



NEWSLETTER

Issue 4

July 2014

Educators Association of SA Inc



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FDCA Symposium here in Adelaide 24th and 25th October



URGENT

PLEASE BE AWARE OF PENDING CHANGES FOR F.D.C.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT THE FDCA CAMPAIGN

For you as an Educator and also Involve your Families

In S.A. our Schemes cannot lobby as they are Government so it is up to us to be heard.

The criteria of the Federal funding that schemes receive to operate will change as from 1st July 2015. We already are needing to contribute something towards the scheme for them to better support us in our role as an Educator. This is normal practice in other States with contributions of Educator levy being somewhere between 40c-75c per hour and in some instances up to 9-10% of income. We are having negotiations with DECD to come up with a reasonable contribution not exceeding \$20.00 per week.

The crunch of the new criteria will be that funding will not be available if there is another scheme in the same locality. Please be aware that we now have 31 schemes in S.A. only 12 of these schemes are DECD. All services will need to reapply for CSP funding, and will be assessed under a new, tightened eligibility criteria. This is the same criteria announced by government in April 2014 for new services. The new CSP guidelines can be found

<http://education.gov.au/community-support-programme-guidelines>

It is vital for 10,000 signatures to present this petition to Federal Parliament and so we need more signatures for this to happen so please take action.

FDCA will be sending packages to give your families to support this Campaign.

After all if this happens it will cost families more for childcare.

DECD will be looking at ways to have a F.D.C. model that will suite if this is implemented.

What FDCA and all State Associations are asking of the Government?

1. **Review the changes to eligibility criteria:** to ensure that they do not have unintended consequences including the closure of services providing high quality education and care in areas of need across Australia
2. **Consult with the sector as part of the review:** regarding solutions to the potential impacts of changes to CSP Funding and with services, educators and families to fully understand the impact of the changes.
3. **Extend the transition time:** to allow sufficient time for a comprehensive review and for the development and implementation of changes to the business model.
4. **Consider "exceptional circumstances" funding:** to ensure that the funding changes do not result in high quality services closing their doors, leaving families without quality, affordable child care.



A WORD FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

In the absence of Priscilla who is holidaying in the U.S. at present I would like to extend to you some snippets of what our Association has been doing to support you in your Family Day Care business.

Over the last few months the committee has endeavoured to represent Educators in the areas that will have an impact on us all in the future. We appreciate the time that our President and members of our committee have taken to attend the various meetings, sometimes in work hours to make certain that we are represented.

We also invite you to attend our A.G.M. for a valuable information evening on where Family Day Care is heading in the future. Invite other Educators that you network for an enjoyable evening. Bring your questions for us to hopefully give you some answers. Look forward to seeing you there. See flyer on back page.

Merrilyn Hannaford



***It is vital that your voice is heard
and the views of Educators is
always taken into consideration.
when our Assoc. represent you
your voice is always heard***



The FDCA Visions for Leadership in Family Day Care Symposium - to be held in South Australia

Friday 24th October - Network Tour to a Coordination Unit, Adelaide Hills Educators homes, Lunch in Hahndorf with some browsing time and Afternoon tea at a Hills winery for tastings, local produce afternoon tea.

Saturday 25 October 2014 at the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg
(A great venue overlooking the sea)

- Join with sector leaders, colleagues, and leading experts, great speakers
- Dr. Mark Fraser, Mark McCrindle, 1 more top speaker still to be confirmed and a panel of Sector Professionals, to examine our changing environment and to develop our Visions for Leadership in Family Day Care.

The program will conclude with the Gala Dinner and the 2014 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards National Presentation on the Saturday evening.

Early bird tickets available (till 31st August 2014) online from Family day Care Australia and have a look at the full program

[Click here](#) to secure your tickets now!

You are guaranteed to have a wonderful time as those that attended the Symposium last year in Melbourne. It's a fantastic opportunity for us to have it in our own State. So please plan a couple of enjoyable days for you to help make our presence felt at this great occasion meeting up with many Educators from around the Nation. Plenty of reasonable cost accommodation nearby at Glenelg.

Our DECD Family Day Care Managers and staff are fully supporting this event and have invested \$\$\$\$ to support the program.

F.D.C. EDUCATOR ASSOCIATION OF S.A. and DECD MEETING

In April Merrilyn Hannaford, Priscilla Schwanz and Sonia Menzell met with Deb Barton, FDC Business Centre Manager and Policy Officer, Danni; MacIntosh now F.D.C. Line Manager, apology from Kathryn Jordan Early Childhood Services Director.



