



Gymea Bay Care & Leisure Centre

October
2018

GBOOSH Newsletter TERM 4 2018

Important Update from
The GBOOSH President, David Levitski

Additional Care Places

Over the last few years we've seen increased demand for after school care at Gymea Bay Out Of School Hours (GBOOSH) services from families at Gymea Bay Public School as well as the local community. This increased demand has resulted in extensive waiting lists for families seeking care for their children.

In October 2017 we requested that the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) approve our request to increase the number of places available at GBOOSH. A request was then made to the NSW Department of Education for their approval and during this process the Asset Management Unit of the Department of Education took the opportunity to also look into reviewing our operating licence agreement.

After multiple rounds of correspondence, the Asset Management Unit advised us that the GBOOSH licence would be renewed however under the terms of the new agreement and that the fees would significantly increase.

As GBOOSH is a not-for-profit centre, unfortunately these fee increases will need to be passed onto all families utilising GBOOSH services. We are in the process of finalising the financial implications of this fee and terms of the agreement and will communicate with all families over the coming weeks.

For families seeking new placements at GBOOSH we understand it can be a distressing period and we'd like to thank you for your patience. We are hopeful to release additional places soon but we are still unlikely to be able to accommodate all families. In addition, staff and resources will need to be reviewed prior to releasing these places.

GBOOSH staff are unable to assist you until the above matters are resolved and we will communicate with you further via the school newsletter and email.

Dates for your Diary

TERM 4 2018

WEEK 4 – Commencement of 2019 Offer Communications

WEEK 5 – Vacation Care Program Release

WEEK 7 – Vacation Care Booking Form Released, bookings due by 30/11/18

WEEK 8 – Vacation Care Invoices sent, payment due (NO CHANGES permitted)

WEEK 9 - Final Term 4 Invoices will be emailed for payment. Non-payment may result in cancellation of Vacation Care/2019 Bookings

22 November – GBOOSH Family Celebration

4 December – Year 6 Dinner @ The Prince
(Year 6 invitations to follow)

DECEMBER 2018 Vacation Care

20 & 21 December – Commencement of Vacation Care

GBOOSH CLOSED 22 December – 4 January

JANUARY 2019 Vacation Care

7 January – Commencement of January Vacation Care Program, 2019 Kinder Children welcome to attend

30 January – Children return to school
(Kindergarten start date still to be confirmed)

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Child Care Subsidy & My Gov

It is important that families keep connected to Centrelink via the MyGov or Centrelink Apps. This will ensure that when there are any changes to your booking patterns, CCS payments & entitlements you are able to confirm or update this information.

Following the introduction of the CCS in July 2018 there have been a number of changes to the payment of child care subsidies which parents should be aware of:

- Significant changes to booking patterns/registration with a new service or for a new child, will require parents to confirm details with Centrelink via the App. *Until you confirm these details with Centrelink you will be required to pay FULL FEES as the service will not be receiving any CCS for your family.*
- Once any deadlines for submission of attendances (28 days) or changes to claims has passed, no back payments for these dates will be passed on to the service. Parents must collect/follow up any back payments directly with Centrelink.
- In the past the centre was able to re-submit attendances & booking changes to Centrelink, this is no longer possible parents are responsible for contacting Centrelink regarding any back dated attendance details or changes.
- Any families seeking financial support support for Temporary Financial Hardship (TFH) must do so directly with Centrelink.

Enrolment Update: 2019 Places

Enrolment checking processes are continuing at the GBOOSH office for all those families who have completed the 2019 Re-Enrolment Process.

As you may be aware there are specific requirements under the both the Regulations & Child Care Subsidy System (CCSS) around the information we are required to collect from families about their child. For this reason each enrolment form must be checked thoroughly to ensure it is completed accurately. In particular the information around medical conditions, allergies & other individual requirements must be detailed in order for the centre to ensure we can meet your child's individual needs, minimize risk & provide an inclusive environment.

If you have any further questions about the re-enrolment process please contact the centre via email info@gymeabayoosh.com.au. If you have not yet completed the 2019 re-enrolment process you may need to be placed on the waitlist as the initial process for existing families has closed.

Confirmation of placements for 2019 will be emailed to existing families during week 4 & 5 of Term.

GBOOSH Family Celebration 2019

Each year GBOOSH holds an end of year celebration, a great opportunity for GBOOSH staff & families to interact. On **THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER at 5.30pm - 7.00pm** please bring your picnic rug & join us for a bite to eat, some music & the opportunity to mingle other GBOOSH families.

If you will be attending this year's Celebration please RSVP to the centre via email info@gymeabayoosh.com.au or SMS 0408 210 705. Please include your family name as well as the numbers of adults & children attending so we can cater for this event.

Gynea Bay Care & Leisure Centre

With the end of 2018 is fast approaching GBOOSH is already making preparations for the December-January Vacation Care Program.

DECEMBER/JANUARY VACATION CARE DATES:

- **TERM 4, WEEK 5 –**
Program released to GBOOSH Website
- **TERM 4, WEEK 7 –**
Vacation Care Booking Form available on website, due for submission by Friday 30/11/18.
- **TERM 4 WEEK 8 –**
Vacation Care Invoices will be emailed for payment, NO CHANGES PERMITTED to bookings.
- **TERM 4 WEEK 9 –** Final Term 4 Invoices will be emailed for payment. Non-payment may result in cancellation of Vacation Care/2019 Bookings.
- **20 December 2018** – first day of Vacation Care.
- **24 Dec to 4 January 2018 - GBOOSH will be CLOSED.**
- **7 January 2019 –**
Vacation Care January Program Commences, 2019 Kindergarten children are eligible to attend.

The December-January Vacation Care Program is already in the first stages of planning & we are making bookings for some great incursions & activities for the period.

These holidays are a great opportunity for us to plan outdoor, water-based activities in the hot weather. The Centre does provide sunscreen on a regular basis through out the day, however each child MUST bring the following:

- ✓ HAT
- ✓ DRINK BOTTLE
- ✓ MORNING TEA
- ✓ LUNCH
- ✓ AFTERNOON TEA
- ✓ TOWEL
- ✓ SPARE CHANGE OF CLOTHES

Please note that due to health & safety requirements, children must wear enclosed/secure footwear at the centre. Thongs are dangerous and not acceptable footwear as children can easily trip, slip, drop heavy objects on their feet. Please do not send your child to Vac Care wearing thongs as they may be excluded from activities for safety reasons.

DECEMBER/JANUARY Vacation Care Program

9+ Program/Years 4 to 6:

One significant change we will be implementing from December onwards is to the 9+ program. Previously the program was split from approximately 9.30am – 3.00pm to allow the children 9 years & older to participate in some alternative activities which focused on the needs & interests of their age group. Many of which also assist in the development of important life skills.

Due to feedback from children & families we have decided to alter the way in which we split the program from this being based on the age of 9 to all children from YEAR 4 to YEAR 6. This means ALL children moving to Year 4 in 2019 will be included in this older program from January.

Due to the nature of some of the activities this group participates in there is a need for children to demonstrate a level of maturity & independence & be able to mix with members of the general public. Therefore it has been decided that children in Year 3 will remain part of the General Vacation Care program. Please note this change does not currently affect the ASC program.

ASC will remain divided with Kindergarten to Year 2 located at the GBOOSH Building and Years 3 to Years 6 located at the GBPS Hall.