



Family DAYCARE

“Caring for the South East Suburbs”

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

Rated
EXCELLENT
by ACECQA





Annual report

Last year WFDC faced a huge challenge – finding a new office space following the announcement that our low cost space in the Wynnum Civic Centre would be closed due to the sale of the building and the relocation of the Wynnum Library. We went through a very competitive application process for a space in the new Wynnum Community Centre – along with dozens of other community organisations – and were eventually told that we were successful in securing a double office space with a negligible rental cost to the Brisbane City Council. This success, which allows families in our service free and immediate access to services such as NAPCAN, Immunisation Clinics, Housing Service, Rosie’s Friends on the Street, Volunteering Qld, Australian Breastfeeding Association and Bayside Legal Service is due to WFDC’s high regard in the community, built over time through our dedication to ongoing collaborative partnerships in local, state and national communities.

The business move proved to be more difficult than we could have imagined and took longer than anticipated. The changes were challenging due to managing the flow of information with the Brisbane City Council and the venue being heritage listed. The phones and internet were our top priority in order to continue managing the request for care and being available for educators and parents.

I am pleased to advise that we are 95% settled in our new office and have refocused on business generation.

Children’s Christmas Party

The new venue for this year was the Wynnum Manly Workers Club field on Bognor Street, Tingalpa. We have received positive feedback about this venue via email and on our Facebook page. 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. There was an issue with no lighting, which we plan to rectify next year. The number of people attending was similar to previous years.

Development Program

Previously (CDI) operates in a family partnership model and aims to support parents and families in giving young children every opportunity for a strong start in life. Our family centered approach is about families, educators and WFDC sharing information about children in an open, respectful and collaborative way. This open and honest communication allows our service to provide assistance for educators, families and children when there is concern about a developmental delay or other risk to the child’s wellbeing whether it is developmental or educational. Our award winning program is made possible by having a coordinator who is a qualified and highly skilled early childhood education



and inclusion specialist. This coordinator manages all aspects of this program and has regular phone or in-person contact with families, children, educators, consultants and government services. This program offers more than just the provision of child care. The family and child are supported by wrap around services linked with Wynnum Family Day Care that have entered into a capacity building model of operation that acknowledges the benefits of transdisciplinary services that focus not only on the child but the family.

As the saying goes

“It takes a village to raise a child”.

Wynnum Family Day Care provides that village through the CDP program. Wynnum Family Day Care provides an atmosphere of respect, goodwill, kindness toward others, experience, knowledge and an awareness of the difficulties and challenges others in our community face. The CDP is passionate about the future for our children and looks forward to celebrating and supporting little people and families achieving their goals.

Attendance at Family Day Care Australia 2015 Triennial Conference

Coordination staff attended the conference in Sydney last October. This was an excellent chance to network with members of the sector, lobby politicians, and stay up to date on family day care matters. The most exciting part though, was our chance to showcase the LINK Program in a 35 minute presentation during the Thursday morning workshop, themed “Thinking Outside the Box: Ensuring Strength and Sustainability”.

LINK program

Our LINK program promotes the realisation that children benefit by being involved in “wild”, spaces. LINK provides dynamic and complex outdoor environments and opportunities for risk and challenge, to play with and have first-hand experiences of places where there is adventure, delight, laughter, daring and joy.

LINK takes place in a variety of spaces, both indoor and outdoor. LINK promotes professional educator relationships with opportunities for open dialogue with educational and experience specialists enabling knowledge to be shared utilized and modelled for best outcomes for children. Attendance numbers at LINK are significantly higher than they ever were at the traditional hall based playgroup, and the opportunities for professional development are ever present and reflective in practice. Collaborative and cooperative team spirit is strong, at LINK and WFDC. This practice is evidenced and obvious at LINK activities when educators help and support each other in order to inspire and engage all children in all activities all the time.



Parents ring in to request care, with an educator that specifically attends LINK activities on a regular basis. Parents acknowledge that they have heard so many wonderful things about LINK in the community. This is influencing educators' choices, and a number of educators have made a significant physical effort and financial commitment to include LINK in their program, either by buying a bigger car, or in some cases buying their first car, or by reducing the numbers of children on particular days, which we all know means taking a cut in income, so they can go to LINK activities every week.

So many more child focused skills are embedded in the LINK activities than we could have ever imagined, including socialising, making choices, working in a team, turn taking, extending attention spans, problem solving and communication skills.

With all the different providers we are contracting there are a number of men who lead the events and we have had feedback that having more male role models has been fantastic for the children.

Thank You

I would like to end this evening by thanking all that have enabled us to achieve the excellence we have. Without your ongoing support and commitment we would not be exceedingly always striving for better outcomes for children and families. Educators, Families, Children, Coordination Staff, The Management Committee, The Advisory Committee and the people that make our coffee, in the words of AA Milne – author of Winnie the Poo

“Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude”.

Catherine Bavage

Manager

29/09/2016