

WYNNUM



Family DAYCARE

“Caring for the South East Suburbs”

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Rated
EXCELLENT
by ACECQA



Fina Martinez, Educator Regional Winner

In August we received the news that Fina was the winner for the Brisbane South region in the 2017 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards promoted by Family Day Care Australia. These are the only national awards dedicated to the family day care sector.

Many educators with WFDC receive nominations in these awards every year, a testament not only to the quality of early learning programs provided, but also to the partnerships and relationships that are built between educators and families to support development and wellbeing.

Fina was nominated for the work she did with a refugee family who came to our service for emergency care.



This family had been in Australia for four weeks and been relocated twice. The children ranged from 6 years to 11 years of age. The family had fled Afghanistan after the death of the father and had been given refugee status on a humanitarian visa. Mum arrived in Australia with five children and then found out that her youngest child, only four years old, was critically ill and needed immediate medical attention.

The mother didn't speak any English and the children had limited English; they had to communicate with a social worker via an interpreter. The children were entering a new school, they had limited resources in their home, no transport, and now mum had to leave her four healthy children and remain with her critically ill child in intensive care, unable to leave the child as every hour was uncertain.

Fina supported the family in a number of ways, including helping them to adjust to their new community, implementing numerous strategies to build a sense of belonging, learning about their culture, food and ways of cooking, and providing flexible care which at times included extended hours, overnight and weekends.

Fina was extremely happy to win the regional award and acknowledged the role of the entire team at Wynnum FDC in supporting her in providing a high quality family day care service.

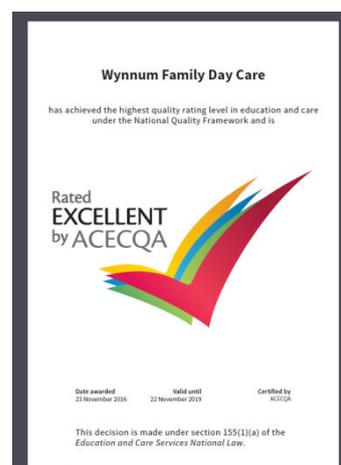
Excellent Rating

On 23 November 2016, Wynnum FDC received the news that we had achieved the highest quality rating level in education and care under the National Quality Framework and were rated Excellent by ACECQA. This is the second time that we have been assessed under the current legislation and the second time we have received the Excellent rating.

ACECQA stated the following in a media release:

Wynnum Family Day Care is an active leader in the education and care sector, sharing high quality practice. In 2016 the service participated in a research project conducted by the University of New South Wales, titled 'Perspectives on Quality in Australian Family Day Care'. The research examined the factors which influence the quality of family day care services.

One of the programs to feature in the research was their 'Child Development Program'. The program provides assistance and support to families, children, and educators where there is concern about developmental delay or risk to a child's wellbeing. The service states the program has minimised delays between identification, assessment, diagnosis and intervention. Wynnum Family Day Care's 'Link Program' also features in the research. The daily program is run in different locations by external consultants as an alternative to traditional playgroup, and is offered to educators and families at no additional cost. Activities like gymnastics, yoga, sports activities, music lessons, African drumming and art classes attract educators and children to come together socially and participate in a variety of engaging learning environments.



Perpetual Star Winner – Wynnum Family Day Care

Wynnum Family Day Care received notification on the 11th of September that our service had won the Perpetual Star Award in the 2017 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards. This award comes in recognition of our ongoing dedication to outstanding early childhood education and care as a family day care service.

Our submission this year focussed on the LINK Program.

Years of service, educators and staff 10, 15, 20, 25, 30

We celebrate the following staff and educators on their years of service to Wynnum FDC:

10 Years – Tammy Graham, Michelle Longland, and Sylvia Stagl

15 Years – Kylie Boyes and Michelle Hodgson

30+ Years – Cathy Bavage and Jenny Phillips

Advisory Committee

Our acknowledgement this year of the Advisory Committee is special, as it is the last time we will be extending thanks to this dedicated group of people. In this last year the Advisory Committee consisted of educators Jenny Phillips, Tammy Graham, Sue Madden, Carmen McShane, community member Karene Janke, and manager Cathy Bavage.

