



ISSUE 3- JULY

We can't believe we are already halfway through 2020. So far, this has been one of the most unusual years for all of us. A time of learning and change, a time of social distancing and remote learning. A time to be patient, show kindness and think of keeping each other safe. A year that will make the history books.

We have also learned so many new things from policies and procedures, zoom meetings as well as practices to keep children, staff and parents safe during Pandemics.

Who knows what the second half of the year will have in store for us all...Watch this space!!

Medical Plan updates

We have been touching base with families to update all communication plans in regards to children with medical conditions. Please ensure that if there are any changes to your child's allergies or dietary requirements you inform us as soon as possible.



Immunisation history statement

As at: 22 August 2018
For: BERNARD O LONG
Date of birth: 16 January 2016
Immunisation status: up to date

Schedule	Date given	Immunisation	Brand name given
2 months	16 Mar 2016	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib Hepatitis B Polio Pneumococcal Rotavirus	Infanrix Hexa Prevenar 13 Rotarix
4 months	16 May 2016	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib Hepatitis B Polio Pneumococcal Rotavirus	Infanrix Hexa Prevenar 13 Rotarix
6 months	16 Jul 2016	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib Hepatitis B Polio Pneumococcal	Infanrix Hexa Prevenar 13
12 months	16 Jan 2017	Measles Mumps Rubella Hib Meningococcal C	MMR II Menitorix
18 months	16 Jul 2017	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Measles Mumps Rubella Varicella	Infanrix Priorix-Tetra
Other	01 Apr 2018	Influenza	Influvac Tetra
Next immunisation/s due		Date Due	
Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis		16 Jan 2020	
Polio		16 Jan 2020	
Notice/s			



Immunisation updates

Reminding all families, that if your child has any immunisations throughout the year, we require an updated Immunisation History Statement that you can obtain from your myGov account.

Dr Chan will be happy to update any immunisations necessary, so contact us if you need this service.

MID YEAR DEVELOPMENTAL SUMMARIES

All developmental summaries have now been sent via email. These developmental summaries were prepared by the educators for children who have continued to attend Juniors throughout the last two months. Please have a read of your child's developmental summary and provide your evaluation or feedback on your child's progress as well as set future goals.

Preschool children will not be receiving one, as their teachers will be collating documentation for their Transition Statements required by the primary schools.



Individual Child Developmental Summary

(Mid Year)

Child:	Date:
Learning Outcome	Evaluation of Child's Progress
Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity	■■■■ as built a secure attachments with both educators and children in the room. He demonstrates his confidence within his environment as he initiates and joins in play with ease.
Outcome 2: Children are connected to & contribute to their world	■■■■ always reaches out for company and friendship. He shows concern for others and participates with others to solve problems and contribute to the group outcomes.
Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing	■■■■ is very independent with his self help skills. This is evident when feeding himself and drinking with a cup. He attempts to dress and undress himself at rest/sleep time. We will continue to support Lewis in developing his ability to self regulate and manage his emotions at times of distress.
Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners	■■■■ is a curious and involved learner and is able to investigate, imagine and explore ideas throughout his play. He applies a wide variety of thinking strategies to solve problems
Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators	■■■■ demonstrates excellent verbal communication skills. He is able to express his need and wants confidently. He is able to point out objects and name them. Lewis listens and participates in stories, poems and songs and enjoys movement to the music. ■■■■ is able to follow instructions and contribute his ideas within the group outcomes.
General comments & any areas of continuing development	We will continue to support ■■■■ developing further relationships with a variety of peers and educators within the Juniors community. We will continue to support ■■■■ communication skills by providing a variety of literacy experiences within the program.
Parent evaluations/ comments/ suggestions	
Educators Signature:	Parents Signature:

Quality Improvement Plan Summary 2020—What we have been working on.....

Quality Area 1 <i>Educational programs and practice</i>	1.2.1	For educators to become more knowledgeable on the use of IT to support their teaching role as they plan and implement their educational program and communicating with those children that are learning at home during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
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Remote learning - Zoom classes with the preschoolers



Quality Area 2 <i>Children's Health and Safety</i>	2.1.2	Management, educators and staff to be aware of their responsibilities in relation to protecting children from risk or harm through the novel Coronavirus.
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Quality Area 3 <i>Physical Environment</i>	3.2.1	Educators collaborating and exploring various uses for the new spaces creatively and effectively throughout the service, maximizing participation and extending children's learning
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Staff at EHJ have been completing the online COVID-19 training

Team challenge - one member from each team to complete 'planking' challenge.

