

Seaford District Community Children's Centre Professional Development Days 2018

The National Quality Standards states '**Continuous learning updating and maintaining educators' knowledge is a joint responsibility of educators, co-coordinators, the director and the management committee, and includes a range of professional development strategies that challenge and extend current thinking**'.

Day 1 - Friday 13 July 2018 TAFE SA Adelaide

Child Safe Environments - Reporting Abuse and Neglect

Our obligations include

- have in place appropriate child safe policies and procedures and procedures
- meet relevant history information obligations such as Child-related employment screening for employees, students and volunteers
- ensure that appropriate reports of suspected child abuse or neglect are made to the child abuse report line as outlined in the mandatory notification

45 staff both permanent and casual staff attended the Child Safe Environments Training - Reporting Abuse and Neglect with TAFE SA Adelaide Campus. This engaging and interactive 7.5 hour work shop allowed time for staff to reflect on their experiences working with children and families. As individuals, as teams and as an organisation it is really important to get uninterrupted time to explore our values and beliefs around child rearing practices and to be guided by professional child protection facilitators. We refreshed our understanding of our Child Protection Laws in South Australia and our role as mandated notifiers working directly with families and children and role in protecting children's right to be safe and their welfare protected. Child Safe Environments - Reporting Abuse and Neglect training was an excellent investment of our not for profit community services funds and human resources.

Day 2 - Monday 16 July 2018 Moana Surf Life Saving Club

Brining Up Great Kids

Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) was developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation to offer a unique alternative in the range of parenting programs currently offered in Australia. It draws from the evidence base about the importance of attachment narratives (Siegel, 2013) and the increasing recognition of the role of mindful practices in positive mental health and wellbeing outcomes.

Using the analogy of "open source software" - where the code is made available to collaborators to study, change and share - BUGK provides its program resources to potential facilitators, who can adapt, tailor and collaborate with the Australian Childhood Foundation in their evolution and implementation. Quality assurance is achieved through regular low cost

training for facilitators, as well as online community forums to build knowledge, confidence and skills in the approach.

Being a facilitator of the Bringing Up Great Kids Programs also means being part of a community of professionals and agencies who share an ethos to offer evidence based intervention **for all families whether or not they can afford it**. With the both staff teams working with up to 180 families per week what a wonderful community resource we will be to both children and families.

Links to National Quality Standard

- Quality Area 5 – Relationships with children
- Quality Area 6 – Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
- Quality Area 7 – Leadership and service management

BUGK full day workshop was an engaging professional development day set at the beautiful Moana Beach SLS Club. It was wonderful to explore with our colleagues the impact of our own experiences as children, what we wish for our own children and the children we work with. We explored what behaviours and beliefs were worth keeping and what we should get rid of, we explored brain development and why children engage in the behaviours they do. We explored strategies we now use with families to unpack what is pushing their buttons about their children's behaviour and development and how having an understanding of brain development can support families to understand what their children are trying to communicate and how to manage this in ensuring positive outcomes for children and families.