



Family Day Care News



Northern Rivers Family Day Care: Autumn 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Transitioning to the new Child Care Subsidy

From 2 July 2018, one new Child Care Subsidy will replace the two current child care payments.

This transition cannot happen automatically.

To transition, you will need to complete an online Child Care Subsidy assessment using your Centrelink online account through myGov. You will be asked to provide some new information and confirm your current details, including:

1. Combined family income
2. Activity level of parents
3. Type of child care service

Throughout April 2018, Centrelink will be writing to all families currently receiving Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate with instructions on completing their online assessment through myGov.

If families do not complete their assessment before 2 July 2018, they may not receive any child care fee assistance.

Child Care Subsidy

The Package includes a new Child Care Subsidy, which replaces the current Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate. The Child Care Subsidy will be paid directly to services.

There are also changes to the annual cap which will make child care more affordable for most families.

Three things will determine a family's level of Child Care Subsidy:

- A family's income will determine the percentage of subsidy they are eligible for
- An activity test will determine how many hours of subsidised care families can access, up to a maximum of 100 per fortnight, and
- The type of child care service will determine the hourly rate cap.

More information about individual subsidy rates and annual cap changes is available in the New Child Care Package brochure.

Some basic requirements must be satisfied for an individual to be eligible to receive Child Care Subsidy for a child. These include:

- the age of the child (must be 13 or under and not attending secondary school)
- the child meeting immunisation requirements
- the individual, or their partner, meeting the residency requirements.



Using myGov

Step 1. Sign in to your myGov account. If you don't have one, you will need to create a myGov account.

Step 2. Link myGov to Centrelink. You can do this under Services.

Step 3. Select Centrelink and complete the Child Care Subsidy Assessment.

The Child Care Safety Net

The Package includes a \$1.2 billion Safety Net to give the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children, as well as those from regional and remote communities, a strong start through access to quality early learning and child care.

Learn More

Estimate what your new Child Care Subsidy might be, go to the Payment and Services Finder. https://www.centrelink.gov.au/custsite_pfe/pymtfinderest/paymentFinderEstimatorPage.jsf?wec-appid=pymtfinderest&wec-locale=en_US#stay

Family Webcast Information Sessions

The Department of Education and Training is hosting three Family Webcast Information Sessions to help families understand what they need to do to transition to the Child Care Subsidy and learn more about the New Child Care Package starting on 2 July 2018.

Families are encouraged to participate in one of the free online sessions. The sessions will step families through the information they need to provide through myGov to transition and learn more about the New Child Care Package.

Families will be able to ask questions or submit comments through the live chat functionality, during the question and answer session.

The sessions will be held at the following times:

- Thursday 19 April 2018 - 7.00pm - 8.30pm AEST
- Thursday 3 May 2018 - 2.30pm - 4.00pm AEST
- Tuesday 15 May 2018 - 8.00pm - 9.30pm AEST

Please register your interest if you would like to participate. <https://mailchi.mp/ec4669cb81cb/family-webcast-information-session>





Family Day Care News

Family Information on e-Signatures

Your Family Day Care service has implemented a new technology platform designed to streamline communication and administration processes with families. One of the important components of this is the introduction of electronic signatures (or e-Signatures). Parents will be signing their children into and out of care using e-Signature technology.

