

FAMILY DAY CARE AUSTRALIA

2018 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

GOLD COAST CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE
6-8 SEPTEMBER 2018

Embracing our strengths

FINAL
PROGRAM
INSIDE

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Family DAY CARE AUSTRALIA

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Welcome from the CEO

Andrew Paterson



Welcome everyone to the Family Day Care Australia (FDCA) 2018 National Conference.

The FDCA National Conference has a proud tradition of bringing together stakeholders from across the family day care and early childhood education and care sector to connect and discuss a variety of key issues that are impacting the sector.

Together we will explore and embrace the unique strengths of family day care, celebrate the centrality of children across all aspects of our pedagogy and practice, examine the issues and opportunities facing the sector and consider future directions for family day care in supporting the diverse and evolving needs of Australian children and families.

This year in September, on Queensland's Gold Coast we will provide a platform to reflect on the sector's journey to date, share unique stories, celebrate its diversity and inspire innovative approaches to our practise going forward.

The conference themes of Professional Practice, Relationships, Flexibility, Autonomy and Diversity and Social Support reflect the areas that were identified in the *Perspectives on quality in Australian*

Family Day Care report as being key aspects of quality as identified by families, educators and coordination unit staff.

It is these themes that have influenced a diverse range of plenary, workshop and panel sessions that will be hosted by academics, policy leaders, sector representatives and sector experts, with tailored content for educators and services alike.

Along with a world class program that features speakers such as Maria Aarts, Dr Sandy Farquhar and Hayley Lewis, delegates will also have the opportunity to view the latest products and services with a dedicated exhibition to feature throughout the duration of the conference.

The conference will conclude with a not to be missed gala dinner, which will also feature the presentation of the 2018 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards; our opportunity to celebrate the work and outstanding achievements of our sector and the incredible contributions made by family day care educators and services everyday.

We look forward to seeing you on the Gold Coast this September!

Conference Themes

Flexibility

Flexibility in family day care extends beyond the ability to offer non-standard or irregular hours of care. The family day care model additionally allows for flexible approaches to programming and activities for individual children.

Professional Practice

Professional practice is at the core of educator and services' visions, planning and daily practice.

Relationships

Strong relationships underpin the practices of family day care services. Relationships are not only important to the daily interactions between educators and children, they are also at the core of the systems and processes inherent in a family day care service.

Autonomy

Autonomy is apparent in approaches to early learning for educators. For educators, it is important to encourage children, as individuals, to develop autonomy and give them opportunities to make choices about their own day and their own environment.

Diversity and Social Support

Whether it is through diversity of educational philosophies, approaches or a diversity of educators, family day care is able to provide children and families with not only high quality education and care but also a range of social support services.

Conference Packages

A range of flexible ticketing options have been designed to ensure that FDCA members are able to purchase the conference package that suits their needs.

To purchase your FDCA 2018 National Conference ticket visit www.fdcconference.com.au or call 1800 658 699

TICKET TYPE FULL REGISTRATION

TICKET INCLUSIONS
Welcome function
Friday and Saturday
Conferencing
Exhibition access
Gala dinner

FDCA MEMBER PRICE
\$765.00

NON-MEMBER PRICE
\$899.00

TICKET TYPE SINGLE DAY REGISTRATION

TICKET INCLUSIONS
One day of conferencing
(Friday or Saturday)
Single day exhibition
access

PRICE
\$495.00

TICKET TYPE GALA DINNER ONLY

TICKET INCLUSIONS
Gala Dinner

PRICE
\$132.00

TICKET TYPE WELCOME FUNCTION ONLY

TICKET INCLUSIONS
Welcome function

PRICE
\$95.00

*All prices include GST and ticket fees.