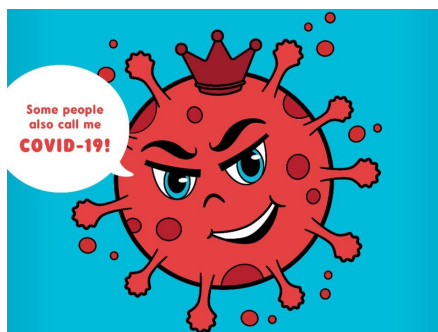


Quality Area 4 <i>Staffing</i>	4.2.2	Staff feeling supported and provided with professional guidance and practices that support their emotional wellbeing during COVID-19
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Curriculum Day where the whole EHJ team gathered for professional learning, team bonding and wellness coaching

Quality Area 5 <i>Relationships with Children</i>	5.1.1	Educators developing strong relationships with children that reassures them during the COVID-19 pandemic and raising awareness of strategies that could assist them regulating their emotions.
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Reading *Cyrus the Virus* with children throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting children to understand of the current situation.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) MANAGEMENT POLICY

Rationale:
COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that was originally identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared that COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic. A public health emergency of international concern (effective 11 March 2020). This is mainly due to the speed and scale of transmission of the virus in countries around the world, including Australia.

COVID-19 is transmitted from someone who is infected with the virus to others in close contact through contaminated droplets spread by coughing or sneezing or by contact with contaminated hands or surfaces. According to the Department of Health, the time of exposure to the virus and when symptoms first occur is anywhere from 2-14 days.

Symptoms can range from a mild illness, similar to a cold or flu, to pneumonia. People with COVID-19 may experience:

- Fever
- Flu-like symptoms such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue
- Shortness of breath

GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
The Australian Government is constantly updating the current status of COVID-19, including health recommendations, travel restrictions, and a number of resources and information to help people make informed decisions.

This information is changing rapidly, and our service is constantly monitoring health alerts and implementing measures suggested by key health experts to disrupt the transmission of COVID-19. We have a range of comprehensive policies in place to guide best practice in relation to health and safety, dealing with infectious diseases and maintaining a child safe environment. Our first priority is our duty of care to provide a safe environment for children, parents, families and our staff.

Policy Statement:
Easenregis Juniors has developed this plan to guide the continued effective and safe management of our childcare service, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Given the evolving nature of COVID-19 and the unprecedented steps required to protect our community, the plan will be regularly updated to ensure the latest information and advice from health authorities is included, and is also being incorporated into our other relevant health and safety policies.

Quality Area 6 <i>Collaborative partnerships with families</i>	6.1.3	To create opportunities and resources that assist and support families while they navigate what living in a world with Coronavirus looks like.
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Quality Area 7 <i>Leadership and service management</i>	7.1.2	Management systems are in place that guide our everyday practice to ensure the safety of staff, children and the community during the pandemic crisis.
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All families and staff were provided with the EHJ Coronavirus (COVID-19) management policy

COVID-19 UPDATE

As cases in Victoria continue to increase, rest assured we are doing whatever we can to keep everyone safe at Juniors.

KEEPING UP TO DATE

Management has constantly been checking Department of Education and Training, Department of Health and Human Services, Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, reading daily updates from Premier Dan Andrews, communicating with our local MP's, networking with early childhood associations and acting accordingly to ensure we initiate practices and risk mitigation strategies immediately, in fact we feel that we have implemented many procedures prior to the suggestions throughout this whole pandemic.



EDUCATING CHILDREN

Helping children understand the importance of hygiene, health and wellbeing, through our educational program and intentional teaching as well as increasing their knowledge of pandemics.



Kangas & Possums children learning how germs 'run away' when using soap to wash hands.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Sending families resources, updates and useful links.

