



**Early Childhood
Australia**
A voice for young children

Tasmanian ECEC & SAC Skills Plan Newsletter July 2013

www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au

ECA Tasmania is the local branch of Early Childhood Australia, the peak early childhood advocacy organisation, acting in the interests of young children, their families and those in the early childhood field.

Skills Plan Progress

Communicating with Families Project

A high level of oral and written communication skills is required by educators under the NQF to conduct professional conversations with families, and to prepare reports, forms, journals and displays. ECA has been able to secure a grant of \$50,000 to conduct a pilot program, initially with Goodstart Hobart, Gowrie Campbell St and Discovery Dominic to focus on developing educators' skills in the above areas. To assist each service sustain these developments two staff members are being trained in coaching and mentoring skills. This project is also developing suitable resources that will be used in the planned roll-out of the training to other services throughout the State.

Guide to Training

ECA are developing a resource that will be a simple and easy to use tool that will support educators and services to have a better understanding of quality vocational education and training. Input from across the sector is being sourced.

How you can get involved

- Download a copy of the Skills Plan for your work place http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/old2/providers/industryadvice/training_demand_profiles/ECA_Skills_Plan.pdf
- Join the Skills Plan mailing list for newsletters & updates. Send an email to: roger.skillsplantas@earlychildhood.org.au
- Keep an eye out for Skills Plan Meetings, the first ones are being held in Launceston & Burnie on the 31st July & 1st August.

Increased Funding for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Grants

The Australian Government has recently announced increased funding for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) grants for eligible early childhood educators in regional and remote locations (all of Tasmania qualifies). RPL grants of up to \$3,500 (increased from \$1,125) are now available for eligible early childhood educators as a contribution to the costs associated with undertaking an RPL assessment for Certificate III, Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Children's Services.

deewr.gov.au/recognition-prior-learning-early-childhood-educators

Sector Website of the month

mychild.gov.au 

Here you will find information and links to useful websites about children's health and wellbeing, parenting and family support services. It also contains details of the Australian Government's early childhood agenda.

Dates to remember

July

31st Skills Plan Update & Future Planning Meeting
Launceston– 9.30-1.30

August

1st Skills Plan Update & Future Planning Meeting
Burnie - 9.30-1.30

19th Roundtable - Campbelltown 10-3

September

10 New CHC&HLT Training Package Implementation Workshop - Hobart (Registration is now open at www.cshisc.com.au)

Service Profile

Let's celebrate the diversity that exists within our sector - have your service profiled in this space. Send a photo and a brief snapshot of your service; where you are located, how many children you educate and tell us any thing that is unique about your service or learning environment. Share with the sector any successes you are having in work force development.



**National Quality Standard
Professional Learning Program**

The *Early Years Learning Framework* (EYLF) and the *National Quality Standard* (NQS) require educators to plan programs for children and to document their plans. The recent newsletter focuses on planning for children's learning. It follows directly from the last one which focused on noticing and recording children's learning.

Subscribe to the NQS PLP e-Newsletter by simply sending an email to nqsplp@earlychildhood.org.au

Cheers

Roger & Helen

ECA Tasmania Project Development Officers
roger.skillsplantas@earlychildhood.org.au
helensimmons1@gmail.com