



Early Learning & Development Service

Kensington

Highlights

Welcome families to the May edition of the Ngala Early Learning and Development Service Newsletter.

Ngala Early Learning and Development Service Redcliffe is currently at the stage of planning, organising, and purchasing equipment for this new Service. Ngala will be recruiting educators from the general community. We would like to re-assure you that we won't be taking any of the educators from the Early Learning and Development Service in Kensington.

Just a reminder to bring your security access card each time you attend. If you have misplaced your card or need a new one, please see Karen or Jenny. If you've forgotten your card for the day, please ring the doorbell or knock on the door and someone will answer as soon as they can. Please note that the two side gates are **not** for access to the centre. These gates are only to be used in an emergency evacuation.

For those who haven't heard, Kate gave birth to a beautiful baby girl - Emily Rae on Friday 23rd April. Both Mum and bub are doing really well.

Thank you,
Karen

Please remember to check your communication mail pockets, located in the foyer, for important information on a weekly basis.



NEWS

VOLUME 1 Issue 8

May 2010

Inside this Issue

Upcoming Staff Leave

Curriculum Planning

Family Partnership
Meetings

Medication Forms

3-6 Room Profile

Entertainment Books

Ngala's Hey Dad WA

NEWS

VOLUME 1 Issue 8

May 2010

Upcoming Staff Leave Dates

Catherine 2-3 room:
25th to 28th May

Tennille Curriculum Planning
Relief:
31st May to 11th June

Amiee 0-1 room:
14th to 25th June

Yumi 3-6 room:
28th June to 5th July

Curriculum Planning and Family Partnership Meetings

At Ngala Early Learning and Development Service we offer a "Child Initiated Curriculum". The written and visual curriculum is displayed in each room and is developed fortnightly. Each child is observed and programmed for as an individual. We recognise that each child will develop at their own pace and in their own unique way, and that all children have strengths. Through our regular observations of your child we aim to identify their strengths, interests and areas for development. In this way we are also able to focus on supporting your child with any areas in development which could be strengthened or extended.

Our fortnightly curriculum includes information on which areas we are supporting individual children's development. In the interests of maintaining confidentiality, each child will be represented on the program by the use of a symbol and children's names are not used. Educators will inform you of your child's allocated symbol.

The environment is created in accordance to children's individual and group developmental needs. Toys and equipment are displayed to support development and learning. Learning opportunities are identified through observations which maximise the potential for children to grow and develop through meaningful and purposeful play. Once the indoor and outdoor environments are created offering opportunities for large and small group play and solitary play, children are able to move in and around the areas freely and are encouraged to make their own choices about where they would like to participate of play.

We welcome and encourage contributions from families to our curriculum. The Team Leaders in each room will invite families to meet with them on an individual basis to discuss the development of their child, participate in mind mapping the child's strengths and to discuss goals for their child. If you have any queries or questions about the fortnightly program in your child's room, please approach the Team Leader in your child's room.

Family Partnership Meetings are conducted by Team Leaders and are offered to families enrolled at the Service to discuss any aspects of your child's interests, learning and development. If you'd like to book a Family Partnership Meeting, please speak to the Team Leader in your child's room.



Medication Forms

As per our Administration of Medication policy, if a child needs medication to be administered during the day, we require parents to complete a medication form in the morning. These forms are pink and stored in the green medication file in each room. Parents are asked to complete this form in full with the relevant information, including:

- Purpose for and name of the medication;
- Method to administer (eg: syringe, cup, spoon);
- Amount and time of last dosage;
- Amount to be given (mL) and time to be given (this needs to be a **specific** time, eg: 10am, 2pm, **not** 'as required');

Please then sign the form in the space provided, and at the end of the day please sign the back of the form to acknowledge our educators administering the medication. If a medication form is not filled in correctly or completely, then we are unable to administer the medication.

Please also note, as per our medication policy we are unable to administer over the counter medication (eg: Panadol or Nurofen) to children more than two days in a row unless you have written authority from a doctor. If you are unsure of any of these procedures, please speak to the educators in the room.

3-6 Room Profile

The children in the 3-6 room have been exploring the environment recently, showing a lot of interest in using plasticine. The children have had the opportunity to use both play dough and plasticine and compare the difference in texture and noticed how hard and soft they are. They also discovered that plasticine is not too easy to roll up and manipulate with when it is cold, and that they need to squeeze it and attempt to warm it up so that they can model with it.

We recently changed over the outdoor home corner providing some different equipment such as larger saucepans and trays and equipment which the children have been using for role play and social interactions with their peers. There has been a huge interest in this area. From this, other topics for discussion such as cooking food for babies and looking after babies then led to changing the indoor home corner into a baby area with cots, bottles, clothing and dolls for the children to then role play caring for the babies.

Cassie and Yumi

Entertainment Books

We are selling Entertainment Books again this year. They are full of great savings and discounts and are \$65 each. Proceeds of the sale go to supporting Ngala.

We still have a few copies left, so please see Karen or Jenny to purchase your copy.



NEWS

VOLUME 1 Issue 8

May 2010



Hey Dad WA

Through Hey Dad WA, Ngala aims to engage men in early parenting by providing a 'male friendly' environment across all Ngala services. Hey Dad WA assists men to gain skills to allow them to be fully involved in all aspects of parenting and fatherhood.

Hey Dad WA continues to work alongside Ngala's service staff with "whiskers in the corridor" providing staff consultation as well as meet and greet for most fathers attending Ngala.

Another objective of Hey Dad WA is to work in close consultation and collaboration with other organisations to:

- Foster collective understanding of the position of men in family life;
- Encourage agencies to be more inclusive of men within the ambit of their services; and
- Promote collaborative planning and partnerships around research and service provision to families with a particular focus on fatherhood issues.

Hey Dad WA are involved with the following services:

- Dad's Time Fatherhood Sessions - This is a workshop for Dads to obtain information and discuss aspects of parenting and family life.
- Skilled Dad's Workshops - Designed to create connections with your children, the focus is on children 0 to 5 years.
- Antenatal classes - You may also meet our Hey Dad WA staff at your antenatal class at King Edward Memorial Hospital, and Osborne Park Hospital.
- Postnatal Depression Support Program - Hey Dad WA is actively involved in the facilitation of the "couples sessions" at Gosnells Women's Health Services Inc.

Fathers and Mothers are welcome to contact the Hey Dad WA team for information and resources on any aspect of fatherhood and parenting.

The Hey Dad WA team can be contacted via email - heydadwa@ngala.com.au or telephone (08) 9368 9379 for metro callers, and 1800 111 546 for country callers or visit our website www.ngala.com.au/Ngala-and-You/In-the-Community/Hey-Dad-WA