gateway Learning community.

On Friday 27 May, the group held a learning day at Hexham Bowling Club for teachers and early childhood educators which ended up including 170 participants.

Aimed at building bridges within the community to help our youngest students transition into school life more easily, Gateway Learning connects early educators, school personnel, kids and their family—as well as specialist services like speech pathologists and behavioural specialists—in the year before kindergarten.

By introducing kids to specialist services before school starts, the aim is to develop specific strategies tailored to individual needs which can kick in as soon as school starts.

This innovative approach means that less time will be lost waiting for strategies to develop, and new kindy students can hit the ground running as they start school.

A big shout-out to Beresfield principal Christie Walandouw and Tarro principal Kelly O'Shea for leading their schools in this very worthy endeavour. Kelly also helped organised the learning day.