

Family Focus - June 2017

WELCOME: We would like to welcome all our new families that have joined our Service. We hope you find our bi-monthly newsletter informative.

VACANCIES: We currently have vacancies in Gympie, Southside, Tamaree, Amamoor, Tin Can Bay, Jones Hill and Belli Park. Spread the word to anyone you know that is looking for quality child care. We would love to hear from you.

WINTER WELLNESS: Well it's that time of year again and along with the cooler months approaching, so do the inevitable coughs and colds. Many children with a mild illness, such as a cold, can attend child care without causing harm to themselves or the other children. Whilst it is sometimes okay to send your child off to care with a cold, when making your decision at the beginning of the day, ask yourself these questions:-

- ★ Will my child be well enough to comfortably and happily participate in the activities of the day?
- ★ Will my child's Educator be able to care for my child without affecting their ability to look after the other children?
- ★ Will my child pass the illness on to their Educator and/or their playmates if I send them today?

Another good habit to get into is to notify your child's Educator about any illness that occurred the night before and also if any medication, such as paracetamol, has been administered prior to delivering your child to care. This may make Educators more alert to any additional signs of sickness your child may display during the day.

In some cases, Educators may ask for a medical clearance prior to coming back into care.



Have you liked our facebook page yet?
<https://www.facebook.com/fdcgympie>

Please like and share our posts!

WE ARE RECRUITING!

Do you know someone that would make a great Family Day Care Educator?

We are currently looking for new Educators in Gympie, Cooloola Cove, Rainbow Beach and surrounding areas.

No previous experience is necessary. We provide comprehensive training prior to start up and support and guide you through the ongoing development of your business.

Contact us today for further information, we would love to hear from you.

FDC Gympie Region Team

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Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor: Sue Williams

Educational Leader/Certified Supervisor: Kay Braddock

Certified Supervisor: Merrill Patrick

Casual Inclusion Support Resource Officer: Shirley Robson

Casual Certified Supervisor: Teshian Smith

Administration Officer: Susan Duncan

Registrar: Nicky Giesen

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 8.30am—4.00pm

Approved Provider: The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q)

Management Committee: Uniting Church Child Care Association (Gympie Congregation)





EDUCATIONAL LEADER:

Some very interesting American research has recently been released that we could all pay attention to. The study examined screen time and the impact it has on our young children. This 'first of its kind' study found that the more time children between ages of 6 months and 2 years spent using handheld screens such as smart phones, tablets and electronic games, the more likely they were to experience speech delays.

This study highlighted some of the potential risks associated with media use and specifically hand-held devices. The negative affects may be due to screen time replacing the parent child interactions. We know that young children learn best through interaction and engagement with people through play and talking, reading and telling stories, singing, etc. It is well known that children who hear less language in their homes have lower vocabularies.

For more information visit <http://edition.cnn.com/2017/05/04/health/babies-screen-time-speech-delays-study>

These recent findings reinforce that well established fact that the early years are an incredibly important time for children to establish a sound knowledge and foundation for speech and language, as this in turn can have an influence on future academic success.

The Raising Children's network can give parents an idea of what is age appropriate development (keeping in mind this is just a guide as all children develop differently) and access to some great information and resources to support their children's language development.

http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/language_development.html/context/1149



If you have any concerns about your child's language or speech development talk to your Educator who can consider this when planning and programming for your child or support you to access further information.

Staff Profile:

Shirley Robson—Casual Inclusion Support Resource Coordinator

Hi! My name is Shirley Robson and I am the newest member to join the coordination unit here at Family Day Care Gympie Region. I am joining the team for one day a week as Coordinator/Inclusion Support Resource Officer. For those that are a little unclear about what an Inclusion Support Resource Officer is, I will try to give you a quick snippet!

Inclusion Support refers to the support given to Educators to ensure that each and every child has the opportunity to actively and positively engage in an early childhood program or care setting (regardless of their ability, disability, culture etc.). It is about supporting Educators to embrace cultural differences and integrating them into their services. It is about supporting Educators to support families.

My role will be to work hand in hand with the Inclusion Support Agency to support Educators by listening, observing and scaffolding through challenges they may face. It is about reflecting on current situations and practices; providing strategies and alternatives; and sourcing funding opportunities and resource ideas that

may help them. I don't have a magic wand, but what I do have is the will and determination to help each Educator in providing an inclusive program.

Although I will meet many of you along my travels, here is a little bit about me!

I moved to the Gympie region a year and a half ago. I am blessed to have a loving and supportive husband, am the proud mum of 2 beautiful boys (7 and 3) and am surrounded by many 2 and 4 legged furry friends!

My early childhood professional career started directly after high school and saw me experience a vast number of roles in a range of different early childhood settings (Long Day Care and Family Day Care) as well as in the Inclusion Support sector. I worked my way through educating, directing, coordinating and being a Family Day Care Educator from home. Each of these roles and my own personal life experience has contributed to how I see Early Childhood today, my philosophy and my beliefs.

I am very excited to be part of the team here and look forward to meeting you all!

Shirley ☺