The following information was included in a letter sent to educators in February 2017: *Wynnum FDC has always had an advisory committee comprising a small group of educators who have attended monthly meetings with Cathy, consulted with other educators and provided valuable insights that contribute greatly to the successful operation of our service. As a professional organisation operating at the highest level, we need to ensure that we maintain processes that allow for the whole team to be involved in looking and moving forward. Therefore the advisory committee has been identifying possibilities to allow for greater inclusion of all educators in discussions and to ensure that there is transparency in the practices of the service.*

The family day care sector across Australia has faced challenging times and if we want to hold our place as a peak child care service we need to listen to each other, communicate openly, and work together. The responsibility falls on all team members combined, every coordinator and every educator, and not just on the four advisory members and the service manager.

Since then, Wynnum FDC has held two “Think Tank” meetings where all educators have been invited to attend and discuss matters affecting the service.

Our sincere thanks are extended to all who have served on this committee over the years, including the following educators and parents: Nicola Anderson, Monique Barker, Nadine Bell, Jodi Berderow, Nicole Breeze, Elizabeth Burchell, Michael Cronshaw, Terri Cuthbert, Angela Dixon, Leonie Douyere, Leanne Dunmore, Tammy Graham, Terri Harding, Maureen Holley, Amanda Howcroft, Stephanie Hoy, Karene Janke, Debbie Kempthorne, Tania Lane, Joanne L’Barrow, Evelyn Linhart, Maree Lowery, Fiona Lunn, Sue Madden, Tracey Maltby, Carmen McShane, Leanne Morrow, Carole Murray, Belinda Patterson, Jenny Phillips, D. Sandilands, Ursula South, Barbara Vane.

Children's Christmas Party

This was our second year at the Wynnum Manly Workers Club field on Bognor Street, Tingalpa and we were able to rectify some issues that occurred at the venue last year including a lack of lighting and placement of attractions. Many educators and families approached staff to show their appreciation. The children and families enjoyed seeing Santa, having rides, dancing at the disco, and having a sausage sizzle. The number of people attending was similar to previous years.

LINK: Linking Children to the World and Community Program Review

In March 2017, Wynnum FDC engaged external consultant, Tere Vaka, to formally review the LINK Program. Tere is a Senior Psychologist with Penny Gordon & Associates, with whom Wynnum FDC has had a long and productive working relationship.

Tere gathered information through interviews with coordination unit staff, educators and LINK program facilitators, as well as electronic surveys of parents and educators.

The final report delivered findings in terms of the following goals that were determined at the commencement of LINK:

1. Enhance Service Delivery
2. Benefit a Higher Number of Children and Families than the Playgroup Program
3. Benefit a Higher Number of Educators
4. Recognise the Qualifications and Professionalism of Educators
5. Involve Educators in the Planning Process

In conclusion, the report stated, "This review has found that the implementation of the LINK program has been highly successful and affirms the courageous decision to relinquish the playgroup program.

There were six recommendations including induction for LINK facilitators; providing feedback to existing facilitators; communicate with parents regarding LINK; provide feedback to educators; implement professional development planning for educators via LINK; and implement service wide consultation regarding potential LINK content. Wynnum FDC has implemented or begun a process of implementing all of the recommendations.

LINK Ambassador Neil Fairley

We are excited to announce our first ever LINK Program Ambassador. Neil Fairley, head coach at Pocket Rockets Sports, has been with LINK since the beginning of the program. Neil is very supportive of Wynnum FDC in a range of ways and is an excellent representative of the principles of LINK.

Annual Trivia Night Fundraising Function

Thank you to Jenny Phillips and friends for managing and supporting the Trivia Night function for the last 20 years, many good times were had, leaving lots of memories. Due to the limited number of participants we decided to make this year the final one. There has been a total of \$60,000 generated from this fundraiser. The money has been used to buy equipment, hold the Children's Christmas Party and offer training to all in the service.

The service acknowledged Jenny's hard work with a personal presentation on the night.

