

news



APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUNDING—In July this year a large number of Family Day Care services across Australia will lose vital funding that supports services with the operational costs of running a Family Day Care Coordination Unit. Sadly this may see the closure of Coordination Units and Family Day Care services across the country. To support our funding application we are required to provide documentation to support an unmet demand for child care in our community. We are asking for your help in providing letters of support. Tell us what is important to you and what you value about Family Day Care that other day care services cannot provide, such as:

- ★ Flexibility of hours
- ★ Overnight and weekend care to suit rosters
- ★ Small groups
- ★ Siblings stay together
- ★ Only pay for the hours used
- ★ Home environment

Please submit your letter of support to our office by 22nd May 2015.

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN IN FDC GYMPIE REGION—“All children must be adequately supervised at all time that the children are being educated and cared for at the approved service.” P 63 Guide to National Law and National Regulations.

Are you in sight or hearing of children at all times indoors and outdoors?

FDC Educators must know where children in their care are and what they are doing at all times and should always be in a position that allows an immediate response to each child’s individual needs and immediately intervene to protect a child from hazards or harm.

We are asking all Educators to review their practice around supervision of children including indoors and outdoors, meal times, rest time, toileting and overnight care and discussing how you manage this issue on May visits.

COMPETITION TIME—Over the coming months we will be launching our bumper sticker competition. Simply like our facebook page (www.facebook.com/fdcgympie) and put our bumper sticker on your vehicle (you will be able to collect these from your educator or our office). Winners will be chosen at random when we see the bumper sticker and your registration number will be put on our facebook page. You will then need to contact us to collect your prize. We are still working with local businesses to arrange some great prizes. Watch this space. Bumper stickers coming soon!

ATTENDANCE RECORD PROCESSING—There are a large number of errors being made on attendance records in relation to incorrect additions of hours of care. When there is an error on your attendance record, staff are required to access your booked hours form, a copy of the screen on Harmony is printed, another staff members checks to ensure it is not an internal error, it is then assessed by the Nominated Supervisor and then an email is generated to the Educator to advise them of the mistake. This is a time consuming process that with a little bit of extra care and attention, may be able to be eliminated.

NOT WORKING TODAY!! If for some reason you are not working due to absent children, illness etc., please advise the office as soon as possible. This will allow the Co-ordination Unit to plan their home visits to make sure they do not impact on personal time.

What's On?

Fortnight ending: 3, 17, 31 May
Gympie Show Holiday: 15 May

Educator Service Awards

Congratulations to:
Muriel Sellars 20 years
Diane Matthews 20 years
Leah Schulz 5 years
Kathy Pitt 5 years

Birthdays

May
19th
20th
24th
25th
27th
30th

FDC Gympie Region Team

Phone: 5482 6099

Email: admin@fdcgympie.org.au
wwwfdcgympie.com.au

Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor

Sue Williams

Educational Leader/Certified Supervisor

Kay Braddock

Certified Supervisor

Merril Patrick

Administration

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)



**EDUCATOR PROFILE**

My name is Debbie Auckram. I am an early childhood educator. I am a mother of seven and grandmother of four to date. I started working as an early childhood educator in February this year. Previous to this I was a customer service operator. My dream has always been to work with children and make a positive difference in their lives. I am now pursuing this dream. I am looking to build on my group of children and offer a fun and educational program in a caring, safe environment. I have an invested interest in working with children that have disabilities and good experience in this area. I also have an interest in multi-cultural families. I am based in Victory Heights and am available to do pick ups and drop offs. If you are interested in the service I offer please contact me via the Family Day Care office and mention my name for enrolments. You can also find me on facebook and message me for any further details about the program and service that I run. If you would like to take a look at my service you are most welcome.



REV'S RAMBLINGS—Ever wondered why at times things seem to happen to you when they don't happen to people around you? If you have I am sure you will have thought,, muttered under your breath, or even declared for the whole neighbourhood to hear, "It's not fair". This has happened on our home front just recently. I am probably one of the rare breed of humans that don't mind snakes. They don't scare me but having said that I wouldn't exactly go play with them either. Sandy, my wife, on the other hand, hates them with a passion. Over the last 5 weeks, we have four turn up in our yard or just outside the house. And get this, three of them different types. The first and last were harmless tree snakes, the second a roughscale, and the third a brown. In asking around the street, I have ascertained that no-one either side of us nor those up the street (we live in a cul-de-sac) have seen any in recent times at all. Why us? Well I can't answer that. I don't know but it kinda sucks. The brown was a baby so you can imagine what the first comment from my wife was! There's got to be the daddy around somewhere! I have been reflecting on this round of what we might call bad luck for the last few days. I began to think about what I know to be true not just about snakes but about myself. I'm not really scared of them. They are always there – it's just we rarely see them let alone come in contact with them. I have two foxies whose skill set includes catching and killing snakes. None have been inside the house. I know the appropriate first aid should the worst happen. I realized that I probably didn't have to be too concerned because of what I knew within. So here's my one line learning from this "not fair" incident. **Never let that which is within you be controlled by what is around you.** Of course this applies to life. I know within that Jesus loves me and that He has died and rose again to give me new life eternally. Because of that I don't have to fear or be consumed with what is around me in terms of trials, difficulties, uncertainties, even catastrophes. What is within you?

★ Educational Leader

Last newsletter we identified setting up the *learning environment* as an important phase in the "Cycle of Planning" and asked you to reflect on your environment through the eyes of the children, families and others. Coordinators are interested to share your reflections and could also be considered to be "another set of eyes".

The last part of the cycle of planning is the "**reflect and review**" phase. This is where we look at how was it for the child, what worked, what didn't? What learning has taken place for the child, and how are they progressing against identified goals or area of focus? Where do these achievements fit into the Outcomes of the Early Years Learning Framework and My Time Our Place? What about your teaching strategies? Were they suitable, fair, equitable and effective? Was the environment and resources suitable, age appropriate, interesting, challenging etc.

A question I often get asked as part of the reflective process is about extending or "where to from here?"

A good thing to remember it's not necessarily about extending the 'experience or activity' but extending the '*learning*'.

The " where to from here" is more about examining the children's participation and learning and looking at how this can inform your future planning and curriculum decisions.

Kay

GYMPIE SHOW—Gympie Show. Free entry is available to educators, helpers and children on Thursday 14th May between 10.00am and 2.00pm. If you are planning an excursion to the show during this time please contact the office with names of adults and numbers of children by Monday 4th May.

CERTIFYING DOCUMENTATION—We acknowledge that it is difficult for Educators to arrange certifying of documents in the course of their busy days. Educators are able to send the original document along with a photocopy of the document (or enclose payment for photocopy) to the office and the Co-ordination Unit will organise the certifying of the documents on your behalf. We will do our best to complete this in a reasonable period.

FAREWELL—FDC Gympie Region says farewell to Carol-Anne Stedman who is moving on after being an educator with our service for over 16 years. Margaret Berndt has also retired as an Educator after 10 years. We wish you both all the very best with the future. Maria ten-Bohmer has changed her role from Educator to Co-Educator within our service.

