### Wheels on the Bus Tour

Saturday, 18 June 2022



"Around here, we don't look Backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things Because we're Curious. And Curiosity keeps leading us down new Paths." Walt Disney

## code of conduct

As a participant on the ACA NSW Wheels on the Bus Tour, you have agreed to abide by the following:

- 1. Be respectful of the property (including intellectual property) of the services visited. Such property cannot be copied, replicated nor disurbed without permission.
- 2. Be respectful of the staff of the services visited. Do not invate their privacies or compromise their properties.
- 3. Be respectful of the children and families of the services visited. Any digital recordings via camera, video, etc, can not be taken of any children's names or faces.
- 4. Be respectful of the instructions of the services visited. Any room that is locked or the door is shut or signs indicating that such door(s) ought to be shut, must be closed or not be opened without permission from the services visited.
- 5. Be respectful of each other on the bus tour, including the views/opinions of the services visited.



## Hinerary

08:15 Welcome & Registration All aboard! 08:50 09:00 Drive to All Star Early Learning, Botany 10:00 Tour All Star Early Learning + Morning Tea 11:00 Drive to Little Angels, Pagewood Green Tour Little Angels, Pagewood Green 11:15 12:15 Drive to North Ryde RSL Lunch 12:45 14:30 Drive to KindiKids, Ryde Tour KindiKids, Ryde 14:45 15:45 Drive to ACA NSW, Parramatta End of Wheels on the Bus 16:10



SERVICE APPROVAL: 22 May 2009

**APPROVED PLACES: 48** 

March 2019 **RATING ISSUED:** 

ALL STAR I

Quality Area 2: Meeting NQS
Quality Area 3: Exceeding NQS Quality Area 4: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 5: Meeting NQS

Quality Area 1:

Quality Area 6: Exceeding NQS Quality Area 7: Exceeding NQS

**EARLY YEARS CARE & PRESCHOOL** 

All Star Early Learners was established in 2007 in Botany, previously licensed for 31 children, 0 -5 years. The centre had a minor refurbishment in 2007, then underwent a major renovation in 2013 to transform the upstairs residence into what is now used as a the preschooler's room. It is now licensed for 48 children. The staff team consists of 20 professionals with a shared vision for practices in the best interest of each child. The team consists of:

- 4x Early Childhood Teachers
- 7 Diploma trained educators
- 3 Certificate III educators and
- our own in-house cook
- admin staff

All Star Learners was born when ownermanagers Michelle and Jason started their young family of three children and were looking for a nurturing, stimulating and fun home-away-fromhome environment for them. Given they hadn't found exactly what they were looking for, Michelle and Jason sold their family home to invest in the new venture of acquiring an old, run down child care centre in Botany which had failed to be accredited at the time of purchase. Seizing the opportunity, they went 'all in' to develop a quality early learning service.

In 2012, All Star opened their first OSHC service, Star Club, at a nearby primary school. By 2015 the business was operating 6 OSHC centres in nearby schools.

With time, hard work and a committed team, this shared vision of a 'strong sense of family' has provided an environment that is nurturing, connected and enjoyable for families and staff. We invest in retaining staff for the long haul, so rather than employing new trainees regularly or turning over staff once they complete their studies, our educators are developed and mentored into leadership roles and higher level responsibilities. The benefits are professional growth for our early childhood practitioners and continuity of care for our families.

Our program is based on learning from the community, the program genuinely being a true reflection of our Vision: "to serve the community, bring people together and encourage individuals to be their best".

This can be seen in action through our Beach Kindy program, school transition visits, ongoing excursions for children of all ages (including babies), and having experts and community members regularly visit the children to share knowledge.

We are innovative thinkers, where "out of the box" solutions are encouraged to solve problems as they arise. We gather feedback for problemsolving from families, staff and children to engage all stakeholders, as it is their service after all. One example is trialling a "Family dinner service" to support parents through the hardship of the COVID pandemic

Social Justice partnerships have continued to strengthen, where our work with Pantry 4 The People and The Movement homeless shelter have become embedded projects all year round. These projects have taught our children (and adults!) to become responsible contributors to our society.









Host for the day

Michelle Bouabaid

Approved Provider/Director



SERVICE APPROVAL: 20 Feb 2019 APPROVED PLACES: 91

APPROVED PLACES: 91

RATING ISSUED: September 2020



Quality Area 1: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 2: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 3: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 4: Meeting NQS
Quality Area 5: Meeting NQS
Quality Area 6: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 7: Meeting NQS

Little Angels is a service which focuses on relationships with children, families and the wider community.

Kelsey, our owner and approved provider, is often busy networking and making connections with other childcare centres, primary schools, speech and language therapists, sports professionals, libraries etc to ensure our children get the very best start in life.

