

# news



**CHANGES TO LEGISLATION:** As many of you will be aware, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP, Minister for Social Services, issued a media release outlining that he has revoked and reissued the legislative instrument which had previously introduced four new rules applicable to Family Day Care (FDC) Services. Minister Morrison has reissued a new legislative instrument which includes three of the four rules, excluding the rule that prevented FDC Educators from receiving care from other FDC Educators on days that they were working. This was removed so that further consultation with the FDC sector on the rule can be undertaken. The Department of Social Services will send out further information on the consultation process in the very near future.

Minister Morrison has also advised that other areas will be coming under scrutiny such as booked hours not reflecting the care used and other CCB & CCR discrepancies. If you are unsure, please talk with any member of staff and seek clarification.

**MIXED BAG WORKSHOPS:** These workshops have been the first part of the process to ensure everyone has current and correct information in relation to the changes that our Sector is facing. We will continue with our consultation process with all stakeholders (Educators, families, committee etc.) to form a plan moving forward. This is a clear and transparent process and we are committed to keeping it so. Remember, we value your input and you will have a chance to have your say. Ask yourself, what are the things that you really value in our Service as it currently operates? What do you definitely not want to let go of as we adapt to the changes, especially those imposed at a Government level? What could we let go of, or need to let go of to adapt to these new changes? What could we as a Service do differently in the future?



**REGISTRAR:** Applications for our Registrar position have now closed. Interviews will be conducted next Wednesday and we are looking forward to welcoming our new staff member in the very near future.

## What's On?

Fortnight ending: 8 and 22 March  
Little Kids Day Out: 21 March



## Birthdays

### March

- 8th Raelene Dau
- 18th Barbara Rooks
- 30th Tammy Robertson



### FDC Gympie Region Team

Phone: 5482 6099  
Email: [admin@fdcgympie.org.au](mailto:admin@fdcgympie.org.au)  
[www.fdcgympie.com.au](http://www.fdcgympie.com.au)

#### Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor

Sue Williams

#### Educational Leader/Certified Supervisor

Kay Braddock

#### Certified Supervisor

Merril Patrick

#### Administration

Susan Duncan

Jill Kewin

#### Office Hours

Mon—Fri: 8.30am to 4.00pm

#### Approved Provider

The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q)

#### Management Committee

Uniting Church Child Care Association  
(Gympie Congregation)





**EDUCATOR PROFILE**

My name is Barbra O'Neill and I am the new Family Day Care Educator for the Glenwood and surrounding area. I moved up from the Coast in October last year much needing a tree change, and am enjoying the peace and tranquillity Glenwood has to offer.



I am a Teacher Aide and have assisted and relieved in many schools across the Coast but my last two years have been as an Inclusion Support Educator in a childcare centre. I believe children should have a say in how they learn and be provided with endless ways and opportunities to express their individual personalities.

The aim of my program is to make their ongoing learning experiences safe, stimulating, relaxing and most of all hands on. I am enjoying the one on one interaction I have now with the children and their families and living the country life is just an added bonus.



★ **Educational Leader**

In our last newsletter we touched on *collecting information* about the child from a variety of sources and this was the starting point for our ongoing "cycle of planning."

I have seen some great examples on visits of how Educators are collecting information about children's learning including photos with captions, parent questionnaires, observational notes in diaries, learning stories, examples of children's work, recording input from children & families and many more.

To engage children actively in learning, Educators then use this information to *identify strengths, interests and goals*. With these in mind decisions can be made about appropriate teaching strategies and designing/setting up the learning environment. All this is done with the Frameworks Learning outcomes in mind (MTOP & ELYF).

*Reflect on how you are doing this and is it visible in your documentation?*

It is always helpful to reread Quality Area 1 of The National Quality Standard and revisit the learning Frameworks especially the foreword to reinforce your understanding.

Kay



A few Sundays back I rode my Suzuki 750 to Church and parked it behind the building where it would be safe and out of the way to kids and general pedestrian traffic. So I put the side stand down on the grass and off I went.

I remember looking back at the bike before I turned the corner to ensure it was all OK and it was! So you can imagine my horror when between the two morning services a couple of our men approached me and said that the bike around the back of the church had fallen over and was not looking too good. They had (bless them) picked it up for me and stood it on the cement path and in doing so noticed the large dent in the top of the petrol tank. They told me that too. When I went to go home that day and witnessed the damage, I was horrified. In addition to the dent (still there) there are scratches on the side, only 3/4 of a gear lever and my pride and joy had been ruined. It started Ok and nothing had impacted the motor or the more important parts like lights etc. I had been very fortunate, despite my feelings at that moment. I have been thinking about that ever since and it's like God used that to remind me of an important principle in life and in living. That is: it's important to check your foundations. You see no-one had pushed the bike over. The stand had simply sunk into the wet ground over time. The foundation was too soft and mushy and as a result the bike couldn't maintain its position. It's the same in every aspect of life. We have foundations on everything we do and in who we are, whether we are aware of them or not! Foundations in child care may well be things like paperwork, appropriate policies and protocols, effective communication, awareness of benchmarks and legislative requirements etc. Without a solid foundation, we collapse and often will get hurt. I thank God my real foundation is not some soggy bit of ground but Jesus – my Rock. Who or what is your foundation? Is it solid? All the time?

**EDUCATOR TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS:**

Please check the FDC Gympie Region website on a regular basis to keep up to date with training and workshop opportunities.



★ **Toy Library**

Just a reminder:

If you are returning resources, please write up your returns **and** put them away.

If you live out of town and have asked Co-ordinators to return items for you, please provide them with a list of items being returned.

Merril