



Gosford Children's Services

Term 4 2017

Welcome Back

We would like to welcome all our new and returning families to term 4. Please ensure your accounts are two weeks in advance at all times. Please remember that casual bookings must be paid at the end of each week. If you have any money owing on your account you will be unable to book in any extra days until the amount owing has been paid. We have also applied the \$10.00 Term fee to all accounts.

I would just like to remind all families about the importance of notifying the Service of changes to your permanent or casual booking. Please be advised, as emailed out 17 August 2017, we have amended sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the fees policy. Please note that we have also added a \$2.00 non notification fee (3.3) which will be charged per child if:

- A child arrives at the service without a booking.
- A child is absent and the service has not been notified.

Our Service can be notified within our operating hours of 6.30am-9am and 2.30-6.30pm on our landline numbers 43493610 or 43399426. If it is outside our operating hours you can email basccgosford@coastcommunityconnections.com.au or alternatively you can text message or leave a voice mail on our mobile 0451371713.

Staffing

Educators at Gosford remain the same for Term 4, Emma Shepherd is our Nominated Supervisor, Debra Bowen is our Certified Supervisor and Educational Leader and Tahni Wilson is also a Certified Supervisor (NQF 7.1.3). In the lead up to our biggest holidays and busy time of year we have a few staff taking annual leave and recharging with some rest and relaxation. During this time there will be a few changes with casuals filling in at Gosford and Emma is required to work at our other sites to fill in for other Nominated Supervisors. There will always be a Certified Supervisor on site for consultation about accounts, child development discussions and concerns. All our educators meet the children's service qualification requirements set out in the regulations as well as first aid, asthma, anaphylaxis, and risk of harm training. Our staffing arrangement will be kept as consistent as possible to ensure there is minimal disruption for children and families (NQF 7.1.3).

Re-enrolling for 2018

Our 2018 enrolment forms are now available. They are available on our families information shelf or our website www.coastcommunityconnections.com.au

We would appreciate if these forms completed and returned before Monday 11 December 2017 so that we can process the information into our data base prior to Vacation Care.

Please note ALL families are required to complete this paper work for all care after the 15th December 2017. (N.Q.F 6.1.1)

Vacation Care

We had really smooth Vacation Care over the September/October school holidays. Again we had a lot of children attend and even booked out on some excursions. As a result of our high numbers we had to hire some casual educators to meet our educator-to-child ratio of 1:15 (NQF 4.1.1).

Gosford's most popular days were Tuesday 26th September when we took 90 children to Cinema Paradiso Ettalong to see Captain Underpants and Tuesday 3rd October when we took 87 children to Clip N Climb in Central Coast Leagues Club. We are noticing that Tuesdays are our biggest days of each holiday break and they are the days we book out. If you know you need Tuesdays for care please book early to avoid disappointment.

We are in the beginning stages of planning our next Vacation Care and we are always looking for something new and exciting to provide for the children. If you have suggestions for excursions or venues that you think your children would love please let us know.

Kids Day Out

Mortgage Choice on the Central Coast together with Red Energy proudly presents 2017 Central Coast Kids Day Out on Sunday 5th November at Kariong Mountains High School from 10am to 3pm. Central Coast Kids Day Out is all about our Central Coast kids, their families, the services and ways to enrich our families lives on the Central Coast. Continually families are saying that this is the best family event on the Central Coast. This is CCKDO's 18th year! Through the provision of information, and enhancement of interagency links, CC Kids Day Out is an annual event, designed to strengthen and develop functional family units and promote the long-term wellbeing of children on the Central Coast.

Once again Coast Community Connections will have a stall at the event. We will have brochures and information on services we provide that are available all across the coast. We will also have experiences, games and craft for the children. Our Children's Services staffs are running the stall all day so come along and say hello!

Tickets: Adults \$7, Kids \$3, Family \$20 and Kids under 12 months FREE.

You can buy your entry tickets online through the CCKDO website or at the gates on the day.

Appessment

We're continuing to work with Appessment to document all the children's learning. If you haven't verified your account and can't find the email notification please let a staff member know and we can re-send the invitation code to your preferred email address. Once you have verified yourself, every time we publish a story that involves your child you will receive an email notification. You have the opportunity to view the story and photos and leave comments for the educators and other parents to see.

Also, if you haven't yet returned the permission note and elected a photo preference please do so as soon as possible so we can get this finalised, until we have permission all photos of your child will be from behind or blurred out for privacy.

Appessment is now available as an actual app that can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play, check it out and let us know what you think.

Dates for your Diary

Central Coast Kids Day Out	Sunday 5 th November 10am-3pm
Last Day of Before and After School Care	Friday 15 December 2017
Last day of Vacation Care 2017	Friday 22 December 2017
Christmas Break	Monday 25 December to Friday 5 January 2018
First Day Vacation Care 2018	Monday 8 January 2018

NQF Changes

The Australian, state and territory education Ministers agreed to changes to the National Quality Framework (NQF). Changes to the law and regulations were introduced on 1 October 2017 (except in Western Australia) to ensure quality education and care in Australia continues to improve under the NQF in the most efficient and effective way.

Nominated Supervisors across all three Children's Services sites have been conducting weekly meetings to determine what the changes are and how they affect the daily running of our Before, After and Vacation Care Services. In the coming months families will be made aware of any changes to policies and practices that need to be implemented and we look forward to having everybody involved in feedback and review of these changes.

Rough and Tumble Play

Rough-and-tumble play refers to the type of play in which children might climb over each other, wrestle, roll around and even pretend to fight. Physical, fun and high energy; play that's not aggressive. Most children love rough-and-tumble play and play fighting. Rough play lets children test and practise physical and social skills, take some safe risks, and learn about their bodies, including how strong they are.

Rough play is probably a basic human instinct that helps children develop many skills – but mostly children like this kind of play because it's fun! Rough play helps young children:

- understand the limits of their strength
- explore their changing positions in space
- find out what other children will and won't let them do
- work out social relationships as they play roles, take turns and sort out personal boundaries.

You might worry that your child is being aggressive, but you can usually tell rough-and-tumble play or play fighting from the real thing. In rough play, **children smile and laugh**. You might see excitement and pleasure on their faces. No-one gets bullied, hurt or forced to do anything. Once children are finished with rough-and-tumble play, they keep playing together. If you see **frowning, crying, fear or anger**, it isn't play. And children who are really fighting move away from each other once the fight is over. Rough play can sometimes lead to real fighting, so try to set some rules about what is and isn't OK during play. You can get even young children involved in working out what the rules should be.

Sun Safety & Health

As we approach summer, this term we are focusing on getting all the children to learn about sun safety and take increasing responsibility for their physical wellbeing. We will be going through the proper way to apply sun screen with the children and taking about the dangers of sunburn to their health.

We also began in term 3 to talk about sugar in the food we eat. We are also aiming to continue our work on promoting healthy eating and make children more aware of the impact of their food choices (MTOP 3.2, NQF 2.1.1, 2.2.1).