



PARENT UPDATE

January 2017

Welcome to 2017 to all new and existing families with Wynnum FDC

Building relationships with families begins with our initial conversation and we pride ourselves on establishing strong links with clients. We endeavour to keep in regular contact with you and keep you up to date with what is happening within our service. Please telephone, email or call into our office at any time to discuss your child care requirements and areas of interest for family training/info sharing sessions.

Is your child attending Prep in 2017?

For [Child Care Benefit \(CCB\)](#) purposes, a school child is a child who attends primary or secondary school or who is on a break from school (for example school holidays) and will return to primary or secondary school after that break. A school child includes children who attend Preparatory (Prep) or Year 1 in Queensland. Child Care Benefit rates for school children are 85% of the rate for non-school children (compared to 100% of the rate for non-school age children). For example, if your CCB% is 62.17%, a school age child will receive 85% of 62.17%. This 85% rate begins on the first day your child attends school. You should tell the [Department of Human Services](#) if your child is attending Prep or Year 1 in 2017 in Queensland; a child can begin prep at age 4 years 6 months (a child will not automatically be considered a school child with DHS/Centrelink until they turn six years old). Failure to do this may result in a debt to ATO at tax time or incorrect CCB calculation.

Using Relief Care

Please remember to ask the relief educator, prior to commencing care, for a fee estimate as *each educator has a different fee schedule*. It is also important to request a copy of the contract. If you have some relief/alternative care arranged at any time please make contact promptly with the educator if you need to discuss or cancel the booking. Out of courtesy to the relief educator, please do not be tempted to simply not show up, or to change your mind at the last minute.

Public Holidays and Annual Leave

Parents often call the office to ask "Do I have to pay for a public holiday?" and "What about when my educator is on leave?" Charging practices are commercial decisions made independently by individual child care service providers and are not a matter regulated by family assistance law. This includes the widely-used practice of charging for public holidays that fall on your regular booked day. This practice is used by child care service providers because child care workers, like most employees, are entitled to be paid for public holidays when they would otherwise be at work. Please refer to your contract from your educator for terms and conditions.

Compliance for sign-in sheets Sign in sheets have to be compliant in order for CCB/CCR to be paid. This means that children must be signed in and signed out correctly, and that all absences (AA) must be signed. Unfortunately educators are having ccb payments recalled from them as parents are not correctly signing their attendances each week.

Please take care to sign in and out for each session with accurate times for arrival and departure.

You can not finish care on an absence or consecutive absences and have CCB/CCR paid. If you decide not to return to care and your last day was an absent day, WFDC is obligated to advise the department and they will recall the CCB/CCR which means you will owe 'full fees' to your educator.

Circle of Security Parenting Training Seminar

The program presents video examples of secure and problematic parent/child interaction, healthy options in care giving and animated graphics designed to clarify principles central to Circle of Security.

Date: 13 – 16 February 2017. For further info [click here](#)

Manager: Cathy Bavage **Coordinators:** Marie Sayers, Samantha Jackson Van-Hummel, Karen-Lea Simmers, Lisa Meyer
Business Support: Rochelle Chisholme, Natasha Staal **Education Leader:** Niki Kenny