

NEWSLETTER

February 2025

Directors Letter

Welcome to all of our families new and old!

I hope all of our families are settling into their new rooms and routines!

For families apart of our Kindergarten program soon will receive the QLD Governments 'Free Kindy'. Free Kindy is a subsidy covering 15 hours a week and will go for 40 weeks in one block beginning the 17th February 2025. Check your statement the following Monday to see the discount Free Kindy makes to your account!

Also a quick reminder for the new year, for everyone to ensure you are signing your children in and out each day and to ensure you are staying within your allocated session time. If you are wanting to change sessions to fit in better with your family, we have a 9 hour session, 4x10 hour sessions and 12 hour session. These are displayed on our Daily fees Sign next to the iPad at the sign in table.

Please keep in mind that if you are changing your work activity on Centrelink this could affect your CCS. We have had a couple of families who have had their CCS drop off or change in concerns to this. Unfortunately, you will have to contact Centrelink in regards to this as it is something we are unable to fix on our systems. If your child's immunisations are overdue, your CCS can also be taken away until your child is up to date. Please keep this in mind, to avoid disruption to your Child Care Subsidy.

Please stay connected to us this year with monthly newsletters, emails and keep track of your child's daily information as well as learning stories on your Xplor Home app. If you are not receiving any of these electronic forms of communication please let admin know so we can update or fix any problems in our system.

We ask if there are any concerns to please raise them with your Group Leader or our Director, Donna by setting up a meeting or having a chat over the phone. Our team is committed to building open and respectful relationships with our families.

Our Rewards Program continues in 2025; if you refer a new family to the centre, they enrol and stay for 2 weeks you will be rewarded with \$250.00 credited to your account! T&C apply. We are confident that once they come and see us for themselves, they will be very happy you told them about us!

In addition to this, until the end of February, we are waiving our enrolment fee for new families attending our centre!

We still have a few of our Ally's Kindy shirts available for sale in light blue XS size only (suited for 3+years) They are \$5.00 each. Cash only. Get them while they are here, we won't be able to sell them this cheap next time!

Thank you to everyone for all your support, we hope we can deliver the safest environment for your children to grow and develop. If you need anything our door is always open.

Kind Regards,
Donna Hayes



Contact details

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ONE MILE

4305 QLD

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Email:

info@allyskindy.com.au

ON-TIME
VACCINATION
MATTERS.



For the best protection, vaccinations need to occur on time or as close as possible to the due date.
qld.gov.au/vaccinate

NOTICE

A friendly reminder to all of our families to keep your child's vaccinations up to date. **Failure to keep to the schedule will result in a loss of CCS and you will have to pay full fees.** If your child has had any new needles since the time they have been enrolled please ensure an updated copy of the immunization is given to administration to keep on file.



Centre News

We have finished our January transitions for 2025. We hope everyone is happy and enjoying their new room!

With the new room changes, Educators may be sending home some forms for your child and self to complete. These are imperative for the educators to plan for daily programming and direction/goals in the room. Family contribution in our program is highly regarded at our Centre as stated in our Centres Philosophy. If you are unsure, please see your room's Group Leader if they need a Goals or All About Me form.

Our Centre Fun Day for Australia Day was a hit with children engaging in water play outside with their friends. Everyone got wet including the Educators! Please see our Active Advertisement TV in the foyer for happy snaps! See our 'Upcoming Events' section for more exciting dates!

Children are enjoying a wide range of activities and experiences! View your child's experiences on Xplor Home App, like and leave a comment on post. We would love families to engage and help Educators/Teachers scaffold from feedback given.

Staff Holidays

Some of our team will be taking off some leave during this month. We hope that they return healthy and well rested!

Miss Leeanne (Kindergarten, Teacher): 10/02/25– 14/02/25

Miss Kaycee (Pre-Kindy, Assistant): 17/02/25– 21/02/25

Miss Elissa (Nursery, Group Leader): 19/03/25– 21/03/25

Miss Donald (Toddlers, Group Leader): 07/04/25– 11/04/25

Accounts

Mim: Account Controller : 0414 867 288

A friendly reminder to all families to keep accounts up to date. If you are experiencing any difficulties please see our Director, Donna, or Account controller, Mim.

Kindergarten Program:

Children attending the Kindergarten Program for 2025 will be eligible for "Free Kindy". This is 15 hours a week for 40 weeks beginning 17/02/25.

