



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Follow us:
Bowen/Collinsville Family Day Care



Welcome New Families!
Pyott, Johnson,
O'Shea, Pyott,
Johnson, Willis,
O'Shea, Bainbridge,
McDonald, Watts/Corriller,
Beccaris, Spann, Cantarella,
Fanias/Farrelly, McAvoy/Parter

Dates to note:

24th – Christmas Eve

25th Christmas Day

QLD STATE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 16 Dec – 27 Jan



Children must have a CCS enrolment before entering the care environment.

Please let the Coordination unit know if you will be having school aged children in care so that booking can be made and CCS enrolments put in place.

REMEMBER: CCS enrolments will cease after 14 weeks of non attendance!

FIRST AND LAST DAY ABSENCES AND THE CHILD CARE SUBSIDY.

The Child Care subsidy will not be applied when:

- > A child is absent for their first day/s of care.
- > A child does not attend their last booked day/s of childcare.

For more information visit:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/child-care-subsidy-if-your-child-absent-from-child-care?context=41186>

Management Committee Update

We are pleased to announce that **Georgina Zadelj** has joined the Management Committee!

Georgina is a Family Day Care Educator who is based in Eubenangee and brings a wealth of knowledge and insight as her role as, not only as an Educator, but as a previous board member of Family Day Care Australia.

Welcome Georgina!

If you are interested in becoming a Management Committee Member as an Educator, Parent or Community Representative please contact us at fdcbowen@tpg.com.au

Office closure

The Coordination Unit will be closed from the 24th December 2024 and will have reduced staffing and operating hours up until the 6th January 2025.

A coordinator will be contactable available via mobile phone during this period.

**** New Policy and Procedures – approved by the Management Committee on the 28/10/2024. ****

New adaptations IN PLACE NOW include:

- **Fridges** – the have a thermometer check conducted
- **New Cleaning Schedule**
- **New Handwashing procedure**
- **New Nappy Change Poster**
- **Sandpits** – to have a ‘tight fitting animal and vermin proof cover’ , animals not to have any access to the sandpit, and a recommended sand depth of at least 500mm.
- **Pets/Animals** – are not allowed in sandpits and are not allowed to urinate or defecate on soil, in pot plants, or in vegetable gardens that children have access to.

Educators and families, please let us know if you have not received a copy of these.



➔ Critical reflection idea for Educators

What does engagement look like and why is it important in supervision?

Engagement has been defined as the amount of time spent participating in an activity, interacting with peers or teachers, or looking at or using materials in a developmentally appropriate manner. (Goals of Intervention by Baily & Wolery, 1992)

When a child is not engaged in an activity, it is more than likely that the child is not learning. It is important to deliver a quality program to increase children's participation and learning. Alternatively, disengaged children will often distract others or find activities that lead to negative behaviours.

Think of some of the signs a child might show when they are engaged. What does that look like?

FREE RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS!!!

GROWING TOMORROW'S CREATORS THROUGH MUSIC.



THE SPRINKLER

Hold one hand over an ear, elbow bent. Hold your other arm in front of you and wave it back and forth while spinning in a circle, like you are a sprinkler.



THE CHICKEN

Stand with your arms bent at the elbows, and move them up and down like you are flapping your feathery wings.



THE TWIST

Put one foot out, and then move it side to side (like you are squashing an imaginary bug). Get your arms involved, too and get twisting.



HOT POTATO

Just take your hands, make them into balls and move one on top of the other. You can also step your foot in time to the beat.



How can dance moves fuel your future?

When you engage with music, through dance moves, singing along or even just listening, you are engaging both hemispheres of your developing brain. So dancing to music can make every developing brain healthier and more powerful.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

Set an example for the little creators of tomorrow. Do the right thing for the creators of today. With a music, books and art licence from onemusic.com.au

OneMusic | CÖPYRIGHTAGENCY

Website: www.bowencollinsvillefamilydaycare.com.au

Contact: 07 4786 1399

Email: fdcbowen@tpg.com.au



It's starting to heat up! Bowen/Collinsville Educators really know how to do....

Water Play

**3. 2 Children become strong in their physical learning and mental wellbeing
QA2. 1. 1 Wellbeing and comfort**





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Sustainable craft idea

Repurposing Woolworths paper bags for gift wrap

Do you receive the Woolworths paper bags for your groceries?
Do you have a difficult time in deciding how to recycle them?

What about engaging you children in a craft activity to repurpose them into Christmas gift bags or wrapping paper?



Recipe idea

'Grinch' skewers

All you need is

- Toothpicks
- Banana
- Strawberries
- Mini Marshmallows



DON'T duck out. Make it **SAFE.**



Supervise. Actively watch children within arm's reach. Only leave adults in charge of kids.

Act. Learn CPR. Start compressions and breaths as soon as possible after drowning and call **Triple Zero (000)** for help.

Fence. In WA, swimming pools with **more than 30cm** of water are legally required to have a compliant safety barrier.

Empty. Put portable pools away after use, out of reach of children, where they can't refill with rain or sprinkler water.

productsafety.gov.au/makeitsafe

#DontDuckOut #MakeItSafe

australian consumer law 



ROYAL LIFE SAVING
AUSTRALIA

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Did you know?

The Coordination Unit has sun safe bucket hats available for sale?