DECD Marketing Plan

Danni informed us that many things are eminent and they have a genuine focus on making DECD FDC more visible but are restrained by being under government restrictions about what they can do independently.

DECD Website

Some changes made but more needs to be implemented. Forms for Educators is much improved but need more feedback from Educators as to how it is working for them and families.

Baby Expo – held 21st – 23rd March at Wayville Showgrounds

Reports indicate that not so many people seeking information from the Business Centre and questioned its effectiveness.

Our Association highlighted that speaking to 1,000 plus families is a very significant promotional event and public contact can only be positive. More people seemed to be informed about FDC and its unique qualities which may be from the past events. Our Association Committee supported this event representing Educators and supported FDCA at event. Our association will continue to support FDCA with this worthwhile event.



HAVE YOU GOT A BUSINESS PLANNER?

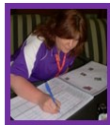
Available FREE
With Membership

We recommend using a monthly recording tool to assist Educators in their recording observation practices, along with using the weekly “My Service/My Page”. A section to record a cross index of where you extend or forward plan an activity”.

Extremely useful to keep track of your planning and documenting of Learning stories, individual planning and group activities.

[illegible]

BE INSPIRED AND USE YOUR PLANNER IN AN INDIVIDUAL CREATIVE WAY RECORDING SHEET TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR MONTHLY CHILDRENS OBSERVATIONS IS IN THE BACK OF YOUR PLANNER.

[illegible]

MULTICULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



go fair trading
(office@gofairtrading.com.au)

When you purchase Go Fair products, you are actively supporting artists from around the world by giving them the opportunity to make a sustainable livelihood, to develop and grow their talents and skills and ultimately achieve a better way of life.

Our Association recommends this site to Educators because of the wealth of information available on cultural events and resources.

The events calendars are an asset to our busy lives and we know will assist you in planning

Issues discussed with DECD and presented to Government for Action

Effects of New Services opening

Our association has heard from Educators that the impact of these new services has affected their numbers of children in care. Our Association and DECD agreed it was reassuring that new services must meet strict guidelines when being approved – equal rights for all services. It has been noted new services when approve want to increase Educator Numbers which; may affect DECD FDC Educators. Your Association has fed back to government that an oversupply of Educators would not be beneficial where a limited number of children are accessing care.

Educator Survey – Mid Year

We were informed by DECD that an Educator survey will be sent out to Educators. It was pointed out that the only way forward is to ask the hard questions and positively work towards quality outcome for us all. We asked if the Service was prepared for some of the responses and constructive criticism. Your Association encourages you to give an honest response when you receive the survey.

Possibility of Educator Administration Fee – (\$20.00 per week)

DECD asked what the Association thought of the idea to contribute to cost of advertising, training and the more necessary support for Educators. We stated that it may be time to consider the idea in reflection of our dependence of State Government to financially boost us. We need to show the State Government / Minister that DECD FDC is able to support itself.

Examples of fees from Interstate was discussed

Your Association highlighted the costs investigated interstate that can be quite high for both Educators and Families. We need to consider that we are a business and as such cannot expect to have a free ride/not contribute in some way.

E.g. pay for timesheet books, registration fees for families, and other introduced contributing fees, remembering that these are tax deductible business costs.

Can our Association assist in any way for this to be approved by the Government

We asked DECD if we could write a letter of support to the Department raising the point that other services in Australia must be self-sufficient financially if they are to survive economically.



TRAINING/WORKSHOPS/NETWORKING

Your FDC Educators Association is available to talk with you about your business needs. Educators have expressed concerns about their readiness for Assessment and want others are doing. There is a need for information sharing and a need for us all to work together to assist each other.

This process takes a lot of planning and resources and of course costs. Printing, Travel, hire of venues, etc. are all taking into consideration and because of this we may be incorporating a small fee as a donation for our costs.



OR

We are happy to hear from you if you would like a networking meeting in your home. Invite your networking colleagues to come around and we can come and meet with you to help demystify some of your concerns.

NOMINATIONS FOR ASSOCIATION 2014-15 ELECTIONS-AGM 11th August

Wanted: Represent your area of SA by becoming a Delegate on the Association. If you feel you have the commitment, drive and value the future of FDC in our State and nationally please contact us. Positions will become available in August 2013 and we are seeking nominations now. If you know of an Educator you would like to nominate please contact us. Did you know that we have representatives on your committee who travel from Murray Bridge, Mannum and Clare for monthly meetings to discuss issues on your behalf and meet with DECd?

