



PARENT UPDATE

January 2018

Welcome to 2018 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 2018?

For [Child Care Benefit \(CCB\)](#) purposes, a school child is a child who attends primary school or who is on a break from school (for example school holidays) and will return to primary 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 2018 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.

If you have a secondary school child, you will need to contact the WFDC office to discuss eligibility requirements and criteria. 3393-4311

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. Please take care to sign in and out for each session with accurate times for arrival and departure. Sign in sheets not 100% accurate are with-held from processing and full fees will be payable to your educator. A reminder, 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.

Outside School Hours Care

There is a requirement from the department that all Before School Care or After School Care sessions must include time within the education and care setting. WFDC is unable to process any attendances where it is deemed the use of FDC as a 'taxi service' as these sessions are not eligible to receive government child care subsidy.

Manager: Cathy Bavage **Coordinators:** Marie Sayers, Samantha Jackson Van-Hummel, Karen-Lea Simmers

Business Support: Rochelle Chisholme, Natasha Staal **Education Leader:** Lisa Meyer

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