- Supporting mental health-

Beyond Blue-

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Headspace-

<https://www.headspace.com>

Black Dog Institute-

<https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/>

- Posters in different languages around the service
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) campaign resources from DHHS
- Remote learning
- Links to educational resources for families who are keeping their children at home
- Links for financial assistance - Services Australia
- Clear policies, procedures and risk management plans
- Keeping the service operating during pandemic

SUPPORTING STAFF WELLBEING

Providing staff with policies, procedures , risk management plans and PPE that reassures them of the practices we have created to make them feel supported, valued and safe.



Staff fitness session with Coach Luke



Ensuring staff are safe with PPE

Together we can help stop the spread and stay healthy!

RE-ENROLMENTS FOR 2021

We will be commencing our re enrolment process for 2021 in late August.

This means that we will send each family a form to complete that requires parents to request particular days for next year. Once families have returned these we will fill other positions from our waiting list.

CURRICULUM DAY 2020

Thank you to all our families who supported our first Curriculum Day at Essex Heights Juniors.

This is the first time we have conducted a Professional Development Day, to acknowledge our wonderful educators as teachers and the importance of learning together as a team.

The day started with:

- A 'wellbeing' show bag for each staff member
- Breakfast provided by Woojung and Arthur that comprised of pancakes and Egg & Bacon rolls.
- Two hour professional development session with Kelly Goodsir on documentation and planning
- MasterChef team challenge
- Two hour whole team planning which has been difficult while staff were on reduced hours

It was an excellent day for all, which will become an annual event.

FAMILIES LEAVING JUNIORS AT THE END OF 2020

A reminder to families who are leaving us at the end of this year, that your child's last day will be Thursday 31st December 2020 as all children move to their new rooms from Monday 4th January 2021. Therefore if you still require care over January 2021, please start thinking about alternative care.

PRESCHOOL ENROLMENTS 2021

As our 3 year old kindergarten room allows for 29 children per day and our 4 year old preschool rooms caters for 22 children per day, we will be commencing 4 year old preschool enrolments for 2021 in August this year to provide an opportunity for families to secure positions early or make adjustments to their child's care as required.

Reminding all families, that children who are nominating Essex Heights Juniors as their 4 year old funded kindergarten program, will receive priority in the enrolment process. Other children will be allocated enrolments if there are any positions available once priority positions have been allocated.

This year, as has been the case in other 4 year old preschools in the area, we are introducing a preschool enrolment levy, so that we can guarantee the positions are secured as families have been known to book two places then release one once they have had offers to private schools etc. To secure your child's 4 year old preschool position, you will be required to pay a Preschool levy of \$200, which will be refunded back to you at the end of February.

If you have any questions, please contact Paula or Jane.


Kelly Goodsir founded K6 Learning, a professional learning company that focus on improving pedagogical practice through strategic educational change in early childhood education. She has been formally engaged with the early childhood sector for 20 years across both Australian and New Zealand contexts.

Kelly has dedicated her career to her own and others development of pedagogy, learning and educational leadership and believes wholeheartedly that through thinking and learning collaboratively anything is possible.

You will be drawn to Kelly's creative imagination, her ability to make the complex simple and her unwavering advocacy for upholding children, families and educator rights. Her strengths are grounded in long-term educational change, designing systems that foster autonomy, meaning and a strong positive learning culture.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Educational Leadership ECI, current, Massey University
- Reggio Emilia Study Tour, 2016, Italy
- Bachelor in Early Childhood Studies, 2010, Melbourne University
- Diploma Teaching Early Childhood, 1997, New Zealand Tertiary College



Curriculum Day Itinerary

8.30-9.30am - Breakfast (Eggs & Bacon, Pancakes)

9.30-11.30am - Documentation PD presented by Kelly Goodsir

Documentation Part 1- Why we document, purpose of documentation, the group program cycle and possibilities for complexity. Samples of projects and group programs will be shared.

Documentation Part 2- What we write, how we write has the power to make visible important ideas about childhood and children as learners. We will explore the practical task of writing narratives and using insights in our documentation. Samples of practice will be shared.

11.30-12.30pm - Team Challenge

12.30-1.30pm - Lunch

1.30-4pm - Group Planning

Curriculum Day Program and show bags!



Our MasterChef Team Challenge!



Team planning