FDCA 2018 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Thursday, 6 September 2018

Time	Front Desk	Hall One
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Registrations	
6:00pm - 8:00pm		Welcome Function

Friday, 7 September 2018

Time	Arena 1B	Room A	Room B	Room C
8:30am - 8:40am	Welcome to Country			
8:40am - 8:55am	CEO Welcome Andrew Paterson			
8:55am - 9:15am	VIP Address			
9:15am - 10:15am	Keynote Address Maria Aarts - Founder and Director of the Marte Meo International Network Topic: Marte Meo golden gift learning sets			
10:15am - 11:00am	Morning Tea - Hall One			
11:00am - 12:30pm	WORKSHOPS			
	Maria Aarts - Founder and Director of the Marte Meo International Network Topic: Marte Meo Developmental checklists: Reading the developmental message behind special behaviour Themes: Professional Practice, Relationships, Diversity and Social Support.	Dr Sandy Farquhar - Director of Early Childhood Education at the University of Auckland Topic: My Home. My Body Theme: Professional Practice	Perry Campbell - Deputy National Education Leader & General Manager Educational Leadership, ACECQA Topic: Say as I do – The art of articulation Themes: Professional Practice, Relationships	Peta McNellie - Executive Manager, Family Day Care Association Queensland Topic: Recruiting for quality Theme: Professional Practice
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch - Hall One			
1:30pm - 2:15pm	WORKSHOPS			
	Dr Angela Fenton and Nicky Spalding - Charles Sturt University Topic: A strengths approach to child protection education in family day care Themes: Relationships, Diversity and Social Support	Merinda Meares and Olwen Forker - Choices Family Day Care, BackChat Speech Pathology Topic: Early intervention with a twist: a Neuroscience-based approach to closing the 30 Million Word gap Themes: Professional Practice, Flexibility	Vicki Cook - Administration Officer Camden Family Day Care Topic: The Value of Effective Administrative Practices Themes: Professional Practice, Relationships, Autonomy	Robyn Henderson - Global Networking Specialist, author and Ghost Writer, Networking to Win Topic: Dare to dream - self esteem and confidence building for busy people Themes: Autonomy, Relationships
2:15pm - 2:30pm	Short Break			
2:30pm - 3:15pm	WORKSHOPS			
	Luisa Morfe and Dale Austin - Kentish Lifelong Learning and Care Topic: Beyond tokenism is making a difference Themes: Diversity and Social Support, Flexibility, Relationships	Caroline Fewster - Early Childhood Education Consultant and Adjunct Professor, Bond University Topic: Contemporary play and learning possibilities designed for babies and toddlers Themes: Professional Practice, Flexibility, Autonomy	Andrea Darley - Service Liaison Officer - Family Day Care Australia Topic: Relationships in family day care Themes: Relationships, Professional Practice	Mike Roberts - Partner, Vardanega Roberts Solicitors Topic: Managing Risk in family day care Theme: Professional Practice
3:15pm - 3:45pm	Afternoon Tea - Hall One			
3:45pm - 5:15pm	Panel Discussion Topic: Embracing our strengths for our future			
5:15pm - 5:30pm	Day one wrap up			

FULL PROGRAM

Saturday, 8 September 2018

Time	Arena 1B	Room A	Room B	Room C
8:30am - 8:45am	Day two welcome			
8:45am - 9:45am	Keynote Address Hayley Lewis Three-time Olympian, entrepreneur, author			
9:45am - 10:30am	Morning Tea - Hall One			
10:30am - 12:00pm	WORKSHOPS			
	Maria Aarts - Founder and Director of the Marte Meo International Network Topic: Marte Meo Developmental checklists: Reading the developmental message behind special behaviour Themes: Professional Practice, Relationships, Diversity and Social Support.	Catharine Hydon - Early Childhood Road Safety Education Program Topic: Starting Out Safely: Embracing an innovative approach to road safety education for family day care Theme: Professional Practice	Lisa Palethorpe - Early Learning Capability National Manager, Goodstart Early Learning Topic: Our Image as an early childhood education and care leader working in family day care Theme: Professional Practice	Diedre Knight - DECD Central Metro Family Day Care Scheme Topic: A heart centered approach to environmental sustainability in early childhood education and care Themes: Professional Practice, Diversity and Social Support
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch - Hall One			
1:00pm - 1:45pm	WORKSHOPS			
	Megan Blaxland - Research Fellow, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales Topic: Aspects of quality in family day care Themes: Professional practice, Relationships, Flexibility, Autonomy, Diversity and social support	Jennifer Ribarovski - Managing Director, JR Education and Consulting Services Topic: Children's autonomy - more than just chicken or beef Themes: Autonomy, Flexibility	Dr Michelle Brady - Senior Research Fellow, University Queensland Topic: Families' Experiences of Childcare Flexibility/Inflexibility in a 24/7 Economy Themes: Flexibility, Relationships, Diversity and Social Support	Australian Government Department of Education and Training Topic: The Australian Government's Inclusion Support Programme (ISP) – reflections on principles and best practice in family day care Theme: Professional Practice
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Keynote Three - Sandy Farquhar Topic: Conceptions of home – an exploration of wellbeing and belonging			
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea - Hall One			
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Panel Discussion Topic: What is quality in family day care?			
4:30pm - 4:45pm	Day two wrap up Announcement of 2021 conference location			