We also have a strong relationship with the Gujaga Foundation who we work alongside to ensure we respectfully embed cultural perspectives within our curriculums. Through networking, we continuously reflect as a service and make change where necessary.

The growth and development of our educators is also key to ensuring we evolve as a team. We support our educators to take on further studies and pay for professional development and further training. We employ trainees and support them through their qualification by assigning them an experienced mentor who meets with them once a month to discuss short term and long term goals.

We currently have amazing educators who started their journey with us at Little Angels as trainees who have now progressed to a room leader role and about to finish their Bachelor of Education.

As a management team we reflected on what we could do to ensure we were exceeding each of the quality standards and decided to appoint coordinators. We now have five fantastic coordinators; WHS coordinator, inclusion support coordinator, wellness coordinator, outdoor coordinator and sustainability coordinator.

Each of our coordinators is allocated time off the floor each week to plan activities, support the team, organise learning environments, purchase resources, write up columns for the monthly newsletters etc. The overall culture and morale of Little Angels is what sets us aside.

Our educators are happy, positive and motivated in their roles and for that reason our staff turn over rate is minimal. We also have a great management team who are dedicated to guiding and supporting the team.

Our management team meet weekly to reflect, discuss, share ideas etc. As a service, Little Angels strives to make the transition to care for families as smooth and as convenient as possible.

We offer a fantastic school readiness program to prepare children for their transition to primary school. We host school readiness information nights whereby we invite principles and school teachers from our local primary schools to share some useful information with our parents on how they can best prepare their children for their transition to school. We invite children to participate in Crunch N Sip to get them used to using a lunch box. We also invite children to wear their school uniform for a week.

Communication as a team is key for us to ensure we are all working collaboratively. We have a Little Angels resource Facebook page whereby we share ideas, activities, resources, reflections etc. We also have a staff Facebook page where we communicate our updates for the week and answer reflective questions, which allows for staff bonding and a chance to hear our educators voices.

We are a family run business, with our owners, Kelsey (Approved Provider & Nominated Supervisor) Kylie (Kelseys mum) who completed her traineeship at the centre in 2019 and today does all the behind the scenes such as organisation of our celebration days and all our events & Lito (Kelsey's dad) who too did his traineeship in 2019 and today overseas the kitchen, maintenance of the two Little Angels Centres and covers staff lunch breaks when needed.

Kelsey's grandparents also run a "grandparents program" where they engage in meaningful experiences with the children such as gardening, storytelling & boardgames (their favourite).









Host for the day Kelsey Villareal Centre Director





SERVICE APPROVAL: 27 February 2018

**APPROVED PLACES: 106** 

RATING ISSUED: October 2019



At Kindikids Early Learning Centres we believe in providing an Early Childhood Education and Care environment that supports children, families and staff develop a strong sense of being, belonging and becoming. Setting a strong basis for lifelong education.

Rooted in family values, Kindikids is privately owned and operated. In 2022, we proudly celebrate 25 years of excellence in the Early Childhood Education & Care sector across Sydney.

We are committed to ensuring the highest level of care and education in a welcoming, trusted and quality learning environment.

Founding owners and Approved Providers, Fay and George Costi, established Kindikids Early Learning Centres in 1997 after recognising the need to provide quality Early Childhood Education and Care services to Edensor Park and the surrounding community.

As parents to young children at the time, they noticed a gap in the market as they could not find a Child Care Centre that met their personal expectations of excellence and quality care from the heart. With previous business experience, fuelled by passion to offer the best quality education and care for each and every child, they established Kindikids Early Learning Centres.

The founding priority was and still remains the safety and wellbeing of children. Giving them the best start in life in an environment that they feel they belong to and are happy to be a part of -something Kindkids will never compromise on.

Kindikids ELC was quick to gain recognition in the local area, and in 1998 Centre 2 was established. In 2004 to continue to support increasing demand from the local community Kindikids Centre 3 was purposely build and opened. After two decades providing quality education and care in Edensor Park, in 2018 Kindikids expanded to open a state-of-the-art centre at Ryde.

Despite the business growth over the last two decades, Kindkids values remain true. When asked to reflect on the growth and success of Kindikids over the years, founding owner, Fay Costi commented, "We are so humbled and proud for these incredible years. Challenging but rewarding in so many ways. We have definitely learnt so much and grown by this experience. The most important lesson of all is how important our decisions define us, not just as successful business owners but human beings and role models to the children (including our own), staff and the community. We could not have achieved this without the commitment and support of our incredible team and families."



Host for the day
Rebekah Salamatou
General Manager



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We can even engage the services of Meridian Lawyers, where legal support is needed



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