

# Armidale & District Family Day Care Family Newsletter

August 2017



Dear Families,

Items in this newsletter:

- When to exclude your child from care
- Health Management Plans and Immunisation Updates
- Child Information updates
- Getting involved
- Media stories about Family Day Care



## When to exclude

**Please keep your child at home If they:**

- Are vomiting or have diarrhoea
- Have a temperature
- Have a rash, lice or nits
- An eye infection

*Please help us protect everyone's health and prevent the spread of germs.*

*Please re-read our Health Policy for recommended exclusion times.*

*Note: In the case of diarrhoea your child cannot return to care until they have been*

## Health Management Plans

We advise families when enrolling that we will need a Health Management Plan (devised by a GP) if their child has a medical condition such as Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy or Diabetes.

***This is a requirement under National Regulations.***

If your child has developed a medical condition since enrolling please provide us with a Health Management Plan ASAP.

*A copy will be provided to your Educator so that they can help manage your child's medical condition whilst they are in care.*

***Please ensure you also provide us with Immunisation History Updates as they occur***

## Child Information Updates

When enrolling you provide us with detailed information about your child at that time. This helps their Educator identify their likes, dislikes, things that calm them and help them settle etc.

We do need to update this information regularly to keep up with your child's development. This is particularly important if, for some reason, your child needs to attend another Educator's service (*when your Educator is sick or on leave*).

The Child Information form is available to download from our website

[www.armidaleanddistrictfamilydaycare.com](http://www.armidaleanddistrictfamilydaycare.com) or we can email you a copy to complete whenever you want to add new information.

Thank you.

## Getting involved in your child's service

We know that everyone is busy but the best outcomes for children happen when families and Educators work together.

Besides maintaining regular and open communication families can get involved through:

Their Educator's program-

- Reading information about the National Quality Framework and the Early Years Learning Framework via [www.startingblocks.gov.au](http://www.startingblocks.gov.au)
- talking with your Educator about your child's current play interests.
- reading the Educator's displayed program and contributing ideas that come from play at home and family experiences on holidays and weekends.
- visiting your Educator's service to share your skills, hobbies or interests e.g. playing an instrument, gardening, cooking, art etc.
- contributing clean recyclables—boxes, plastic bottles, material offcuts, paper etc. that can be used creatively in play and craft
- supporting or participating in any fundraising efforts
- assisting with excursions from time to time (when available)

### **Families can also get involved through the Board of Directors.**

Our small Board of Directors is comprised of parent, educator and community representatives.

Nominations for membership are always welcome. The Board meets every 6 weeks at AFDC's office at 95 Faulkner St, Armidale.

Meetings start at 7.00pm and are generally wrapped up by 8.30pm.

Whilst meetings have an agenda, minutes are taken and motions are voted on, proceedings are informal and everyone's input is greatly appreciated.

If you would like to know more about Board membership please contact our Business Manager, Pat Marson on 6772 5300.

The AGM will be held on November 4th at a venue to be advised.



### **Professionalism**

In light of the recent stories in the media about fraudulent Family Day Care operators it is important for us to reassure families they are enrolled with a quality provider that has served this community well for nearly 35 years.

Our Educators look forward to establishing partnerships with families that are based on mutual trust, open, respectful communication, an appreciation of each other's knowledge and experience and an acceptance of professional boundaries.

We discussed some of those boundaries with you when you enrolled e.g. attendances and absences, payment of fees, health and medical requirements.

Other boundaries are created by the National Regulations, National Standards and Service policies and procedures.

Your educator's role is defined by these boundaries and whilst she looks forward to developing a warm and welcoming relationship with you and your child/children she must maintain her professionalism at all times.

***Please contact us when you need to discuss something or ask a question. Our office is open Monday to Thursday 8.30-4.30, 6772 5300.***

***Till next time. Sue, Pat and Liz.***