



June , 2019

**Welcome:**

Firstly a warm welcome to new and existing families using our service, we hope 2019 brings lots of opportunities for your children to be fully involved in the adventures our service has to offer. We strive to provide innovative and exciting opportunities for educators registered with our service to access with their children in care. We are now fortunate enough to be able to access the Adventure Patch bus to provide some excursion opportunities for those educators whom may not normally be able to participate in adventures in the community due to transport issues.

**Name Change:**

We have welcomed some new Educators to Kingborough Family Day Care and this has increased our area of service. We now have educators in the City and Northern Suburbs as well as south of Hobart. This has prompted us to think about our marketing including our current name. We want to ensure our name does not 'pigeon hole' us to a specific region but is inclusive of all the educators registered with us. We have been in the process of applying through the right channels to make a change to our existing name and we are very excited to announce that the change has been approved. Kingborough Family Day Care will now be known as **Adventure Patch Family Day Care**. We will now enter an advertising strategy to ensure a smooth transition in our name change.

**The year so far:**

We have hosted several big events so far this year starting with our Community BBQ at Blackmans Bay Beach in March, which had a fantastic turnout. We were lucky to have great weather and some interesting visitors including; a Face Painter, Fairies and Reptile Rescue...with reptiles. We also had a children's activity tent at the Derwent Valley Autumn Festival in April and it was wonderful to meet some of our families there. In May we celebrated National Family Day Care Week with a big Bush Playgroup where we made damper, toasted marshmallows and explored the bushland and all it had to offer. We have been working with Adventure Patch in providing some exciting professional development and training for Educators. An Inspiring Adventure conference was held recently where we had international speakers and workshops that educators attended.

Regards, Fi

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## 2019 Excellence IN FAMILY DAY CARE Awards

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### Family Day Care Excellence Awards

Just a quick mention about The Family Day Care Australia Excellence in Family Day Care Awards. These are the only national awards dedicated entirely to the family day care sector. The Excellence in Family Day Care Awards recognise the amazing work done by educators, coordinators and services in the family day care sector to deliver high quality early childhood education and care to children across Australia. Families, services and educators are invited to nominate, in their own words, what makes their educator, coordinator or approved service such an integral and special contributor to their life and to the lives of the children in care. Last year a large number of our educators were nominated and one of our Educators, Jess was a finalist in this process. We would love to see our educators and our service nominated again this year.

### Unwell Children

Winter has arrived along with flu and cold infections/viruses. When children are unwell it can sometimes be a dilemma for parents when making the decision in relation to "Is my child well enough to be at family day care today?". If your child is unwell, consider the following questions:

"Will my child feel well enough to participate in the routines and experiences?"

"Will the educator have to spend time away from the other children to care for my unwell child?"

"Does the child have a fever?" If so, they should not go into care.

"Is there the potential for my child's infection to be passed on to the other children and/or carer?"

If a child is showing signs and symptoms of illness whilst in care, you will be contacted by your educator to collect your child/ren as soon as possible. If children go into care unwell, there is a risk of not only the other enrolled children becoming unwell but also the educator and the educator's own family. The educator may then have to close her service. Children tend to recover much more quickly when they are able to rest and be cared for in the comfort of their own home.

We do understand that parents/ guardians are often under pressure to be at work, however, to minimise the spread of infections please ensure you support your educator to keep a healthy environment for all.



### It's Winter....Indoors or Out??

We all know the cold weather has hit but should this be a time for children to stay warm indoors or rug up and embrace the changing elements of nature and explore the wonder of the outdoors in winter? There are so many benefits to braving the cold weather and letting children play outside and the below link covers some of these benefits around children's mental health and wellbeing:

<https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets/wellbeing/physical-activity>

### From the Admin Desk:

- We recently forwarded a letter advising you of the fee increase (.20c per hour) to the Administration Levy. Under Family Assistance Law if there is a change to fees or days and hours of care a new Enrolment Confirmation must be entered into. This is like the 'Contract of Care' under previous systems. After 1st July you will receive, via email, an enrolment confirmation for you to accept. It would be appreciated if you could do so promptly so we can then forward through to your MYGOV account. MYGOV will notify you of a change but you are not required to take any action within your account unless it is a new enrolment (ie your child has not used care for 8 weeks).
- In order for us to remain compliant with Family Assistance Law and Regulations all attendance records (timesheets) must be certified by the parent/guardian at the end of each week, either manually or electronically. Failure to do so could result in the Child Care Subsidy being revoked and full fees for care will then apply.
- If you have any queries regarding your Child Care Subsidy please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards, Janice

### We Love to Hear from You:

We really appreciate receiving your feedback. If you have a special story you would like to share about your child in Family Day Care or how your Educator has impacted on your family please send us an email at

[fdc@adventurepatch.org.au](mailto:fdc@adventurepatch.org.au)

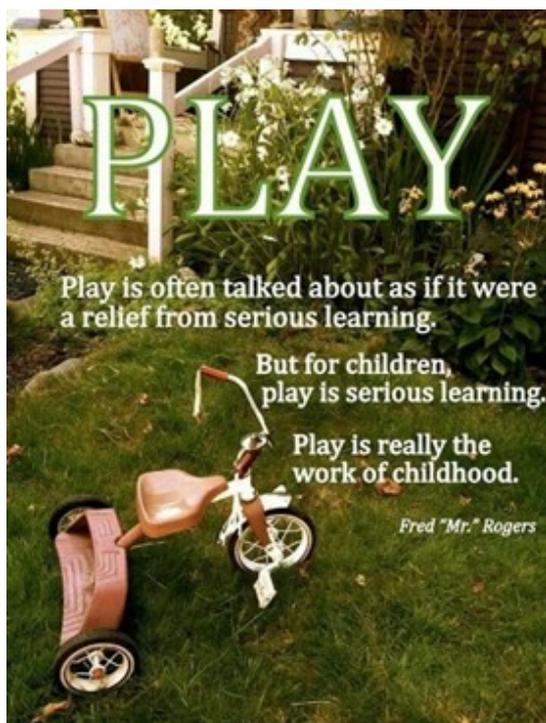
or ring and chat with one of the Coordination Unit staff on (03) 6135 4377.

### Community Participation:

Educators and Children have been out and about in the community engaging in lots of different experiences. For children, community involvement and engagement produces long-term benefits in their lives. Community involvement sends a powerful message to children. It's one that says you are important. You are loved. You belong. It is crucial to the building of their identity.

We have visited:

- South Hobart Resource Centre
- Bruny Island
- Botanical Gardens
- Shopping expedition for books and resources
- Manor Gardens
- Kingston Library
- Museum for Reconciliation Week
- Woodbridge Marine Discovery Centre
- Beaches, parks, bush



### Program and Practice

Do you know what the educational program or practice looks like within your child's family day care service? Do you know how your educator supports your child's learning and development?

Play is the context in which children learn about themselves and the world around them. Our educators provide an environment that promotes play and learning every day and if you are unsure of the educational program within your FDC setting ask your educator about it today!

## Playgroup

We have had a busy few months at playgroup with excursions to the Resource Centre in South Hobart, Bush Play at the Guide Hall, exploring at the Beach, a visit to the Marine Discovery Centre, a trip on the Ferry to Bruny Island and much more. Here's a few snaps of your children learning and exploring.....