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Saturday, 8 September 2018

Time	Arena 2
7:00pm - 11:00pm	Conference Gala Dinner Including the 2018 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards presentation

*Conference program is subject to change.

www.fdcaconference.com.au

Keynote Speakers

FDCA is pleased to present a world class line-up of keynote speakers for the FDCA 2018 National Conference.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Maria Aarts



Founder and Director of the Marte Meo International Network (Holland)

Topic: Marte Meo golden gift learning sets

After working in 1974 as a specialist for children with autism in a residential Child Psychiatry Institute in the Netherlands, Maria had an epiphany from an interaction with a child with autism and his mother which led to the development of Marte Meo program.

Marte Meo is a film-based interaction analysis basic information program that is used in over 43 countries, which provides detailed and practical information to parents, carers and professionals on supporting the social, emotional and communication development of children, in daily interaction moments.

The aim of the Marte Meo programme is to identify, activate and develop supportive interactions that will support the child's developmental process in daily interaction moments.

The Family Day Care Australia 2018 National Conference will provide delegates with a rare, first-hand experience to delve into the Marte Meo program with Maria.

Dr Sandy Farquhar



Director of Early Childhood Education at the University of Auckland

Topic: Conceptions of home – an exploration of wellbeing and belonging

Dr Sandy Farquhar is Director of Early Childhood Education in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Auckland. Sandy began her career as a kindergarten teacher in New Zealand, then worked in publishing for six years before returning to her career in education.

She has taught at the University for more than fifteen years across a range of programmes in liberal arts and early childhood teacher education. Her current interests are in embodied teaching, wellbeing and teachers' work.

Sandy has published widely in the areas of early childhood and narrative theories. Her main research area is philosophy of early childhood education. She has a variety of teaching and research interests including early childhood curriculum and pedagogy, philosophy of education, early childhood politics and policy, childhood studies and theories of narrative identity

Hayley Lewis



Olympian, entrepreneur and Australian icon

FDCA is excited to announce that three-time Olympian, Hayley Lewis will be joining us as a guest speaker at the FDCA 2018 National Conference.

Hayley rose to fame in 1990 by winning five gold medals at the Auckland Commonwealth Games. Not only is Hayley a well known Australian icon, she is passionate about empowering women to be entrepreneurs.

Having embarked on several business ventures of her own, Hayley was inspired to write her first book "Dream, Believe, Create. A Woman's Guide to Small Business." Hayley's book is a no-fuss, simple guide to starting a business from the ground up, while staying motivated and maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

For more speaker and workshop information visit www.fdcaconference.com.au

Workshop Summaries

The FDCA 2018 National Conference will provide delegates with the opportunity to attend a diverse range of workshop sessions that will be hosted by academics, policy leaders, sector representatives and sector experts, with tailored sessions for educators and services alike. See below for a summary of the conference workshops.

Friday, 7 Sep 2018 11.00am – 12.30pm

Maria Aarts - Founder and Director of the Marte Meo International Network

Marte Meo Developmental checklists: Reading the developmental message behind special behaviour

This workshop will demonstrate how the Marte Meo developmental checklists support early learning. Marte Meo observes special behaviour with a special focus and with the help of the Marte Meo developmental checklists, this session will explore the skills that some children can be missing, which impact their ability to interact with other children.

