



A.B.C. Learning Centres Limited

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A.B.C. LEARNING CENTRES LIMITED (ASX : ABS)

ANNOUNCES \$323 MILLION CAPITAL RAISING AND SHARE PURCHASE PRICE

A.B.C. Learning Centres Limited (ABC), Australia's leading provider of childcare services, is pleased to announce that it has successfully completed a placement of 37,200,000 shares at \$7.00 to raise \$260.4 million before costs.

The placement, which was undertaken via a bookbuild process, was managed by Austock Corporate Finance Limited. The clearing price of \$7.00 per share was at the top end of the bookbuild range, reflecting the strong demand from domestic and international investors.

On Monday 5 December 2005, ABC announced that it is also undertaking a Share Purchase Plan (SPP) to raise approximately \$62.5 million. The price of shares under the SPP will be the same as the placement price of \$7.00 per share. The SPP is to be underwritten by Austock Corporate Finance Limited subject to shareholder approval as will be described in the SPP documents. Invitations to participate in the SPP are expected to be mailed to shareholders by 12 December 2005.

The proceeds of the placement and SPP will be used to fund ABC's acquisition of Learning Care Group, Inc as announced to the ASX on 16 November 2005 and to provide working capital for ABC's ongoing childcare centre acquisition program.

On completion of the placement and SPP, ABC will have approximately 309 million ordinary shares on issue. Participants in the placement represent a broad range of institutional and private investors from Australia, Asia and Europe. Demand from Asia and Europe was particularly strong and this has enabled ABC to introduce a number of new shareholders from these regions.

For further information please contact:

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