



EXCELLENCE IN
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION AWARDS



Entries close
23rd August 2023

Celebration Dinner
Saturday 21st October 2023

Presented by



Royal Celebration Dinner

Saturday 21st October 2023

The Grand Ballroom, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth



An evening fit for queens, kings, princesses, princes, duchesses, dukes,
and all early childhood educators and teachers.



EXCELLENCE IN
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION AWARDS

Rewarding Excellence in Early Childhood Education

It is time to showcase your service and reap the rewards in being recognised for the dedication you and your team have for your children and families.

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards acknowledge programs, services, leaders, teams and trainees. There is a wide array of categories, so everyone may enter.

Services are invited to submit for categories by answering the criteria questions. The winners are selected by an independent panel of expert judges who are representatives of the diversity of early childhood education. The judges will have the knowledge and experience to assess each entry according to its objectives.

The winners will be announced at a themed Royal Celebration Dinner on 21st October, where the awards will be presented at the Grand Ballroom, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth. This evening has become the major event for the Australian Childcare Alliance New South Wales and will be a sell-out.

There is no feeling more exciting and rewarding for you and your team, than your service being announced as an award winner. This is the opportunity to be recognised and express your appreciation to your team for a job well done.

We invite you to fully embrace this important initiative. I encourage you to enter and inspire your creativity and your sense of fun, in making these awards a special one for your children, their families and the community at large.

Steve Loe
Awards Manager
Excellence in
Early Childhood
Education Awards

Presented By



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EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AWARDS

The Simple Process & Important Dates

Each year, the Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards are your services', your educators' and your teachers' opportunity to be recognised. Being publicly recognised, enables you to communicate your invaluable contributions to your families and local communities.

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards is open to all NSW-based long day care services.

Services may also submit for a wide array of Excellence Awards for their programs and activities, as well as Awards for individuals and teams.

All Awards' categories correspond to the period from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2023. The full list of categories is included in this Official Guide.

Important Dates

Nominations for Awards Open	23rd May 2023
Nominations for Awards Close	23rd August 2023
Finalists Announced	14th September 2023
Awards & Royal Celebration Dinner	21st October 2023

How to complete your nomination

1. Activities or programs must have been conducted during 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2023.
2. Review the Award categories and decide which categories best suit your nominations to be recognised.
3. Each nomination should respond to all specific questions within the category criteria.
4. Ensure you include a minimum of four high resolution photos that illustrate each category entered.
5. Include additional supporting material such as reports, testimonials or press cuttings to back up statements made in your submission(s).

All entries and materials will remain confidential and will be viewed only by judges and managers of the Awards. At the end of the judging process, all judges materials will be destroyed.

Awards Categories

Metropolitan Services Excellence Awards

1. Large Private Metropolitan Service (40 places or more)
2. Small Private Metropolitan Service (39 places or less)
3. Large Community Metropolitan Service (40 places or more)
4. Small Community Metropolitan Service (39 places or less)

Regional & Rural Services Excellence Awards

5. Large Private Regional Service (40 places or more)
6. Small Private Regional Service (39 places or less)
7. Large Community Regional Service (40 places or more)
8. Small Community Regional Service (39 places or less)

Excellence Awards

9. Excellence in Educational Program & Practice
10. Excellence in Physical Environment
11. Excellence in Partnerships with Families & Communities
12. Excellence in Inclusivity
13. Excellence in Children's Health & Safety
14. Excellence in Food & Nutrition

Excellence in Training

15. Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
16. Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care

Excellence in People

17. Team Excellence Award - Metropolitan Service
18. Team Excellence Award - Regional/Rural Service
19. Female Educator Excellence Award
20. Male Educator Excellence Award
21. Educational Leader Excellence Award
22. Young Female Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)
23. Young Male Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)

2023 Children's Outcomes

24. Outcome 1 – Physical Health & Well-Being
25. Outcome 2 – Social Competence
26. Outcome 3 – Emotional Maturity
27. Outcome 4 – Language & Cognitive Skills
28. Outcome 5 – Communication Skills & General Knowledge





Official Awards Entry Form

- The Official Entry Form must be included as the front page for each category entry
- Services may enter as many categories as they wish.
- Services must provide a separate entry for each awards category being entered.
- Entries which have not indicated category number or category name will not be accepted.

