



Bathurst Family Day Care Educator Expo

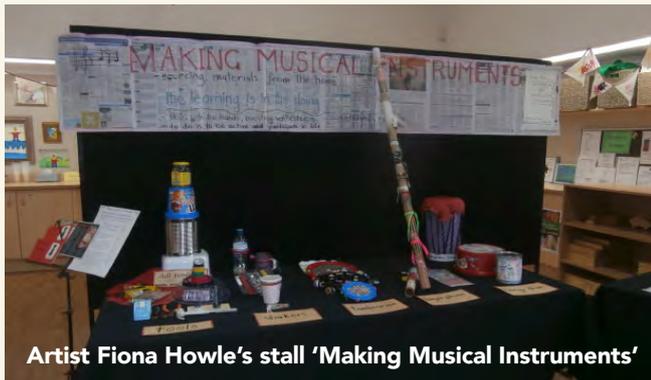
In May this year Bathurst Family Day Care launched its first annual Educator Expo at the coordination unit's premises. The idea came about after staff discussed ways in which they could provide educators with a wide range of information in one place at one time.



Educators' stall with resource boxes

Working in consultation with educators through a survey and general conversations, staff sought new ideas in which to provide information, resources and encourage new and longstanding educators to come together to share experiences and gain new perspectives for early childhood education and care.

The Expo provided the perfect platform to provide a variety of stalls, whilst bringing staff and educators together in a relaxed and inviting space. The Expo was held over three hours with educators invited to drop in during this time. Staff made participant gifts bags containing personal and professional resources including chocolates and tea, tips sheets for yoga and meditation, plant and herb seeds, gardening tools, administration and community information.



Artist Fiona Howle's stall 'Making Musical Instruments'

Staff developed a cookbook for educators and children to explore cooking concepts in the education and care environment. Simple, nutritious lunches and snacks were included in the book. The morning tea snacks provided on the day were recipes from the book.

Two long-serving educators, Karen Burgoyne and Lyn Fitch, were invited to participate in the Expo. The educators' stall displayed a wide range of resources collected over many years. The highlight of this stall was to display to other educators the value of recycling, reusing and upcycling. Many of their resource boxes held everyday items which when added to a play environment extended children's dramatic play, language and cognitive development. The creation of these resource boxes also highlighted financial sustainability for educators.



Bathurst FDC educators visit the Expo

Local artist Fiona Howle was also invited to participate in the Expo. Fiona has a wealth of experience and passion for recycling concepts, holding regular workshops for children and adults. Fiona's stall 'Making Musical Instruments' provided inspiration for staff and educators – turning everyday items into drums, cymbals, shakers and tambourines. The stall inspired educators to look beyond the everyday.

A follow-up survey to educators after the Expo highlighted the overall success of the day, with educators adding additional future ideas for activities and stalls. It is the hope of the service that the expo will continue to grow over the ensuing years.

Educator Spotlight

Amy Knowles Shoalhaven Family Day Care



FDC Educator Amy Knowles

Curious, confident, creative, committed – all words we use regularly as early childhood professionals, usually in relation to children. These words can also be used to describe Shoalhaven Family Day Care educator Amy Knowles.

In 2008 Amy had just completed Certificate III in Children's Services when a desire to be at home with her daughter Mya led to the establishment of her Footprints Family Day Care. Her passion for learning never wavered and Amy has since completed Diploma of Children's Services followed by Bachelor of Education (Birth to Five Years).

Amy says she loves the flexibility Family Day Care provides for both her family commitments as well as the children in her care. Her Family Day Care was able to continue to operate whilst she was completing her practicum for her studies, as her mother, Chris, who holds a Cert III in Children's Services, became her relief educator.

A lot of Amy's inspiration comes from the Reggio Emilia approach which values each child as strong, capable and resilient individuals. Within her service, through careful planning of the environment, children's independence is fostered. Input from children and their families also guides the program which includes meaningful projects often based on the environment.

There are elements of the Steiner philosophy within Amy's service which has an abundance of natural wood resources and imaginative play. Space is

limited so Amy finds innovative and creative ways to present sustainable and repurposed resources to the children, both inside and outdoors.

Cathy Ryman, Nominated Supervisor of Shoalhaven Family Day Care, says Amy is a quiet achiever who willingly shares her ideas with others. She regularly has new educators visit her service to model exemplary practice.

Last year Amy started a Facebook page for Footprints Family Day Care to share her ideas. It now has over 1,400 followers from across the early childhood sector nationwide. At the service, staff have heard stories of locally based centres using Amy's Facebook page at their staff

meetings as examples of best practice.

