



Getting Involved

We know that family life is **very busy** but there are many ways to get involved in your Educator's service or with Armidale & District Family Day Care that don't take much time.

Why get involved? Because the best outcomes for children happen when families and educators work together (this applies just as much in early childhood education and care as it does in school).

How can I get involved?

❖ By way of your Educator's Program

As you may know, Family Day Care Educators have an obligation, under the National Quality Framework (see www.startingblocks.gov.au) to provide an educational program of activities and experiences based on each child's play interests and developmental needs.

How can you contribute to this program?

- By talking with your Educator about your child's play interests at home.
- By reading the Educator's displayed program regularly and contributing ideas that come from play at home and family experiences on holidays and weekends.
- By visiting your Educator's service to share your skills, hobbies or interests e.g. playing an instrument, gardening, cooking, art etc.
- By contributing clean recyclables- boxes, plastic bottles, material offcuts, paper etc. to be used in role play and art projects.
- By supporting or participating in any fundraising efforts
- By assisting with excursions from time to time

❖ By Communicating

Your Educator and AFDC's staff welcome ongoing communication with enrolled families. AFDC's door is open Monday to Thursday 8.30pm to 4.30pm. If ever you would like to discuss anything related to your child's care please contact us and we will organise a time to meet or speak with you.

You can also communicate with us:

- via surveys we send out from time to time (after enrolment and when we are reviewing service philosophy, policy and practice).



- When you need to update some information regarding contact details, immunisation status etc.

We will email a newsletter to enrolled families every term to provide updates on service happenings. We also maintain a website (www.armidaleanddistrictfamilydaycare.com) and a Facebook page (Fdc Armidale).

❖ Through Board membership

As a community based, not for profit service, Armidale & District Family Day Care is run by a small Board of Directors comprised of parent, educator and community representatives. Nominations for Board 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. Staff present reports at each meeting. Anything due for discussion or requiring a decision is emailed to all Board members prior to the meeting for their consideration.

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

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

Invitations

AFDC runs a weekly playsession in partnership with Armidale Community Preschool (the purple preschool in Allingham St). Families are welcome to join us whenever they have time. Playsessions usually happen on Tuesdays between 10am and 12 midday (during school holidays they may be held on other weekdays).

You are welcome to call us to confirm playsession is happening 6772 5300.

Our office in Faulkner Street has nappy change facilities. If you are ever downtown during our office hours (8.30-4.30 Monday -Thursday) and in need of a clean place to change your child, please call in.