

**Minutes of the Scheme meeting held on Wednesday 16th May 2018 at Clarence Family Day Care Scheme offices,
Alma Street Bellerive**

Present: Tina Sansom-Karppa, Rachel Cutcliffe, Belinda Leaman, Ruth Mitchell, Mel Swards, Jackie Mianowski, Kylee Mitsakis, Sharon Dorsett, Jorja Clifford, Debbie Morey, Angelica Sunnucks, Dee Francis, Gabrielle Haley, Jonna Vennola, Jackie Devereaux-Mclean, Linda Spencer, Maureen Taylor, Sally Lovell, Tammy Cranfield, Maree Woods-Trezise, Tracey Mason, Robyn Horner, Angela Stanley-Gasparin, Katrina Stewart

Apologies: Kim Abbott, Karen Masters, Nita Kitto

Focus: Risk Benefit Training with Scott Gibson – summary

- Risk is essential to childhood – as are scrapes, grazes, falls and panic (Kate Blincoe)
- Everyday life is full of risks and challenges and children need opportunities to develop their skills associated with managing risk and making informed judgements about risks from a very young age.
- A good dose of reasonable risk taking in play results in a comfortable willingness to make mistakes and learn from failure.
- Evidence indicates that reasonable risk taking keeps children from participating in unhealthy risky behaviour.
- Our perceptions of risk are based more on 'hear say' than any rational analysis or measurement of risk involved (Gever Tulley)
- The benefits of risk include – Awareness of own abilities and limits of the body
 - Improving safety awareness
 - Building resilience and persistence
 - Practicing independent thinking and self-reflection
 - Developing social skills
 - Understanding that there are consequences to actions
 - Developing confidence, independence and resourcefulness
 - extending creativity and inventiveness
 - giving a sense of accomplishment
- Scott emphasised that we need to find ways to give children many outdoor experiences and that we need to keep chipping away at people's preconceptions about safe play spaces - and to celebrate little wins!

General business:

Educator/scheme fees: the educator levy will remain the same at \$25.00. The parent levy will rise to \$7.50 a week + 50cents an hour for the first two children in the family. Ang reminded educators that they are required to give parents one month's notice of fee changes. A parent newsletter informing parents of the scheme's increase will be going out shortly.

Kidsafe forum: Robyn attended this forum where the importance of healthy risk-taking was emphasised, as only one third of young children in Australia reach the recommended level of daily physical activity. The RACT stressed the importance of correctly fitted child restraints – approximately 80% of child restraints checked by the RACT last year were incorrectly fitted. Because of this the checking of car restraints has been added to the Daily Safety Checks, starting in the July-September period. Jason from Kidsafe Victoria reminded us about the high incidence of button battery injuries (an average of 30 children a week in Australia) and being aware of all the different gadgets and utensils that use button batteries. Robyn and Katrina also attended a **Risk It!** workshop run by Kidsafe WA and the Education and Care Unit. Again this workshop discussed the importance of active play, physical activity and the benefits of reasonable risk taking.

Community partnerships: deferred to the next meeting.

New Child Care Package: Ang showed a short video about the new package. The Australian Government website has some excellent information, including frequently asked questions. Current families are required to register through the MyGov website by the end of June. Unfortunately there is very little information yet available about how the system will work for educators who use paper timesheets.

Training opportunities: Inspired EC is holding a 4 week outdoor environments on line seminar starting on the 29th May. The cost may be more than originally thought; check the Inspired website – www.inspiredec.com

Megan Pasanen and Lawrice Jack will be running a workshop on speech and language on Monday 4th June. Please contact the office to register.

Meeting closed: at 8.45pm

Next meeting: Thursday 28th June 2018