1. Category Please refer to the category list. ONE category per entry.

Category Number: _____ Category Name: _____

Name of nominee (categories 15-16 & 19-23): _____

2. Your Details

All fields are mandatory to become eligible for the awards.

Long Daycare Service Name: _____

Contact Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Service Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

3. Criteria Questions

Answer each category question and include a copy of this form on the cover of each category entered.

4. Photos

Every entry must include at least four different photos **relevant to the category**. This could include members of your team integrating with children or community members and they must be relevant to the category.

Photos will be used for the presentation evening. **Every category you enter must have separate photos.**

Submitting photos via email

Photos must be submitted via email.

1. Photos must be emailed to: awards@precedent.net
2. "Awards Photos" must be in the subject field.
3. Name of service and category **must** be included in the email
4. Contact name and phone number must be included in the email.

5. Submitting your completed entry

Submit your entry in one of the following ways:

Email to:
awards@precedent.net

Scan & Submit Online:



Post to:
Excellence in Early Childhood
Education Awards
PO Box H211
Hurlstone Park NSW 2193

Deliver to:
Precedent Productions
Level 1, 30 Floss Street
Hurlstone Park NSW 2193

Entries Close: 11.59pm on Wednesday 23rd August, 2023

For further information, call (02) 8363 3333 or email awards@precedent.net

Excellence Awards

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

Metropolitan Services Excellence Awards

1. Large Private Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
2. Small Private Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)
3. Large Community Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
4. Small Community Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Describe your service including type of service, number of places, age range of children, number of staff. Also include the history and values of the service.
2. Describe your service's approach to education and care.
3. Outline involvement with families and the community.
4. How do you ensure high-quality education and care?
5. What are the plans for your service in the future?
6. Outline the strengths of your service and why you believe it should win this award.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include at least four different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence Awards

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

Regional & Rural Services Excellence Awards

5. Large Private Regional Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
6. Small Private Regional Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)
7. Large Community Regional Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
8. Small Community Regional Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Describe your service including type of service, number of places, age range of children, number of staff. Also include the history and values of the service.
2. Describe your service's approach to education and care.
3. Outline involvement with families and the community.
4. How do you ensure high-quality education and care?
5. What are the plans for your service in the future?
6. Outline the strengths of your service and why you believe it should win this award.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include at least four different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence Awards

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

9. Excellence in Educational Program & Practice
10. Excellence in Physical Environment
11. Excellence in Partnerships with Families & Communities
12. Excellence in Inclusivity
13. Excellence in Children's Health & Safety
14. Excellence in Food & Nutrition

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Describe the aims of your program.
2. What activities did your program involve?
3. What were the benefits and outcomes for children?
4. Outline the benefits to the community.
5. Outline how the team were involved.
6. Why was your program successful?

Photos & Supporting Material

Include at least four different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence in Training

Do you have an outstanding trainee within your organisation? Are they displaying an outstanding commitment to your training and making a difference?

Categories

15. Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
16. Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to be nominated for either of the above awards you must meet the criteria below:

- Must be enrolled or completed the CHC30113 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care or CHC50113 Diploma of Early Childhood Education
- Care qualification with Kool Kids Training College (RTO 40636) in NSW
- Have (or had prior to completion) a registered training contract with the NSW Department of Industry
- Have completed the following criteria questions on separate pages.

Criteria Questions (to be completed by the trainee)

Address the following criteria questions. This must be completed by the nominated trainee.

1. Full Name
2. Trainers Name
3. Qualification you are completing / completed (CHC30113 OR CHC50113)
4. Are you yet to complete the course? (Yes/No)
5. Completion Date (if you have completed your training)
6. Provide a short overview of why you chose to undertake training as an early childhood educator.
7. What has given you the most satisfaction from this decision to become an educator?
8. Provide a short overview that impresses the judges with a WOW moment. It could be an idea you put forward, an experience or event with the children or families that was amazing, an initiative that helped the growth and development of children in an early learning centre.
9. Provide a short overview of how you are going to make a difference in Early Childhood Education in the coming years. Knock it out of the park!

Photos & Supporting Material

Include a portrait photo of just the nominee and at least four different photos of the nominee at the service with activities, or the children. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence in People

These awards go to the teams that have developed and maintained an excellent standard of early childhood learning, showing exceptional group values and a commitment to working together for the common good.