Every two years Shoalhaven Family Day Care celebrates their educators with an awards night. Amy is the current holder of our most coveted award for Excellence in Pedagogy. Amy exemplifies professionalism and we are proud to have her as part of our team and an advocate for children in our community.

Amy says "it was a surprise to receive this award, and great to be recognised professionally for the effort and time I put into my business. It is fantastic to have such a wonderful supportive service behind me that encourages all educators to be the best they can be".

Amy, partner Mick, and Mya have a recent addition to the household, baby Jarrah who has fitted into both their family and her service beautifully. They look forward to many years with Shoalhaven Family Day Care.



Amy in the outdoor environment

A Click Away

SNAICC carers website

Did you know SNAICC has a great website to empower carers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children? It is full of culturally appropriate, best-practice resources and activities to enable you to be a culturally competent carer. SNAICC's goal is strong, healthy, self-determining Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children connected to family and culture. www.supportingcarers.snaicc.org.au



Photo credit: Australian Human Right Commission

Dates for your diary

NSW Children's Week

21-29 October 2017

The theme for this year's Children's Week is article 29 from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child "Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people." You can organise your own event for Children's Week and register it on the NSW Children's Week website. NSW Children's Week is also organising a Family Picnic in the Sydney Botanical Gardens on Sunday 22 October. Details on the website www.nswchildrensweek.org.au

PEAK Training Calendar – enrol now

September-December 2017

PEAK Training has finalised the Early Years Training Calendar for September to December 2017. It contains accredited and professional development courses, face to face training sessions and webinars. Prices start from as little as \$30. To browse all the courses, visit www.nswfdc.org.au/peak



Giving Customers More

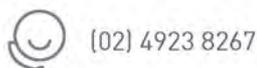
EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE PARTNER BENEFITS

Educational Experience is proud to be a partner of **Family Day Care NSW** with some exciting benefits including:



ORDERING IS EASY!

To take advantage of these great benefits contact your account coordinator **Rory McKay**.



www.edex.com.au

**educational
experience**
your learning resource partner

30 year anniversary for dedicated educator with Camden Family Day Care



On Sunday 30 April, educator Cheryl Ingram from Camden Family Day Care in south western Sydney celebrated 30 years as an educator with Family Day Care. Staff, educators and families attended the celebration at the Narellan coordination unit. Team leader Julia Matthews said that the attendance of so many people including families from 30 years ago is a testament to Cheryl's dedication to the service. Cheryl continues to provide care to families in the community and will often go above and beyond to support them.

She also continues to show dedication to professional development attending almost every workshop her service offers, and attends the state and national educator forums whenever she can. Cheryl has witnessed many changes over the years to our sector, and she adapts her practices and processes to ensure best practice. She is a support to the educators of Camden FDC.



Cheryl Ingram (left) once cared for Amy (centre). Cheryl will soon be caring for baby Addison (pictured with Amy). Vicki Cook (right) is a staff member at Camden FDC, mum to Amy and grandma to Addison.

NSW FDC ASSOCIATION

Anita Jovanovski CEO

Jenny Hoang Accountant

Kate Tran Accounts Assistant

Magda Jansen Membership and Communications

PEAK TRAINING

Nicky Lewis RTO Team Leader

Robyn Jurd Student Support Officer

Araceli Abarca Support and Administrator

Treena Allen Support and Administrator

Kathy Nguyen Administrator

NSW NANNY SERVICES

Maria Fazio Manager

Delvene Middleton Family Liaison Officer

Angela Moutafis Family Liaison Officer

NSW IN HOME CHILDCARE SERVICES

Maria Fazio Manager

Cristina Scarcella In-Home Education & Family Facilitator

Andrea Manzo-Dong Family Liaison Officer

Vicki Jones Family Liaison Officer - Central Coast

Dusanka Romic Senior Administrator

Anne Bentley Administrator

Martha Franklin Administrator

ADDRESS

1 Sloane Street, Summer Hill NSW 2130

PO Box 386, Summer Hill NSW 2130

T: (02) 9779 9999

F: (02) 9779 9998

E: info@nswfdc.org.au

www.nswfdc.org.au

www.facebook.com/NSWFDC



follow us on



CALL
02 9779 9999

Disclaimer This newsletter is provided for information only and should not be used in place of professional advice. The NSW Family Day Care Association Inc. and PEAK Training, the author/s and any other person/s associated in any way with the development and or production of this newsletter expressly disclaim all and any liability (both in contract and for negligence) to any person or organisation whatsoever in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by any such person or organisation in reliance upon any part of the text or any inference drawn from the text appearing in this material. Copyright NSWFDCA 2017.

