



Gosford Children's Services

Term 1 2017

School's back

Welcome to all our new and returning families! We hope you had fun, safe summer holidays and are ready to take on 2017!! Educators at Gosford remain the same for 2017, 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). We have a few new casuals that joined with us during the holidays which you will meet throughout the term. 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.

Christmas Holidays

We had a great holidays this summer. We had lots of new families and children attending our service and we look forward to seeing you all again next holidays. Our most popular days were Thursday 12th January when we took 72 children to Laser Blast at Charmhaven and Friday 20th January we took 75 children to Kidz HQ. If you have suggestions for excursions or venues that you think your children would love please let us know. We are always looking for something new and exciting to provide for the children.

Accounts

Please ensure your accounts are two weeks in advance at all times. Also keep in mind that casual bookings must be paid on the day of attendance. 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.

A reminder that there is a \$10 term fee applied to accounts each term and in term 3 we have the \$25 annual admin fee.

Vacation Care

- ✓ Our Vacation Care flyers are ready! We have a brilliant program; keep an eye out for the flyers in your children's school bags in the coming week.
- ✓ If you have already completed an enrolment form for 2017 then all you need to book in for Vacation Care is a booking form. This can be found on our website, in service or you can ask Emma to email one directly through to you.
- ✓ Once we receive your booking form we can issue you a quote for the requested days. Vacation Care fees as well as any outstanding term one fee's must be paid prior to any attendance.
- ✓ Our Vacation Care opening hours are 7am to 6:30pm. Fees will apply to anyone picked up after 6:30pm in accordance with our centre policies.

Donations

We are always on the lookout for items to be donated to the service that we can use for craft e.g. paper towel rolls, cardboard boxes, bottle lids, corks etc
We would also love any unwanted toys, board games, puzzles, dress ups that you may no longer require.

Afternoon Snack Ideas

If you have any suggestions for our afternoon snack we would love to hear them, we enjoy incorporating the children's suggestions and ideas into our weekly menu.

Feedback

We're always looking for feedback from our children and families. We're running this service for you and we'd like to hear any feedback that you have both good or something you feel we could improve on.

Professional Development

We are committed to continuous improvement. A key part of this is that we are continually monitoring and motivating our educators to build on their knowledge and skills through training opportunities (N.Q.F: 7.1.4). On Tuesday 14th of February, Emma and Deb attended training to extend their knowledge of the "The Role of the Educational Leader". While Deb is our educational leader here at Gosford, having our Nominated Supervisor complete the training as well means that Emma and Deb are able collaborate their ideas and knowledge that they get from this training and pass that information and strategies on to other educators at our bimonthly staff meetings. Cooperation is one of the values of Coast Community Connections and we can achieve this by making our knowledge, skills and resources available to others, both within and outside the organisation. Keep an eye on our weekly program to see just how much this training has improved our educator's ability to enhance children's learning and development and ensure their safety and wellbeing.

Signing In and Out of the Service

All children must be signed in on the roll at entry to the Centre every time they arrive and must be signed out of the Centre as they leave each day.

This is a Department of Education & Community requirement as well as necessary for the safety of all children in the event of an emergency evacuation drill or in the event of a necessary evacuation.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

Community Connections is pleased to be hosting LivingWorks Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) for its community.

When: This **FREE** two day training will be held on Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st of February 2017

Time: 8.45am till 4.30pm

Location: Peninsula Community Centre - Seniors Room, 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy

Register: You can reserve your place by calling Peninsula Community Centre on 4341933 or emailing communitycentre@coastcommunityconnections.com.au. Bookings are essential as spaces are limited.

This training saves lives!

LivingWorks Applied Suicide Intervention Skills training (ASIST) aims to enhance caregiver's abilities to help a person at risk avoid suicide. Participants learn to recognise when someone may be at risk of suicide and respond in ways that help increase their immediate safety and link them to help.

Although it is highly standardised, ASIST has been used in a range of settings with trainees from a variety of backgrounds and countries. ASIST has been implemented in secondary and post-secondary schools, mental health centres, hospitals, social services, public safety agencies and numerous other community settings.