



# FAMILY DAY CARE

Quality Home Based Childcare



## Kids at Home Family Day Care Newsletter

ISSUE 1 November 2009



### Hello from Kids at Home ☺

Welcome to Kids at Home's very first newsletter. We hope this newsletter will become a useful and informative source of information for families and Care Providers, relating to our service, to Family Day Care and child care in Australia. But as always I value your comments and feedback for future issues of "our" newsletter.



First and foremost I would like to say hello and welcome to all our families and children, and a heart felt thanks to the Kids at Home Care Providers (you know who you are) who have been fantastic in assisting and supporting me with the processes required to become Kids at Home.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm "thank you" to Robyn from the Office of Early Childhood and Care, Del and Pauline from the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations, Family Day Care Australia, Shannyn and the team at Peace of Mind Family Day Care, friends and family for supporting me through this journey of opening our independent Family Day Care Service.

Our service is founded on the basis of positive cooperation and communication, between families, children, Care Providers and the Coordination Unit. I extend to all an 'open door policy', so please feel free to contact me at any time regarding any aspect of the service. I look forward to working with you all.

Regards,



**Did you know ?**  
Elephants are the only mammals that can't jump.

### In this Issue

- Useful websites
- Books of interest
- EYLF
- New Care Providers Corner
- Changes to Car Restraint Laws
- CCB, CCRT, CRN and Attendance Record Information



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## New Care Providers Corner

**Kids at Home welcome**, Amber-Carina, Begum-Carina, Janis-Kangaroo Point, Megan-Camp Hill, Shafia-Mt Gravatt East, Janifa-Greenslopes, Nisha-Upper Mt Gravatt, Raewyn-Annerley, and Amanda-Mt Tamborine and over the next few weeks Jodi-Jindalee, Tracy-Greenslopes, Monique-Alexandra Hills, Nicola-Varsity Lakes and Zarra-Anne-Regents Park will be joining our team of enthusiastic and dedicated Care Providers.

## The Early Years Learning Framework

Everyone is talking about The Early Years Learning Framework and as we refer to it as EYLF, so what is it you ask? The framework describes the principles, practice and outcomes essential to support and enhance young children's learning from birth to five years of age, as well as their transition to school. The Framework has a strong emphasis on play-based learning as play is the best vehicle for young children's learning providing the most appropriate stimulus for brain development. The Framework also recognises the importance of communication and language (including early literacy and numeracy), and social and emotional development.

This is not a new idea to family day care we have been doing this for years. Kids at Home base their policies and practise on providing children with many play based opportunities to explore and learn by doing everyday. Kids at home and its Care Providers have a strong commitment to preparing children for the big world and aim to continue further training for Care Providers and staff in how we can further develop the elements of the EYLF.

### Information for Care Providers

[http://www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Policy\\_Agenda/Quality/Pages/EarlyYearsLearningFramework.aspx](http://www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Policy_Agenda/Quality/Pages/EarlyYearsLearningFramework.aspx). and register for the forum

### And information for families

[http://www.familydaycareaustralia.com.au/enewsletter/EYLFFamiliesGuide\\_170909.pdf](http://www.familydaycareaustralia.com.au/enewsletter/EYLFFamiliesGuide_170909.pdf)



### Daddy's Having a Horse

**Author:** Lisa Shanahan & Emma Quay

Everyone will love this funny, tender story about what not to expect when your mum is expecting. Mummy is having a new baby and Caitlin is delighted. But she is not as excited as her brother Lachlan, he is sure that Daddy is having a horse! When the big day finally arrives, both of them are surprised. This is a unique picture book that celebrates the role of fatherhood in a time when dads are becoming more involved in parenting. It is perfect for children awaiting the arrival of a new brother or sister in the family, as it explores both the uncertainties and joy which surround this momentous occasion.

## Books of Interest

### Clancy The Courageous Cow

**Author:** Lachie Hulme This story is about inclusion, that maybe difference is not deficit but simply provides a wealth of strengths and capacities that can be shared for the good of us all. This insightful take on difference is expressed by young author who at 12 years old wrote this story for a school project which was eventually published. Winner of two national awards this story Clancy the Courageous Cow is a fun story about being different and about getting along.



## Useful websites

[www.kidsathome.net.au](http://www.kidsathome.net.au)

**National Childcare Accreditation Council –**  
[www.ncac.gov.au](http://www.ncac.gov.au)

[www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood](http://www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood)

[www.mychild.gov.au](http://www.mychild.gov.au)



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## A Note for Parents about 4 Weekly Statements, CRN's, CCB, CCTR and signing Attendance Records

### Parent 4 Weekly Statements

Kids at Home has a requirement to provide parents with a 4 week statement of child care usage. Only parents with a formal enrolment will receive a statement.

An enrolment is considered 'formal' if you have provided Kids at Home with CRN's (Customer reference Numbers) and date of birth details for both the parent registered with Centrelink and the child using care (each person/child is given a different CRN). If you believe you should have a formal enrolment and do not receive a statement, please contact the office to check the details we have for you.

Initially Kids at Home will give each Care Provider their parents usage statements to pass on, then as our software providers technology improves we will email this out to each parent, please keep your email details up to date so we can insure we provide you with this and other important information.

### Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR)

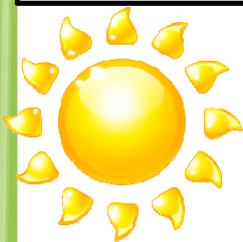
The final quarter (April - June) of CCTR is not paid to families until your 2008-2009 tax is lodged. Remember, if you also use another service they must have also finalised this quarter for you to receive your CCTR payment.

### Child Care Benefit (CCB)

CCB cannot be claimed for absences which occur on your child's final days of booked care. For example, if you give 2 weeks notice to terminate care your child must attend on the final day of this notice period to be eligible to claim CCB fee reduction otherwise full fee will be required for the absence days.

### Attendance Records

Each morning on arrival and every afternoon when children are being picked up from care please remember to sign in and out each day on the Attendance Record. The time needs to represent the actual times this occurs for legislative and insurance purposes.



## Feeling Hot! Hot! Hot!

Parents please ensure your child has a hat (preferably wide brimmed) for their day in care and also consider packing your child a long sleeved t-shirt, sunglasses and an extra set of clothing just in case your child's clothes get wet during water play throughout the summer months.

Talk to your Care Provider about whether you are to provide sunscreen and whether you are expected to deliver your child to care with sunscreen already applied.

### Child Restraint Changes 11 March 2010

It's common sense, and of course the law, that children and adults must be properly restrained while travelling in vehicles to ensure their safety.

As from the 11th of March 2010, it will be the law for all children up to seven years of age to be correctly restrained according to their size and age. Naturally an incorrect or ill fitting restraint is not only illegal but likely to be dangerous. Therefore, it is vital that the right child restraint is chosen and correctly installed.

Don't take a risk with a child's life, or serious injury to your most precious cargo. The penalty for incorrectly securing a child is \$A300 and three demerit points.

To find out more, go to the Kids at Home website for links, or phone the Department of Transport and Main Roads on 13 23 80.



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