FDC Educator Shelly Jacobs is 'living the dream'

"My name is Shelley Jacobs. I have been working in the early childhood sector for 12 years and I hold my bachelor of teaching. I only started with my own Family Day Care this year with Kids' Early Learning Family Day Care Blacktown City. As a young child, if you asked me what I wanted to do when I grow up, it was to be a teacher. It has been a dream of mine to have my own day care. Now I'm living my dream and enjoying every minute of it.

My philosophy reflects the foundation of community incorporating the proverb 'its takes a village to raise a child'. The community is between the children, the families and the wider community of people who share this with us. These community foundations are strengthened when the children participate in excursions where we venture out into the local community. We go to the library every week and participate in baby rhyme time and story time. We also go on monthly excursions, some of which have been to a train park, Cumberland State Forest for a sensory walk, Taronga Zoo, a florist and the local bakery. I also invite members of the local community to join us for special occasions such as, pyjama breakfast week, group time, NAIDOC week and Harmony week.

I have pets and children assist with the daily tasks such as feeding and cleaning. It's through these

experiences that I believe children learn responsibility, trust, compassion and patience. I have a gecko, blue tongue lizard, tropical fish, Mexican walking fish, a turtle and two cats.

I'm inspired to give children opportunities to not only be themselves, but to learn about themselves thus creating a strong sense of belonging and self-esteem. I want the children in my care to have fun and participate in experiences out of the ordinary being free to express themselves in all aspects of development. I am passionate about play and believe it is essential to children's learning.

My weekly program reflects children's interests. The program is also based on children individual needs allowing children to make choices that will enhance their autonomy and learning. I believe children are evolved and capable learners and so I provide them with opportunities to help plan and implement educational experiences into the program.



A huge aspect of the program incorporates science. I believe science is fundamental in the early education of children. It is through science that they learn about the natural world. It teaches that about life, their world and where they belong in it. Science can spark in children's minds that they too can help solve the worlds big problems."

Early Years Training Calendar

PEAK Training has finalised the Early Years Training Calendar for September to December 2017. It contains accredited and professional development courses, face to face training and webinars, at very competitive prices and NSWFDCA membership discounts apply. Below is a small selection of training sessions. To browse them all, visit www.nswfdc.org.au/peak

Child Protection (Refresher and Accredited Unit)

This session is designed to provide participants with up-to-date child protection information. Participants will gain a clear understanding of their ethical and legal responsibilities as mandatory reporters. A scenario will be presented and participants will have the opportunity to follow the Mandatory Reporter Guide (MRG) and be part of the discussion. The changes introduced to the Mandatory Reporter Guide (Edition 7) about moving the MRG from the Keep Them Safe website to the new Child Story Reporter website have been included in this session.

Webinar, Tuesday 26 September 2017
6:30pm – 8:30pm AEST

Webinar, Tuesday 7 November 2017
10am – 12pm AEDT

Face to Face

Location: Level 1, 1 Sloane Street, Summer Hill
Saturday 2 December 2017
9.30am – 12.30pm AEDT

Exploring Risky Play

This session is aimed at exploring our thinking around our role in providing children with opportunities to build independence and resilience whilst experiencing a sense of freedom. In this session we will:

- Begin the conversation about the risks in play
- Identify potential problems of removing risks vs possible benefits of supporting risks in play
- Look at how we can support risky play in ECEC environments

Webinar, Wednesday 11 October 2017
1.30 – 3.30pm AEDT

Guiding Children's Behaviour to Attain Self-regulation

This session will focus on positive guidance of children's behaviour from the perspective of social development. We acknowledge that children are learning a complex range of skills and behaviours from birth.

The workshop explores the rights of the child and the importance of building positive relationships with them and their families. It looks at ways of identifying, reviewing and developing strategies surrounding concerning behaviour. You will learn about the importance of promoting positive behaviour by way of setting and applying appropriate limits and expectations to support children to attain self-regulation.

Webinar, Friday 27 October 2017
6.30 – 8.30pm AEDT

Face to Face

Location: Level 1, 1 Sloane Street, Summer Hill
Saturday 11 November 2017
9.30am – 12.30pm AEDT



Understanding and Supporting Inclusion in Early Education and Care Settings

This training focuses on the inclusion of children from a wide range of additional needs into early childhood education and care settings. Presentation also includes a comprehensive overview of the Autism Spectrum Disorder, focusing on understanding particular needs of children diagnosed with this disorder, learning strategies to best support them and knowing where to access support. Points contained are:

- Principles, benefits and barriers to support inclusion
- Strength based practice to support children, families and educators
- Accessing support

Webinar, Monday 30 October 2017
Time: 1.30 – 3.30pm AEDT