The cost is \$15, and the sizes range from:

47 – 51cm

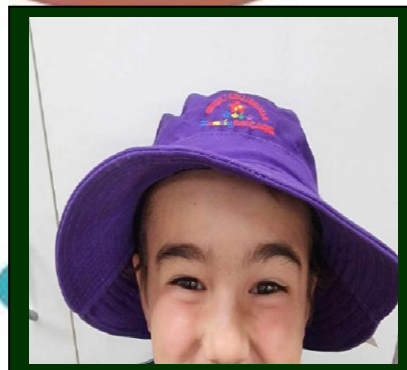
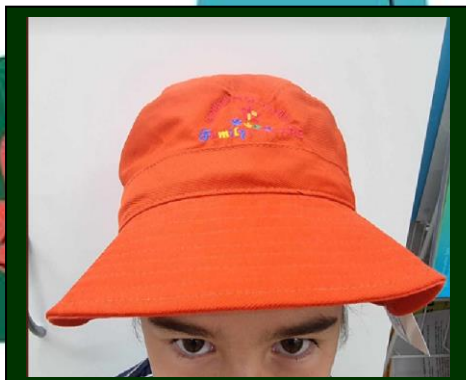
51 – 55cm

53 – 57cm

57 – 61cm

Let your coordinator know if you would like a hat and we can arrange it to be sent to you!

Please see examples of colours. (N.B colours are not available in all sizes.)



Educator Spotlight

Tatjana Hannan

On Beautiful Magnetic Island off Townsville



How long have you been an educator? I started when my first born was only 9-month-old in West Berlin just as the Berlin Wall came down. I looked after my friend's children officially as "Tagesmutter" the German version of FDC . After migrating to Australia, it took me more than a decade working in long day care centres and becoming the director of the Island MI Occasional Care Centre before starting my "Amigos" FDC in 2007 on the island starting with 3 Amigos. I have been with Bowen Collinsville FDC since the beginning of 2023.

What is your favourite thing about being an educator? The freedom I have to take the children out into nature, exploring through their eyes a world only few adults are privileged to be invited to.

How would you describe Amigos Family Day care? Its an island experience, and once you have been an Amigo, you will always belong as one of us. The children that first started with me as two year olds have now left school and started their own life, going to university or doing a trade. They still remember Amigos with a smile on their face. I encourage a "free range childhood", and it shapes the children's life.

Do you have any tips for your fellow educators? Keep learning about new insights, discoveries and science-based information about human development, attachment and pedagogy. Stay up to date. This area is evolving and getting better in understanding the importance of childhood.

Are you happy for other educators to reach out and connect with you? Yes, as they say it takes a village to raise children. And connections are our most human gift. As educators we can feel isolated and that is why some don't last long. Feel free to catch up.

Educator tip *Child ceasing care*

- > **Inform the Coordination Unit of the stop care date. (Keep in mind last day absences and how this affects CCS!!!)**
 - > **Gather any hard copies of paperwork; medication form, excursion approvals, incident reports etc. and send to or put aside to be handed to a coordinator during next visit.**
- > **Gather assessments/portfolio/artworks and finalise. Have ready for the family for the last day of care.**
- > **Advise coordination unit when child can be archived (accounts settled).**
 - > **Archive child from platform, Kinderloop, Story Park or Apsessment.**

COMMUNICATION

Children are ready to communicate from birth, and early communication starts with crying to communicate a need. This soon moves to babbles and gestures before words emerge.

Educators can encourage communication by talking a lot, tuning in to the sounds, gestures and articulations that babies and young toddlers make, and looking for nonverbal cues.

Reading to children and singing songs also helps them to be “bathed in language.”

5.1.1 POSITIVE EDUCATOR TO CHILD INTERACTIONS

5.1 CHILDREN INTERACT VERBALLY AND NON-VERBALLY WITH OTHERS FOR A RANGE OF PURPOSES



Keeping babies cool in hot weather

Follow these tips to keep your baby cool during hot weather.

Dress light



Dress your baby in light clothing and use layers to adjust to the temperature.

Avoid direct sunlight



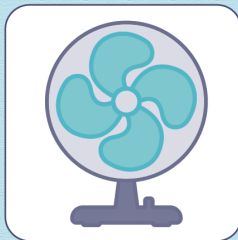
Babies under 6 months should not be out in direct sunlight. Use sunscreen for babies over 6 months.

Plenty of fluids



Offer breast milk or formula for babies under 6 months. They may want to feed more often, but for less time.

Use a fan



Use a fan to help circulate cool air. If using an air conditioner, don't let it get too cold.

Cool bath



Give your baby a cool bath, especially before bedtime.

Shade, don't cover



Pram should be shaded, not completely covered to allow air to circulate.

Warning signs for heatstroke

- Rising body temperature - above 40°C
- Heavy sweating that suddenly stops
- Pale, clammy skin
- Rapid heartbeat and breathing
- Headache and muscle cramps
- Sunken fontanelle (soft spot on baby's head)
- Dark urine and not as frequent
- Dry mouth and eyes
- Being sleep or 'floppy'
- Confusion, shortness of breath and vomiting

If your baby or older child has any of the signs above, they need urgent treatment. Call triple zero 000 for an ambulance or take your baby to a hospital or health centre.



Acknowledgement to Country Wadda Mooli

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we work and live, the Juru people of the Birri Gubba nation, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community.

We pay our respects to Elder's past, present and emerging.

