



Media Release

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Ipswich Family Day Care offers more qualified carers

Families now have greater access to qualified and experienced carers with a recent increase to 72 family day care carers in the Ipswich community.

All family day care carers will be required to have a formal qualification by 2014 under the new Federal Government's regulations, and Ipswich Family Day Care scheme is working towards this goal now.

To help ensure quality care, a partnership with The Bremer Institute of TAFE has been developed by Ipswich Family Day Care to help their carers and staff gain professional qualifications.

Elizabeth Tomkins, manager of Ipswich Family Day Care, said, 'we currently have 39 carers and staff possessing qualifications ranging from Certificate III to Diploma level in Children's Services.

'We also have nine carers currently working towards further qualifications including the Advanced Diploma in Children's Services. We want to offer the best child care and education service to the 698 children currently enrolled in our service.'

Recent graduate and carer, Nancy Outten said, 'gaining my Diploma in Children's Services has provided me with ideas and knowledge that I can apply in my family day care service. It certainly is a move towards improved quality.'

Rhonda Bignell, CEO of Family Day Care Australia, said, 'In addition to family day care being an affordable and flexible form of child care that caters for young babies through to pre-teens and beyond, family day care is also a great career opportunity for parents and people who are interested in children and want to earn a healthy income working in their own home-based business. Opportunities currently exist for suitable people at Ipswich Family Day Care.'

Family day care is highly regulated and complies with Australian government guidelines, state/territory regulations, Family Day Care Quality Assurance (accreditation) through the National Childcare Accreditation Council, national standards and scheme policies.

To ensure a suitable carer is selected for a child, the parent/guardian is always interviewed during the enrolment process by an early childhood trained professional to identify and accommodate their needs.

Throughout Australia there are 102,900 children enrolled in family day care, with 307 coordination units (schemes) and more than 12,000 carers.

For further information on Family Day Care please visit www.familydaycare.com.au or call Ipswich Family Day Care 07 3202 2066.

Media enquiries: Sarah-Lucy Rice **0458 684 126**