Holidays:

If you are taking any holidays or time away from Kindy please notify Office Administration via email or "Change to Enrolment/Holidays" Form (Yellow slip found to the left of Front Counter) This will ensure your holidays are entered into the system and holiday discount is applied.

Remember to keep within your session times and to sign in/out DAILY to avoid losing CCS.

Wednesday 26th February:

Tell a Fairy Tale Day

Dress up as your favourite
Fairy Tale Character

Friday 7th March:

International Women's Day

Wear pink for International
Women's Day

USE INTERNET BANKING?

Pay Fees easily
using your account
name as your
reference.

Account:
Betterchildcare PTY
LTD

BSB: 084 917

Acc: 793 386 301

We have Eftpos
available on site

Use Pay Now
feature on Xplor
Home!

NEWSLETTER

February 2025

Educator Spotlight

Every monthly newsletter will feature an Educator Spotlight– helping families to get to know our team.

Miss Donna Clark

Room: Toddlers, Group Leader

Qualification:

Cert III in Early Childhood. Working towards Diploma of Early Childhood.

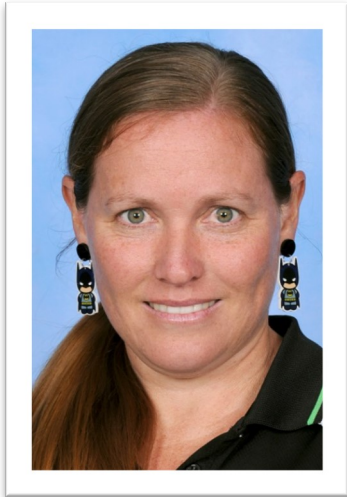
What motivated you to become apart of the Child-care industry?

I love working with children and seeing them learn and develop

Favourite Place to be? At home with my boys

Hobbies or interests? My Pets

Something you may not know about me... I grew up on a Dairy Farm



Promote your business here!

Do you have a business or side hustle you would like to promote? Simply send business card or advertisement flyer to tilli@allyskindy.com.au to be featured on our Active Advertisement board and Newsletter.

Ipswich Region Relief Services

Name	Contact	Service
Ipswich Food Barn	1 Darling St Ipswich 34961514	\$35 Food Hampers/ \$5.00 joining fee Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday 9am-2pm
Ipswich Assist	20 Limestone St Ipswich 34131070	Food Hamper/ Pharmacy vouchers/Bill payment relief Monday 9am-1pm Appointment only
Leichhardt Community Centre	1 Denman St Leichhardt 38141270	Free Bread/bakery Mon-Fri 10am Emergency relief Tues-Thursday by appointment only. Call from 9-11am for same day appointment
Uniting Care	34326100 for an appointment	Coles Voucher (1 voucher available per day) Monday to Friday 8.30am-4.30pm appointment only.

Ally's Philosophy

Each newsletter will feature a section of Ally's Philosophy **(C-H-I-L-D-R-E-N-)** For reference, understanding and any possible feedback.

H- Here at Ally's we like to provide an environment where the children feel safe and secure. We do this by spending time with each child and getting to know them, this way we can find out what makes each child feel safe and secure in their environment. We provide comfort to the children during times of need and we initiate interactions on a regular basis. We take on Abecedarian approach to enrich caregiving and one to one reading.

Sustainability Tip

Receive and pay your bills electronically.

Almost everything from your phone bill to your credit card statement can be viewed online and often these companies will discount you a few dollars for going paperless.

Benefits of Babies Learning to Swim

Article

There are many benefits to introducing your baby to the water, not just the quality time you have with them, but for example, it may help improve cognitive function and self confidence, as well as increase appetite and sound sleep.

Try not to leave it too late before introducing your baby to the water as they may become less confident later on, possibly developing a fear of water. Teaching your baby to swim is a fun and healthy activity and a skill your child can have for life.

Positive reasons to teach your baby to swim include:

*Spending time to be in the present moment where parent and baby are focused on each other with skin to skin contact, strengthens the parent-baby bond.

*In water, babies are not restricted by gravity so can move freely, exercising more muscles and helping build strength, which may help them grasp a physical skill like walking, earlier.

*Moving in the water can give them a good start in learning basic swimming skills and is great for cardiovascular health, strengthening their heart, lungs, brain and blood vessels.

*Babies balance and coordination is improved as they learn to move their arms and legs together.

*Using more energy will stimulate babies' appetite and means they will sleep better.