We are passionate about working with FDCA, Local and National Government along with DECD

**Join us to represent SA as an Educator Delegate on
Educators Association Committee**





MEETING WITH GOWRIE - Request from Gowrie to discuss Educator and Staff Training

In May Sonia Menzell, Priscilla Schwanz and Merrilyn Hannaford met with Janne Todd, Kate Love, Kaye Colmer CEO, Lynne Rutherford and Rachel Lovell from Gowrie Training.

There is funding allocated to Gowrie Training Centre—they are looking at investing in the education and development of FDC Staff and Educators and was seeking information from us as to how this could be best support Educators.

- We highlighted the inconsistency for training delivery, lack of funding now experienced by DECD
- The need for New Educators to have more constant support
- The uncertainty that Educators have in what to expect from an Assessor
- More training available for educators in remote and rural areas
- Coordination Staff have varied interpretation and understanding of the NQF and the anxiety that Educators have as to how much they need to do in all areas to meet the Assessment
- Many Educators still struggle with the increase of paperwork/documentation, particularly Program and Planning. There are many ideas out there now to help with this. Workshops of different models of recording would be useful.
- How and Where workshops are offered and suggested that centralised training could be considered. Saturday or weekend Training
- Training needed for both Coordination Staff and Educators
- Suggested that FDCA could assist in circulating a flyer to all Educators (not just DECD Schemes) as there are other private schemes now in S.A
- Basic Computing and networking skills could be available for Educators
- The FDC Business Planner designed by our Educators Association needs promotion as it originated from ideas related to Gowrie Research Group.

JUNE 2014 – Attendance of Review of the National Partnership Agreement on the National Quality Agenda for Early Childhood Education and Care

At late notice Sonia Menzell, Deb Johnson-Keane and Merrilyn Hannaford from our Assoc committee were able to attend the meeting in the Adelaide CBD and Gayle Noolan went to the meeting in the Southern Region.

If we want changes to happen it is vital that educators' voice is heard at these feedback opportunities.

Below is an extract regarding the consultation that reflects on the NQF, where we are now, positive and negatives, what should be considered for future planning.

- We are very clear in our response to Government that the workload on recording and managing the NQF has a definite impact on workload and time management.
- We understand recording is vital in any industry but we listened to other sectors including Out of Hours School Care who are finding some of the process difficult to manage especially with low paid wages and split shift work impacting on employees.
- We raised the issue of "how well do parents understand the NQF"?
- The impact and stress related to the assessment process where one evaluation impacts on the overall marking of the service.

There was also opportunity for Educators to respond to the consultation online by the 4th July.

Your association brought your issues to this meeting.

Your funds were used to reimburse expenses incurred when attending this meeting.

ANIMAL CONTACT GUIDELINES

The Animal Contact Guidelines are currently under review and the FDC Educators Association of SA Inc was given the opportunity to provide comment on them.

One area that we asked them to consider for FDC Educators was:

'Animals in a learning environment should not be allowed in sandpits or be allowed to urinate or defecate in communal areas, pot plants or veg gardens.'

Family Day Care is a unique environment that allows children to have similar experiences as they would in their own home. Family Day Care Educators have pets or live in the country with wildlife present and therefore the above policy could be occasionally breached. We have a ratio of 1 Educator to 4 children and the level of supervision is very high enabling to monitor cleanliness closely if children come in contact with animals.

If the guidelines remain as intended then FDC Educators will have to have areas of their home environment that pets and wildlife enter not accessible to children. It was pointed out that FDC already have a policy that animals need to be separated from the children except under direct supervision and at a risk assessment maintained. This practice means that Educators clean up the outside area making certain that it is free of animal waste before children can enter. FDC support the need of animal education for children.

We suggested a way to change or add to the wording that 'an exception to this could be covered by FDC Educators if they have a viable risk assessment to ensure the health of the children.'

We have yet to hear: the outcome of this review

They are supporting our Association

Great training available

<http://www.enhancetraining.org/index.php/courses/dilpoma>

Enhance Training & Recruitment is a "Skills for All" provider. Skills for All is a national initiative funded through the Government of South Australia's Skills for All initiative. "Signatory role to agencies"

CHC3090 Certificate III in Children's Services
CHC3090 Diploma in Children's Services (Early Childhood Education and Care)

Under the "Skills for All" initiative
FEE FREE Diploma
\$275 Certificate III
(introductory price - until Dec 31 2014)
Increased course length to 12 months

Over 25 Professional Development workshops meeting the NQF guidelines and the EYLF.
Workshops include:
- Relating Apply First Aid
- Child Safe Environment
- Routines, Routines & Routines
- Planning & Planning

We recognise that Family Day Care Educators work in a unique environment which is why from application to qualification we support you throughout your studies by providing after hours support and regular contact with an experienced trainer.

