



The Elder Street Herald

National Child Care Accreditation at Elder Street

Greetings everyone, we hope you are all well and happy coming into Autumn.

If you noticed that the staff may have looked a little more stressed than usual on Thursday and Friday 19 and 20 March, that would have been due to the fact that we were undergoing our validation visit by NCAC (National Child Care Accreditation Council) We always have mixed feelings about these audits as it is stressful and a little nerve wrecking but at the same time a great opportunity to showcase all our hardwork and high quality practices. We are very proud to

announce that we have informally been advised that we were successful in passing another Accreditation cycle.

Thank you to all those parents who returned the Family Input Surveys provided by NCAC. These surveys form part of the information that is used to reach our final accreditation rating. The other components are the centre's Self Study and Continuing Improvement Plan, Staff surveys, the validation visit and then finally the NCAC moderators will determine whether the centre received a High, Good or Basic rating. We will now wait another 3

years before we are accredited again and in that time we are committed to continuing to improve on our partnerships with families, care and education of your precious children and generally being the best we can be!

Once we have our paperwork, formal feedback and rating returned to us we will publish the information for parents to read.



Baby team meeting discussing the quality of their care..verdict is HIGH!!

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ATTENTION ALL PARENTS/CARERS —EXTREMELY IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!!!

We have had a few instances over the last couple of weeks where children have been picked up in the afternoon by their parent/carer and staff have not been advised. We urge **ALL PARENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEY APPROACH A STAFF MEMBER FROM THEIR CHILD'S ROOM WHEN COLLECTING THEIR CHILD TO ADVISE**

THAT THEY ARE GOING HOME.

We understand that certain times of the afternoon pick up are very hectic and staff can be having discussions with other parents and appear to be unavailable. If this is the case please feel free to interrupt and say goodbye. Also if your child's room staff have finished for the day, please advise

another staff member. Recently we had a big brother of primary school age collect his sibling from the playground whilst the parent collected bags inside the centre. Staff were marking extremely concerned when doing a head check they could not find the child and had some very frantic moments until staff checked the sign in sheet

in the foyer and saw that they child had been signed out.

We understand Elder Street is a busy place and we try our best to get to all parents, but ask request that parents make sure some kind of leaving acknowledgement is made each afternoon— Thank you.

Your feedback from the NCAC Family Surveys

As mentioned in the article on page one we have read through and sent off the Family surveys regarding the centre's performance against the 7 Quality Areas of Accreditation. We do take all feedback very seriously and like to advise parents of how we address any areas you feel we could improve on. The following is some information for parents to let them know a little more information on how we meet some of the areas of the centre that parents due to not being here all day area able to observe themselves.

1. Safe Food Handling

We have a comprehensive policy available for parents to read on this subject. Following the procedures set down in this policy we practice the following:

- *Hand washing before serving food
- *Gloves worn during serving of food
- *Correct storage, cooling, heating, freezing etc of all foods and a beautiful clean hygienic kitchen which parents are welcome to visit whenever

they want to see for themselves.

2. Opportunities for ongoing staff professional development

In the foyer of the centre at the bottom of the Staff Profile board we have a list of courses that staff are enrolled to complete this year—check it out, we are busy girls!!

3. Information on staff changes.

Each end of year we post in our newsletter which rooms staff will be working in come the new year. We also often update families on when staff are going away for holidays via the newsletter. On an incidental basis, we have just introduced a sign in the foyer that advises parents if any staff are off sick for the day and who will be replacing them.

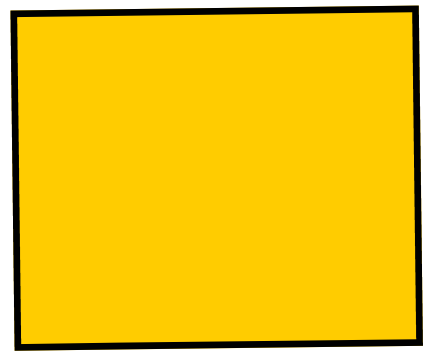
4. My family is informed of how the centre operates and ways to make suggestions or complaints regarding its operation.

We aim to inform families on the running of the centre via our newsletter,

policy review, and general signs and notes around the centre and in family pockets. We have suggestion forms available from the sign in desk and provision for families to comment on our Centre Philosophy in the foyer. On enrolment all families receive a Centre Handbook which is great to refer to at any stage of your time with us. Please feel comfortable to come and chat with staff if you have any questions about anything. We will also be posting our annual Parntership with Parents Questionnaire in April and encourage parents to spend some time filling it out. This is a great opportunity to pass on



Immunisation Information



Green, gorgeous green!!



Thank you soooo much to everyone who ordered Bulbs from through the Bulb Express Fundraiser. From this special fundraiser we raised \$490.00!!!

April, Karen and Mel had a great time visiting nursery to choose more plants for indoors and outdoors. As the photos show, Elder Street is looking a lot greener, which has been one of our ongoing goals for some time. Thanks for your support of us achieving this important environmental goal.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

March

- Levi turned 1
- Elliot turned 2
- Zoe turned 2
- Riley turned 2
- Bridie turned 2
- Breanna turned 3
- Abe turned 3
- Samara turned 3
- Eli turned 3
- Imogen turned 4
- Chloe P turned 4



Levi the happy 1 year old boy!!

April

- Antony turns 3
- William turns 5

Xanthe & Avery

New Arrivals Congratulations!!

Welcome to lovely Avery Alexis! A beautiful second daughter for Nikola and Neil and little sister for Xanthe (Joeys) - well done guys!!

