Child Care Places

Rural Care services were established as integrated services within Department Education and Children’s Service Kindergartens. It is to provide child care for families in rural towns. Since the time we have been established, some families have commented that their children have adjusted easily to kindergarten after their time in rural care.

Tumby Bay Rural Care operates a waiting list for care and due to many new enrolments we have not been able to provide care for all families that are registering with our service. We feel it is important to let everyone know how Rural Care operates so all families are informed and you are all able to relate this to new families that come to town.

Rural Care Booking Policy (taken from the Parents Handbook)

The Commonwealth Government funds childcare and give priority to working/studying parents and families with the greatest need (eg crisis care, hospitalisation of parents etc).

Bookings are accepted according to the Commonwealth Government guidelines:-

- Children at risk, families in crisis
- Working families or work-related commitments
- Care for respite purposes (not relating to work or study)

Types of Care we offer.

Permanent Bookings: This means that we will accept long term bookings from families in need as a first priority and then from working or studying parents. Two weeks notice of cancellation of a permanent booking and withdrawal from the service is required. Families receive 42 day Absence days per year where the child care benefit is paid for these days.

Casual: Casual bookings are available for families when vacancies are available. Permanent bookings take priority, casual bookings can not be guaranteed as they depend on cancellations or lack of permanent bookings. Casual bookings can be made on a fortnightly basis when available and you are required to pay for casual bookings on the day of care. For more details of how this will work for your situation, please talk to a staff member.
Our Rural Care is licensed for 4 chd under 5 years old and 3 school age children per session per day.

In 2009 we were able to increase our child care places for Mondays and Fridays, we call these our double days. We can only operate two double days per week due to the kindergarten and playgroup days that also operate on this integrated site. Rural care operates with two staff on these days with up to 12 children. We can only have 4 children under 2 years old on these days. We operate with at least one qualified (Diploma Level) staff member and other staff studying Cert III in Children’s Services.

Non arrival of children- Please let us know if your child/ren will not be attending Rural Care, due to sickness or any other reason. Please phone our service 86882 108 by 9.am or earlier as this will allow staff to phone other families on our waiting list and offer that session of care as we have a long waiting list.

Our learning Outdoor Environment

When children came back to care after the holidays they noticed a few peaches were on the ground. The children suggested a dog ate them but we looked and saw that it was bird shaped bites. Every morning Amieka reminded me it was time to pick the peaches, all the children were involved and they learnt to place the peaches carefully in the basket. Some children did not like peaches but after 4 weeks of tasting some children changed their minds and asked to eat more. One morning staff stewed some peaches but children decided they liked fresh peaches more.

Children involving themselves in ACTIVITIES sometimes by themselves, in a small group or in larger groups, they have choices to make.

JED explores paint by himself

Amieka and Charli wash the tea set together and practise how to stack in the dish drainer.

We provide music indoors and outdoors. Josh, Jonathan, Amieka, Macy, Beau, Saxon and Jack moving with their tails to the music.