

Welcome to our Parent Newsletter for 2016!

Welcome Back to all our existing families and a warm welcome to all of our new families joining our scheme.

Immunisation New Rules.

The Commonwealth has made changes to child care benefits and family assistance payments under the 'No Job, No Pay' measure to increase childhood vaccination rates, including that conscientious objection is no longer an approved exception for eligibility for the Child Care Rebate, Child Care Benefit, and Family Tax Benefit (Part A - Supplementary). Parents who do not fully immunise their children up to 19 years of age are no longer eligible for child care benefits and family assistance payments with exceptions for children recorded with medical contraindications or natural immunity for certain diseases and those on a recognised catch-up schedule. More information about these Commonwealth changes is available from the Australian Department of Social Services.

As the Commonwealth conscientious objection form is no longer available, an Interim vaccination objection form for enrolment in NSW child care centres has been developed for use during 2016 while the Public Health Act undergoes its scheduled review process. Please note that these interim arrangements apply to children being enrolled after 1 January 2016 only.

Children who were enrolled in 2015 to commence child care in 2016 do not need to complete the new forms. Detailed advice about the enrolment of children in child care from 1 January 2016 and the associated approved forms are available on the NSW Health website.

Documentation We Require For Enrolment At Ballina Byron Family Day Care.

Parent Application for Care – completed on line via our parent webpage at www.fdcballinabyron.com.au

Enrolment Form completed—on line via our parent webpage.

ACIR Immunisation History Statement or documentation from a Doctor that your child has medical contraindications or natural immunity for certain diseases or is on a recognised catch-up schedule – send copy to admin@fdcballinabyron.com.au

Interim Vaccination objection form – copy can be obtained from www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation this form needs to be signed by a Medical Practitioner or authorised nurse immuniser and copy provided to admin@fdcballinabyron.com.au

Parent enrolment interview to take place at office or parent home or other venue before starting care. Parent kit provided to family and child's sun hat. Interviews needs to be booked prior.

What Is Child Care Benefit (CCB).

CCB is a payment from the Australian Government that helps you with the cost of childcare. You can choose to receive CCB as an annual lump sum payment or as a reduced childcare fees throughout the year. The Child Care Benefit is income tested and is usually paid directly to approved childcare services to reduce the fee that eligible families pay.

You can apply for CCB online or in person through Centrelink. To apply online visit the Department of Human Services at www.humanservices.gov.au

What Is Child Care Rebate (CCR).

The rebate helps families cover their out-of-pocket cost of child care and it is not income tested. Even if your family income is too high to receive the child care benefit you may be eligible for the rebate. It covers up to 50% of the out-of-pocket costs up to \$7,500.00 per child per year.

You can apply for CCR online or in person through Centrelink. To apply online visit the Department of Human Services at www.humanservices.gov.au



How To Make A Complaint.

If you have a complaint about Ballina Byron Family Day Care Scheme please contact the Service Manager. If the complaint is about the Service Manager the complaint must be forwarded onto the President of the Management Committee.

Parent Websites To Visit.

StartingBlocks.gov.au is a new, family friendly resource to provide parents with information about early childhood education and care to help them make the best choice for their child and family.

Starting Blocks is a starting point for families to:

- learn about children's developmental milestones
- understand what to expect from an early childhood education and care service
- find services and learn about their quality ratings
- get tips on starting child care or preschool, and
- What can be done at home to encourage their child's learning and development.

Staff at Ballina Byron Family Day Care.

Manager: Sue Lightfoot

Administration Officer: Kim Scully

Financial Officer: Lisa Coady

Compliance Officer: Kathy Frost

Placement Officer: Sharon Foran

Educational Leader: Christie Thompson

Co-ordinator: Kay Price



GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 16th March 2016

Ballina Office—7pm.

17 Brunswick Street.

RSVP by 14/3/16 by phoning 6686 7799.

The Raising Children Network website is based on the philosophy that all children and families are individual and different. They provide scientifically validated information, translated into everyday language, to help parents make decisions that work for them in their individual family circumstances.