Providing Flexible and Supported Study Options
how we as a child care environment

www.enhancetraining.org 8462 0200 enq@enhancetraining.org

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Richard@PalmersEducation.com

0434192708
Richard@PalmersEducation.com

Nation Wide

Caring for Australia's Future

BECOME A FINANCIAL PARTNER OF THE STATE FDC

Educators Association of SA



Becoming a member or financial partner with our association will not impact on your time, effort or workload....because we do all that. You can get on with what you need to do knowing that we will be working for you and in the best interest of your business affairs. Your Educator Delegates of the Assoc. can attend DECD meetings, submit questions, do surveys and submissions, and meet with FDCA and state government along with much more.

All you need to do is become a financial member....please support the Association that believes what you do is important



BELONGING

To Your FDC
Educators Association of
SA

BEING

Active Educator
Participants
Supporting your State
FDC Association

BECOMING

Your Strong Association



ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We thank our Association members for using our Facebook Page to discuss areas of concern. We are pleased to say that the recent topic of

"Why can't we get an end of year Statement of our Income from the FDC Business Centre". Some Educators have received it after much negotiation.

We are taking action on this with the Business Centre for them to discuss at their next Managers meeting. We feel that even though it is not needed by every Educator (they may have Harmony Program or other accounting systems) it is required by some Educators Tax Agents.

We will be working with the Business Centre to clarify your questions and advise you of their response

MONEY MATTERS FOR US ALL

Increase your income with appropriate advertising. People who know who you are and where to find you will seek you out. Logo clothing, business cards and signage all identify you and the FDC logo in our community.

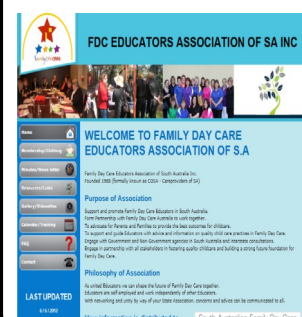
Be FDC professional and don't forget all advertising should include your scheme name-

We also recommend to register with Careforkids Website for families to find your service. There is no cost to you.

www.careforkids.com.au/



Visit Our Website



WEBSITES TO ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR EYLF AND NQF

Want to cut down your time spent on documenting for your learning stories, observations and planning? - Try this little program—it is an app that can be used on your phone, iPad etc.

2Simple - www.2simple.com.au/ Australian National Early Years Learning Framework—Outcomes to choose for the appropriate learning experience. Low yearly cost.

<http://www.aussiechildcarenetwork.com> - New Online Tools Page design now available: A new design for Online Tools page with tab features to filter the template results for Long Daycare, Family Daycare and OSHC. Great for Kids Pintables, EYLF Programming Templates, Resources, Articles and Forum.

<http://acecqa.gov.au/> - Newsletters for Educators as well as newsletters for your families. Register on the website to receive these very informative newsletters.

<http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/nqslp/e-newsletters/> - Many E-newsletters that are very informative about case studies and other information about how they are engaging with the EYLF across Australia

<http://www.fdca.com.au> - Make sure you are on their email list to get updates of what is happening at Family Day Care Australia and how they are representing you for best outcomes for your business engaging with the various government Departments

<https://education.gov.au/search/site/childcare%20handbook>

The Childcare handbook that relates to all areas of CCB and CCR —wonder about absences I and Public Holidays n F.D.C. , it is all tin here.

Members of Family Day Care Educators Association Inc. are now able to be on our Facebook Closed group. Ask one of us on the Facebook site to join and be able share

A REMINDER OF MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The renewal of membership is now processed from the date on members last receipt and new members will become due twelve months from the date on their receipt.

Reminders will go out quarterly i.e. for those renewals in the third financial quarter being January, February, March the invoices will go out in January.

This has changed to coincide with the planner requirements.

The yearly membership fee is still: **\$30 and includes the planner**



**Educators Association
of SA Inc**

The Educators Assoc. of SA Inc. Represents South Australia

Working together with FDC Australia, Schemes and Government.

As your state organization you can contact us with questions and feedback. 15 Elected SA Educators sit on the Committee & work for you.

Support us with your state membership of \$30 per year which will include a copy of the Australian FDC Business Planner.

FDC Business Planners will be available at AGM 11th Aug.

