

Service Newsletter March 2021

We hope you are all looking forward to enjoying the Autumn weather- warm days, cooler nights, and great opportunities to explore the outdoors with family and friends.

Family Day Care Awards – Educators and the Service

2020 was an amazing year for Nature Alliance Educators and Staff and we want to thank all the parents who have nominated their Educators for the Family Day Care Educator of the Year Award. From your nominations, five educators have won the award for their region.

The winners are Cassie Dennison – Bunbury & South West, Erica Ferris – Eastern Suburbs, Jess O’Connor – Kalgoorlie Goldfields, Hannah Mason – Northern Suburbs and Bec Beattie – CBD & Western Suburbs.

Nature Alliance Service has also won the “Service of the Year for WA and SA” so thanks again for all your support, feedback and we hope the relationships you have with your Educators and us as a service, only grows stronger as your children grow older.

Beryl and Sue recently attended the National Awards presentations in Canberra, where the service representing Queensland/Northern Territory were announced the National Service of the Year.

Educator Assistants

An educator assistant is a person registered with a FDC Service to assist an Educator. They need to be at least 18 years old, and hold approved first aid qualifications and clearances. Section 164A(1) and (2) of the National Law, states that the only time another person may educate and care for a child as part of the FDC service is if the assistant has been approved by the Service (Nature Alliance FDC) and the Educator has obtained written consent from a parent/guardian of each child being educated by the Educator.

The Regulations clearly state that an assistant may help the Educator to transport a child or in the absence of the Educator due to emergency situations. An assistant is also able to care for the children if an Educator is required to attend a NON-REGULAR appointment. In unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, the assistant may only replace the Educator if the absence is less than 4 hours, and that this absence has been approved by Nature Alliance and parents/guardians have been given notice of the absence.

As a part of our ongoing commitment to providing a quality childcare service we will advise you in writing if your child’s educator engages an Ed Assistant.

Policy Reviews

As part of our procedures, we are reviewing policies and would appreciate any input or feedback by Friday April 30th, 2021. Please send any comments or suggestions to info@naturealliancefdc.com.au

The policies due for review are:

[Policy #2](#) Interactions with children

[Policy # 3.4](#) Medical Conditions

WHERE CHILDREN CAN BE CHILDREN



[Policy #8](#) Grievance and Complaints
[Policy 13](#) Positive Behavior Guidance

These policies can be found on our website at www.naturealliancefdc.com.au and we look forward to having your comments.

Enrolment Contract with Educators

When you sign an enrolment with your Educator you are agreeing to attending the service for the nominated day/ hours. Please ensure that you adhere to these days/hours as your Educator must always adhere to the correct ratio of children in care.

We do understand that situations do occur that may cause a delay in you collecting your child. If this is the situation, please contact your Educator as soon as you possibly can.

If the hours that you have initially agreed to no longer suit your needs, please discuss this with your Educator.

Hand, Foot and Mouth

Unfortunately, it is that time of the year when Hand, Foot and Mouth starts doing its rounds through childcare services. This is a common viral infection and is not related to the disease in cattle! Please keep a look out for tiny blisters on various parts of your child's body, including in the mouth, and on the fingers, palms of hands, buttocks, nappy area, soles of the feet, upper arms or upper legs. Some children may experience a fever, sore throat, runny nose or cough. Incubation period is usually 3-5 days and children are infectious as long as the blisters contain fluid. The blisters can last a little longer than a week. Children with hand, foot and mouth disease must be excluded until all blisters have dried. For more information go to the [HealthyWa](#) Website.

Contact Us

We encourage you to contact us if you have any queries about the service - we are available by phone on the following numbers: Beryl: 0477 029 253, Sue: 0477 029 254, Kylie Martin: 0431 449 567, Joy: 0429 030 362 or Jo: 0477 029 132

You can also email us at info@naturealliancefdc.com.au

Webpage www.naturealliancefdc.com.au or look us up on Facebook.

"It is the marriage of the soul with Nature that makes the intellect fruitful and gives birth to imagination." – Henry David Thoreau

WHERE CHILDREN CAN BE CHILDREN