Dr Sandy Farquhar – Director of Early Childhood Educations at the University of Auckland

My Home, My Body

Our bodies are home to our emotions, our senses, our selves. This interactive workshop will explore ways to care for ourselves during our busy lives caring for others. Principles of mindfulness will be discussed and hands-on activities shared, with the aim of introducing participants to some simple practices that may reduce stress and enhance personal wellbeing.

Perry Campbell – Deputy Educational Leader and General Manager Educational Leadership, ACECQA

Say as I do – the art of articulation

There is great value in the work that educators do, sometimes the challenge can be in being able to articulate practice. This session will explore strategies to better articulate the work educators do in providing quality outcomes for children and families.

Peta McNellie – Executive Manager, Family Day Care Association Queensland

Recruiting for Quality

This session is for coordination unit staff who have the responsibility for leading recruitment in their service. It will support participants to build skills and capacity in planning for how they attract and engage the right educator, whilst developing the foundations for their retention and growth.

Friday, 7 Sep 2018 1.30pm – 2.15pm

Dr Angela Fenton – Senior Lecturer and Associate Head – School of Education, Charles Sturt University

Nicky Spalding – Early Childhood Educations and Care Facilitator and Consultant

A strengths approach to child protection education in family day care

Focusing on children's and families' strengths can be an effective way to prepare for the complex child protection responsibilities as a family day care educator. In the workshop the presenters will outline the outcomes of a Charles Sturt University Community-Partnerships Grant. The grant was used to develop a Strengths Approach (McCashen, 2005) to child protection preparation training.

The presenters will elaborate on the development of a resource kit and training that was designed to help embed a strengths-based perspective into the current child protection training being offered to family day care educators and staff.

Merinda Meares – Educational Leader, Choices Family Day Care

Olwen Forker – Paediatric Speech Pathologist, BackChat Speech Pathology

Early intervention with a twist: a Neuroscience-based approach to closing the 30 Million Word gap

Talking, reading and playing in the early years is crucial to the brain development of children. This session will introduce the BackChat Speech Pathology Early Tears programme, Baby BackChat.

Vicki Cook – Administration Officer, Camden Family Day Care

The value of effective administrative practices

Staff who perform administrative roles within the sector operate a diverse range of functions; they are the first point of contact for potential families and educators, provide ongoing training and support for educator business practices and legislative requirements, manage systems and processes to ensure the effective daily operations of the service and at times find ourselves as an incidental counsellor in emotional and sensitive situations. The focus of the presentation will include aspects of the elements drawn from the UNSW research commissioned by FDCA (Perspectives on quality in Australian family day care) and how they relate to the administration responsibilities/roles for services and educators.

Robyn Henderson – Global Networking Specialist, Author and Ghost Writer, Networking to Win

Dare to dream - Self esteem and confidence building for busy people

Low self esteem can be experienced by directors, managers, supervisors, family day care educators, parents and the children in their care. Everyone experiences low self-esteem and confidence at some time in their life – it's just that people rarely speak about it – until now.

Friday, 7 Sep 2018 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Luisa Morfe – Managing Director, Kentish Lifelong Learning and Care Inc
Dale Austin – Heritage and Cultural Advisor, Kentish Lifelong Learning and Care Inc

Beyond tokenism to making a difference

In this session, Luisa and Dale will share the lessons they have learned in the last four years as they have built Cultural and Heritage programs for the Kentish educators and staff. You will learn how to:

- Go beyond tokenism – by identifying tokenism examples in your service and creating alternate options;
- Be aware of the do's and don'ts when setting up your own Cultural and Heritage program from scratch;
- Incorporate Cultural and Heritage initiatives into your induction programs; and
- Convince your management of the three main reasons why engaging a part time Cultural and Heritage officer is well worth the investment for your service.

Caroline Fewster – Early Childhood Education Consultant and Adjunct Professor at Bond University

Contemporary play and learning possibilities especially designed for babies and toddlers

Drawing on contemporary approaches to early childhood environments. This program highlights visions and values considered to be excellent practice values that promote a sense of place for meaningful relationships and learning, and spaces especially designed as an invitation for babies and toddlers to explore, discover and experience the joy of a family day care setting.