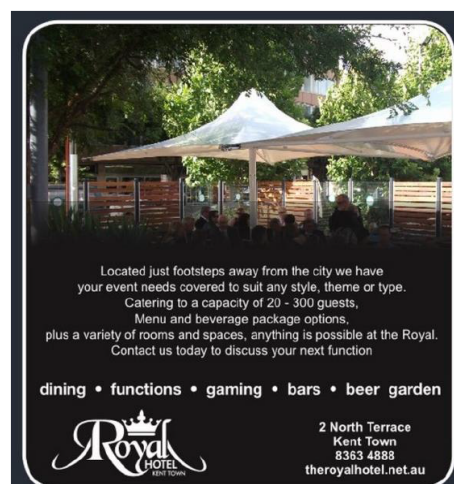
Online Membership & Planner Orders - please contact us as advertised

Annual General Meeting 2014 Information Evening Current Industrial Events WILL impact on your future in F.D.C.

- FDCA "Families need Family Day Care Campaign"
- Financial Impact for US as discussed with DECD Management
- Urgent need for Relief Educators supporting Families
- Partnership with Educators from New F.D.C. Schemes in S.A.
- Question Time
- Election of new Committee

WHEN: 7:30pm Monday 11th August

WHERE: Royal Hotel, 2 North Terrace Adelaide



**Enjoy Coffee and Celebration Cake
Members Draw for Modern Teaching Aids Preschool
Activity table and Chairs.**

Door prizes FDC Business Briefcases

The Royal Hotel Phone: 8363 4888 who supports your Association Meetings offers an excellent range of meals and beverages that will be available from 6:00pm preceding the meeting. We recommend you book a table for meals to assist hotel catering.

RSVP: Monday 1st August 2014

fdc.assoc.sa@live.com.au Deb 0421 99 2463



OUR MONTHLY MEETING DATES: 2014

Held at the Royal Hotel,
2 North Terrace KENT TOWN
At 7.00pm with meals available

Monday 28th July
AGM and Information night

Monday 11th August
Monday 25th August
Monday 22nd September
Monday 27th October



PO BOX 456
INGLE FARM SA 5098
Website: fdc.assoc.sa@live.com.au

Your Association working for you

ROYAL HOTEL - Our Association appreciate the service, meals and meeting room provided by this venue.

We recommend you pay The Royal Hotel a visit

Centrally located near the City, Zoo and Botanical Gardens.

Marketing in Libraries/free media space

It was acknowledged that this has been raised by our association before and should be pursued as a free opportunity to spread the word about our unique service.

CLOTHING RANGE AVAILABLE

ONLINE - Be recognised for the great service you provide with Family Day Care Logo your name and scheme if you would like. A good way to advertise your service-Purchase online include postage or collect from the Sportscentre 142-146 Port Road HINDMARSH. If you unable to access online ordering -Phone 1300 123 609

<http://www.sportscentre.com.au/>

Go to Buy Online - select Family Day Care - Choose your garment or hats- select size (go to measuring for sizing at top of list) - Add to cart - **Under your Billing details fill in special Instruction/Extra Details**-for adding the colour/s and spelling for your name. You can put your scheme name on as well if you so desire.



2014 Visions of Leadership in Family Day Care Symposium Registrations Now Open

Registrations for the 2014 Visions of Leadership in Family Day Care Symposium are now open. Don't miss out on the chance to participate in this year's most important conversations about Family Day Care.

How fortunate to have it here in Adelaide

Changes to family day care funding structures, the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Childcare and Early Childhood Learning, and uncertainty surrounding the current political agenda for early childhood education and care (ECEC) have destabilised the foundation of family day care as we know it.

Great networking with other Educators -Lunch, visit Educator Homes and Winery

The program will conclude with the Gala Dinner and the 2014 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards National Presentation on the Saturday evening.

Have you secured your ticket to this year's most important event on the family day care calendar?

[Click here](#) to obtain your ticket. (Early bird till the 31st August) Please note that your Assoc. highlighted to FDCA the need to change ticket cost to include partners who are non members be entitled to purchase dinner ticket at members price. This was positively received for consideration.



FAMILY DAY CARE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION OF S.A. INC. DISCLAIMER

All information, notes, contributions and opinions expressed are those of the contributors, whilst not reflecting those opinions of Family Day Care Educators Association of S.A. Inc., and/or the Editor. All information is considered Correct at the time of printing. The Editor, reserves the right to withhold any articles Material or contributions until checked and given full Consent of the EASA committee. The Editor reserves the right to edit article or contributions for spelling, grammar and English.

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