

Review of Policies – IMPORTANT PLEASE READ

JULY 2021

NEWSLETTER



**Give a Damn—
Give a Can**



**See back
page**



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The Management Committee have recently reviewed our Fee, and Excursion Policies. The outcome of the reviews are as follows:

Fee Increases – The Centre usually increases attendance fees at least annually, but during the COVID emergency last year fees were frozen. Therefore, there will be a small increase from 1st August 2021, which will bring us in line with the increase we would have normally made on 1st July last year, and another small increase from 1st January 2022. As a small, stand-alone service we need to be self-sufficient, and maintain the Centre's viability. We hope this will not cause too much difficulty for our families.

New fees schedule below:

Long Day Care Full Day	\$98.00
LDC Half Session	\$52.00

Before School Care	\$20.00
After School Medium	\$35.00
After School Long	\$44.00

Vacation Care	\$75.00
VC Half session	\$45.00

Late Charges – from 1st August 2021 late pick-ups (after 6.00PM) will automatically be logged by our software. The late charge for the first ten minutes is \$50.00 per child, and \$10.00 per child per ten minutes thereafter. It is important that you know any child left at the Centre for 30 minutes or more after closing, without contact between the Centre and the family, is to be classed as an abandoned child, and we are required to phone Child Safety.

However, we understand that things can happen unexpectedly. If you are delayed please phone and we may be able to adjust the late charge.

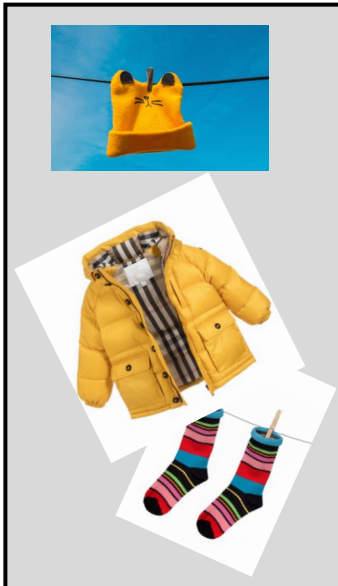
Vacation Care Excursions - The Management Committee has reviewed this policy, resulting in a change. From January 2022 children must be in Prep Year to attend excursions. (Previously Kinder children aged five could attend excursions). This decision has been made due to concerns about maintaining ratios, and safety, while away from the Centre. Kinder children will still be able to attend Vacation Care days at the Centre, but will be included with the Early Learning Room group when older children are away on excursion, rejoining them on their return.

Please let Cathie know if you have any concerns regarding these reviews.



JULY 2021

NEWSLETTER
page 2



SICKNESS

Although there are no COVID cases in the state we still require children who are unwell to stay away from care. It is very difficult to maintain good hygiene amongst children who have running noses and coughs. We understand families are under pressure to be at work, but please be considerate of other Centre users, and our staff.

OUTDOOR PLAY AND CHANGES OF CLOTHES

It's getting cold outside, so remember to pack a coat and beanie for outdoor play. Also, pack an extra change of clothes, including SOCKS. Kids often get wet playing outside on the grass, and in the bathroom washing hands, etc. and it enhances their comfort if they have dry things to change into.

Donations of track pants size 2-5 gratefully accepted. We are very short of spare clothes at the moment. If your child has gone home in our spare clothes, please return them. No questions asked.

Just a reminder to name clothing items, food containers, and drink bottles. Babies' milk bottles and dummies also need to be clearly labeled as permanent marker washes off.

UPGRADES

Work is underway to build a hard cover over the ELR courtyard. This will make the space more usable in all weathers. Hopefully it will be installed before summer.

Bake Sale - Vacation Care children will be holding Bake Sales on Wednesday 7th and Monday 12th to raise money towards the purchase of new outdoor play equipment. Please call into the Rumpus Room those afternoons to grab a tasty \$2.00 muffin.

We hope to have a working bee and barbeque for families later to get the equipment installed. We'll keep you posted.

GIVE A DAMN, GIVE A CAN

We are supporting West Tamar Rotary, and Beaconsfield CFS in a canned food drive. Sadly, there are some families in our community who struggle to make ends meet, and sometimes there is not much money left for food. There is a basket in reception for donations.

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