Andrea Darley – Service Liaison Officer, Family Day Care Australia
Perspectives on Quality Workshop – Relationships in Family Day Care

Utilising the resource titled "Perspectives on Quality – Relationships" we will examine why positive relationships are essential for high quality in family day care.

Mike Roberts – Partner, Vardanega Roberts Solicitors

Managing risk in family day care

Vardanega Roberts Solicitors have been providing advice to the family day care sector for over 13 years. This session will focus on topical legal issues that arise for family day care educators in the course of running their business that Vardanega Roberts Solicitors are currently advising on.

Saturday, 8 Sept 2018 10.30pm – 12.00pm

Maria Aarts - Founder and Director of the Marte Meo International Network

Marte Meo Developmental checklists: Reading the developmental message behind special behaviour

This workshop will demonstrate how the Marte Meo developmental checklists support early learning. Marte Meo observes special behaviour with a special focus and with the help of the Marte Meo developmental checklists, this session will explore the skills that some children can be missing, which impact their ability to interact with other children.

Catharine Hydon – Early Childhood Road Safety Education Program

Starting Out Safely: Embracing an innovative approach to road safety education for family day care

This presentation will explore how family day care educators can embed road safety education in their everyday practice and thereby offering children and their families the best chance at becoming safer road users.

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Saturday, 8 Sep 2018 10.30pm – 12.00pm (continued)

Lisa Palthorpe – Early Learning Capability National Manager, Goodstart Early Learning

Our image as an early childhood education and leader working in family day care

Participants will engage in hands-on learning experiences to consider their image as an early childhood education and care leader. This session will explore 'who you are' as a leader and how your leadership impacts early learning. Additionally we will consider how your identity as a leader influences your everyday practice.

Diedre Knight – Educator, DECD Central Metro Family Day Care Scheme

A heart centred approach to environmental sustainability in early childhood education and care

2016-17 FDCA Excellence Fund recipient, Deidre Knight, will present a summary and the findings of her "Heart Centred Approach to Education for Sustainability within the Family Day Care Sector" project. Participants included 8 educators, 17 children and 3 coordinators. Over seven, 2 hour sessions participants considered their place in the world, sustaining self and the community, nature play, resource management, purchasing choices, chemical free environments as well as how to reduce their energy and water usage.

Saturday, 8 Sep 2018 1.00pm – 1.45pm

Megan Blaxland – Research Fellow, University of NSW Social Policy Research Centre

Aspects of quality in family day care

This presentation will review the findings of Perspectives on Quality in Australian Family Day Care, a project conducted by the Social Policy Research Centre on behalf of FDCA. It draws on case studies at six high quality services, incorporating interviews with families, educators, coordination unit staff and representatives from managing organisations, comprising a total of 44 interviews with 52 people. The findings revealed a wide range of strategies to support high quality service delivery through professional practice, relationships, flexibility, autonomy and diversity.

Jennifer Ribarovski – Managing Director, JR Education Consulting Services

Children's autonomy – more than just chicken or beef

This session will provide an accessible and practical overview of the underpinning research that tells us that providing for children's autonomy in the curriculum bring positive learning and development outcomes for children. The approved learning frameworks, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the guiding principles of the National Quality Framework will be explored through this lens.

Dr Michelle Brady – Senior Research Fellow, University of Queensland

Families' Experiences of Childcare Flexibility/Inflexibility in a 24/7 Economy

In recent years, we have heard many stakeholders claim that we need more flexible childcare. But what does 'flexible childcare' mean and is inflexible childcare experienced? Outcomes of the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Childcare and Early Childhood Learning and results of the Flexible Child Care Trials suggest that families, service providers, and policymakers have different perspectives on what childcare flexibility means and how we might achieve it.

Australian Government Department of Education and Training

The Australian Government's Inclusion Support Programme (ISP) – reflections on principles and best practice in family day care

The ISP's third year of operation provides an opportunity for reflection and to showcase best practice in inclusion planning and capacity building in family day care services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

about the FDCA 2018 National Conference visit

www.fdcconference.com.au or call 1800 658 699