Categories

17. Team Excellence Award - Metropolitan Service

18. Team Excellence Award - Regional Service

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Explain the service's philosophy for building and retaining a high-quality team.
2. What does the team structure look like? Explain each role.
3. What are the service's practices for recruitment, induction and their availability of training and development?
4. How motivated are your team – what evidence do you have?
5. What progression opportunities are there in the service?
6. Outline your service's success during the past year and how the team has contributed to it.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include at least four different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence in People

Categories

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

19. Female Educator Excellence Award

The early childhood education sector depends on the very best educators for its current and future success. This award will be presented to a female educator who has shown outstanding care in developing a thriving, high quality service which delivers a superb educational program for children.

20. Male Educator Excellence Award

The early childhood education sector depends on the very best educators for its current and future success. This award will be presented to a male educator who has shown outstanding care in developing a thriving, high quality service which delivers a superb education program for children.

21. Educator Leader Excellence Award

This Award will go to an Educator who shows the leadership skills required to provide a safe and stimulating environment for children, excellent ability to support and develop other team members, an ability to observe, assess and track children's learning and development, someone who has a high degree of integrity and empathy when dealing with children and is an excellent verbal and written communicator.

22. Young Female Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)

This Award will be given to a young female under the age of 25, who delivers the very best standard of childcare every day. This individual shows that they excel in their personal and team roles, and exhibits enthusiasm, professionalism, confidence and a shining commitment to their on-going career development.

23. Young Male Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)

This Award will be given to a young male under the age of 25, who delivers the very best standard of childcare every day. This individual shows that they excel in their personal and team roles, and exhibits enthusiasm, professionalism, confidence and a shining commitment to their on-going career development.

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. How long has the nominee been employed at the service?
2. What are the nominee's main responsibilities?
3. List the nominee's qualification(s) and training experience.
4. Outline the nominee's substantive contribution they have made through the service.
5. What impact has this person had on children, families, the local community, their colleagues and the early childhood education service and/or sector?
6. What is/are the nominee's unique characteristics that differentiates them from other educators/teachers?

Photos & Supporting Material

Include at least four different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



2023 Children's Outcomes

- 24. Outcome 1 – Physical Health & Well-Being
- 25. Outcome 2 – Social Competence
- 26. Outcome 3 – Emotional Maturity
- 27. Outcome 4 – Language & Cognitive Skills
- 28. Outcome 5 – Communication Skills & General Knowledge

Criteria Questions

Provide examples of programs, activities AND outcomes of a child or children (aged 0-6 years old) in terms of her/his/their improvements (from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2023) in one or more of the outcomes above.

Using the Australian Early Development Census' domains* as references to outcomes, the Criteria Questions are:

1. Describe the aims of your program that relate to the intended outcome.
2. What activities did your program involve, to achieve that outcome?
3. What are the measurable benefits and outcomes for children?
4. Outline the benefits to the community.
5. Outline how the educator(s)/teacher(s) were aligned to your program.
6. Demonstrate those children's parents' appreciation.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include at least four different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.

*www.aedc.gov.au/about-the-aedc/about-the-aedc-domains

Why Services Should Enter?

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards is the only awards program to recognise great achievements within the entire industry in NSW.

Services will reap the benefits; they will:

- Raise the profile of their service both within the sector and publicly.
- Enjoy the significant promotional opportunities as a finalist or winner.
- Benchmark their work – look at it critically through entering and experiencing healthy competition against the top industry players.
- Reward and recognise the team for their hard work.
- The Awards reward examples of best practice, innovation, and quality outcomes within the context of the entry category.

Awards & Royal Celebration Dinner

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards is the culmination of a year's hard work, educating children, with a fitting conclusion celebrated in style. Services, staff, sponsors and dignitaries are invited to attend the Awards & Royal Celebration Dinner, where winners are announced, and the entire industry is brought together to celebrate all things early childhood education.

Services will be enriched with an overwhelmingly positive response. The program aims to leave a constructive impact on many aspects of the services, including:

- Lifting professionalism
- Giving a sense of pride and purpose
- Strengthening teams
- Providing opportunities for staff collaboration
- Providing a sense of achievement





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