Vince Kartelo – CCI Honorary Solicitor – 20 Years

Twenty years ago Con Sciacca, founding partner of Sciaccas Legal Group, referred brand new lawyer Vince Kartelo to support CCI with all legal matters. Throughout this time Vince has been extremely valuable to our service by clarifying a range of issues including forms management and risk management; as well as providing support to educators and parents. Vince kindly makes himself available for a one off free call for any client or team member of CCI. Wynnum FDC celebrated with Vince this important milestone with a dinner, voucher and personalised pen.

Service representation, networking and professional development

IT Working Group

In August 2017 Wynnum FDC made the most of a highly valuable opportunity for our service to be at the core implementation of the new Child Care Subsidy (CCS) program. Natasha was 1 of 9 experts in field to participate in the IT Working Group, alongside the Directors and National Managers from the DHS CCS team and Department of Education. CCS replaces the existing CCB/CCR subsidy program that will cease on 1st July 2018. Key Changes – CCS can only be paid directly to the service, all families will have 10% withheld for end of year reconciliations, JET/SCCB/GCCB will be replaced by Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS), actual hours of care will need to be submitted, multiple child count will no longer exist.

Sleep Talking – New Resources

Wynnum FDC took part in the development of two new videos, developed to support educators and families explore and address the issues associated with sleep for children. The videos also give parents tips on encouraging sleep and rest routines for their child. Many thanks to educator Tamara Wilkie who volunteered to assist with this project.

<https://www.vision6.com.au/em/message/email/view?a=684&id=1155781&k=OR0xwjz4VwVeUeh-K0ijGjEpzdqo0G7-Mo8ncQZMGGk>

ACECQA CEO and National Education Leader

In August, Gabrielle Sinclair (CEO) and Rhonda Livingstone (National Education Leader) from ACECQA visited the office to discuss current topics around family day care and ideas for the future.

There were several positive outcomes from the meeting, with a number of team members invited to contribute to ACECQA's work at a national level such as contributing articles for their website.



Family Day Care Australia and Family Day Care Association of Queensland

Wynnum FDC continues to work with our state and national peak bodies for family day care. These reciprocal partnerships are maintained via phone contact, meetings, and attendance at conferences, networking events, and training sessions. This allows us to assist in advocating for family day care as well as ensuring that peak bodies can maintain their working knowledge of service operations.

Penny Gordon

Wynnum FDC's long term association with Penny Gordon continues to prove enormously valuable to the successful functioning of the team. Penny conducts regular supervision sessions that focus on professional development, reflection, goal setting, and recognition of achievements.

We are very fortunate to have ongoing contact with Penny and wish to express our great appreciation for Penny's input.

JiGSAW Article

Wynnum FDC featured in Family Day Care Australia's JiGSAW magazine, Issue 83 Spring 2017 in an article titled "Wynnum Family Day Care is Linking Children and the Community".

CEO Andrew Paterson wrote:

"Inside this edition, National and multiple State Award winning service, Wynnum Family Day Care share insights into their "LINK Program"; an innovative program to connect children and their community through participation in purposeful activities. Professionally led and ranging from yoga to music to aged care visits and more, the activities are provided free for educators and their children and promote belonging and social and emotional wellbeing."

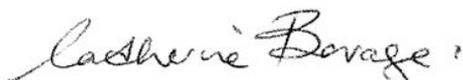
Care for Kids Spotlight Article

Wynnum FDC has been fortunate in the past to have had educators appear in the Care for Kids website's "Child care educator in the spotlight" article that features as part of their regular newsletter for the child care sector. This year, Care for Kids requested something a little different, and asked Wynnum FDC to feature as a whole service. This article gave us a great opportunity to share what we offer as a service and our philosophy behind our actions. Our aim for this article was to showcase the work that we do and help to attract quality educators to the sector.

Community Childcare Incorporated

Each year we thank the committee for their ongoing commitment to early childhood. It never seems to be a big enough token of our gratitude because maintaining a voluntary commitment to this organisation is a huge undertaking.

A very special thank you goes out this year to Denise Robinson who has been with CCI for nearly 30 years. Denise started working with the three services in 1998, becoming Secretary in 1992 and then taking on the position of President in 1993. To have held this position for 14 years shows Denise's dedication to CCI and every person who is a part of Wynnum Family Day Care, Brisbane & Bayside Family Day Care, and Children @ Bay Terrace.



Cathy Bavage
Manager
28 September 2017