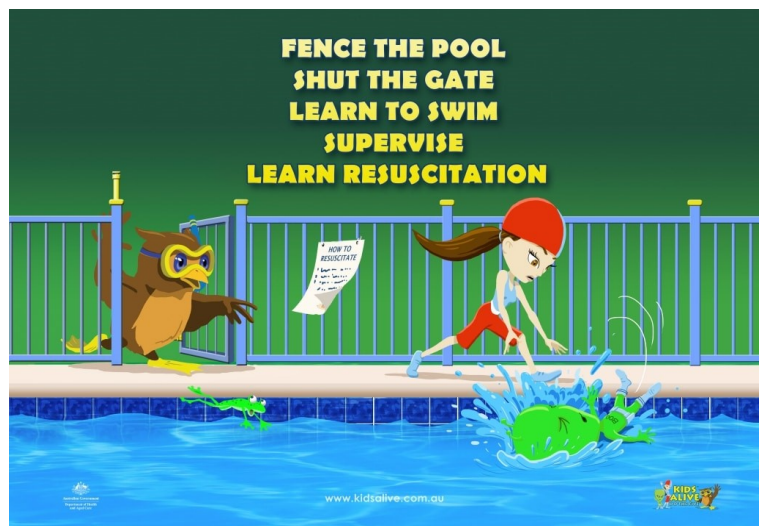
*The more babies learn to do in the water, the more confident they will become.

*Beneficial for asthmatics, swimming builds breathing muscles and being in a warm, moist atmosphere triggers less symptoms.

*Drowning continues to be one of the leading causes of accidental death for children under five years, so learning to swim is an important safety skill.

Newborns and infants should never be left alone around any body of water, like bathtubs or pools. It's important to keep in mind that a child can drown in even just 1 inch of water. For children under 4 years of age, it's best to do "touch supervision." That means that an adult should be close enough to touch them at all times.

In our hectic, fast-paced world, slowing down to simply enjoy an experience together is rare. Swim time with our babies brings us into the present moment while teaching them important life skills. So grab your swim bag and wade in!



February 2025

POLICY REVIEW

Water Safety Policy and Procedure

This is a bullet point version of responsibilities of families and Educators. To view full Policy and Procedure, with sources and rationale please ask our team at Ally's.

Educators and Other Team Members will:

Reducing risks around water

Check children's play areas each morning to ensure that no containers or pools of water are accessible for children. If rain occurs during the day, outdoor play areas must be checked for safety prior to the children entering the outdoor environment.

Ensure buckets used for cleaning are emptied immediately after use. Buckets must not be left in play areas or be accessible to children.

Ensure children are closely supervised at all times during water play experiences considering their age, the type of water play and location of water play. For instance, where a water container can be climbed into, an educator must be present at the vessel at all times.

Where water is in an elevated trough staff must be within close proximity and have visual contact at all times. Educators must communicate with each other if there is a need to leave a water play activity and ensure either the activity is ceased and removed from child access or have another educator replace them.

Empty troughs and containers onto plants and gardens after each use, do not leave water in troughs when the playground is not in use.

Empty, safely cover or make inaccessible to children all water containers when they are not in use, e.g. mop buckets, nappy buckets, bathtubs, water troughs, pet water containers.

Discourage children from drinking water used in water play activities.

Take additional precautions, as identified in risk assessments where excursions or outings include water either on route or at the destination. Refer to the Excursion Policy and Procedure.

Ensure children are not able to reach into aquariums and fishbowls. Aquariums and fish tanks must be secured in such a way that they cannot be pushed/pulled over.

Conduct risk assessments for all water activities and implement risk management control measures to reduce risk.

Drinking water to be accessible

Ensure that children are provided with clean drinking water at all times.

Remind children and families to take drink bottles home each day for cleaning.

Supervise children's access to water bottles to ensure they are not sharing others' bottles.

Water containers used for dispensing water into cups must be securely sealed. At the end of each day, the water container must be emptied and cleaned thoroughly.

Where cups are used for accessing drinking water there must be a clearly visible procedure for the storage of clean and dirty cups and for the cleaning of these.

Hot water

Not consume hot drinks in areas where children have access. Ensure hot drinks and other hot liquids are not taken into children's rooms or the playground by any other person.

Ensure children do not have access to adult areas within the service where hot water is available.

Closely supervise children around nappy change areas where hot water to handbasins are present.

Education

Incorporate water safety education into programs and use a range of resources to promote water safety.

Take every opportunity to discuss water safety with children including the risks associated with hot water.