What are e-Signatures

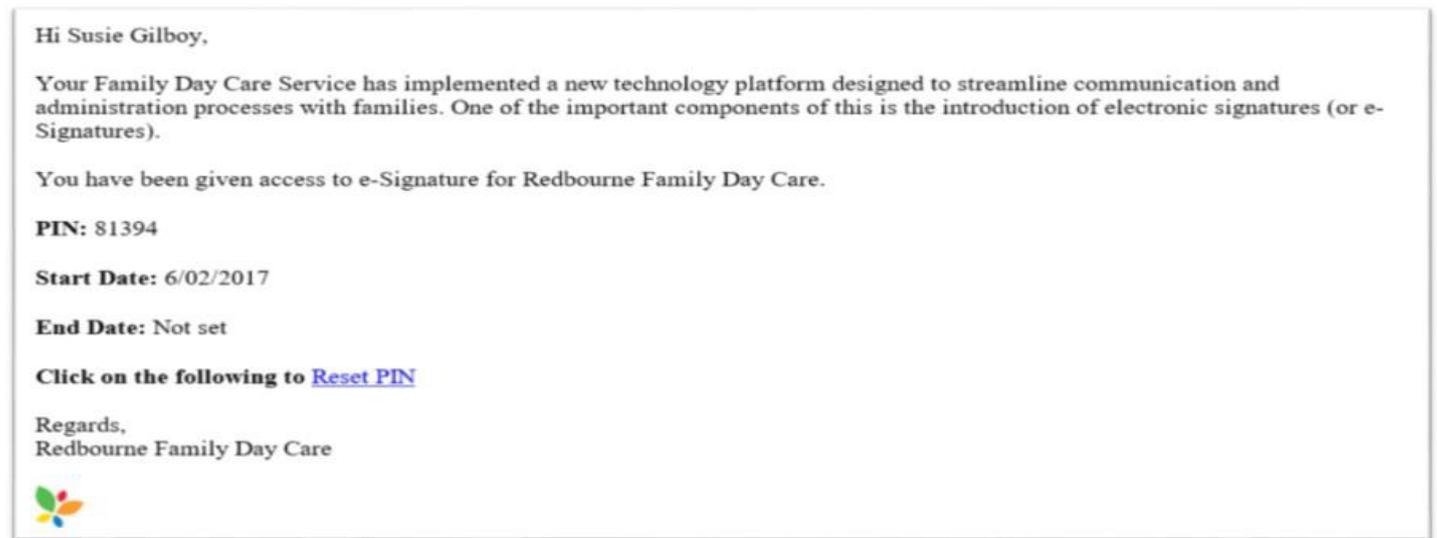
e-Signatures can take many forms. Your Family Day Care service will be using PIN numbers to verify a person's identity when signing child attendances. In some cases signatures, may be captured using a signature pad.

Why Introduce e-Signatures

It is a regulatory requirement that all children are signed into and out of care each day. Moving to e-Signatures is more secure and efficient, greatly reducing the paper pile.

How do I get a PIN

A system generated random PIN will be sent to you via your email address. You have the option of changing this PIN to a number of your choosing. You can change it to any 4 to 8 digit combinations, except for clashing numbers and weak security numbers, such as 1111 or 1234, etc.



PIN Security

Your PIN should never be shared with anyone else. Encryption technology will secure your PIN. If you have forgotten your PIN the Family Day Care service can resend a new random generated number to your email.

Can other people sign in and out?

The registered guardian will be issued with a PIN number. In addition, different PIN numbers can be provided to other persons, nominated by the registered guardian on the enrolment form, with authorisation to collect your children.

Verification E-signatures

Please remember to check the charged hours and fees before you e-sign the timesheet. This verification signature/PIN is certifying the records shown are a true and accurate record for the care provided. Care was provided by an Educator who is authorised to charge and collect fees on behalf of the service. Once you have verified the timesheet, it can not be changed. If there is an error or it needs to be updated for some reason, it will need to be re-verified. Please be aware that it must be a legal parent/guardian verifying the timesheet, not an emergency contact/authorised to collect personnel.





Family Day Care News



Health
Northern NSW
Local Health District

What is StEPS?

The StEPS program is an initiative of NSW Health and offers all 4 year old children free vision screening.

Why would my child need their vision screened?

- Children rarely complain of eye problems
- Children may not realise they can't see well
- Some children can see well with one eye but have very poor vision in the other eye
- Children's eyes may look OK and parents/carers might think that their child can see well but some children might still have a vision problem
- The only way to tell if a child has a vision problem is to have the child's vision tested one eye at a time.

Does my child need their vision screened?

NSW Health advises all children to have their vision screened before they start school and strongly recommends that all 4 year old children participate in the vision screening program.

How can my child access the StEPS program?

Your Local Health District will target preschools and child care centres to offer all four year old children a free vision screening. To have your child's vision screened you will need to complete a consent form and return it to your child's preschool/childcare centre. You can also have your four year old child's vision screened for free through your local Child & Family Health Service.

StEPS Free Vision Screening Catch-Up Clinic Dates 2018

Please call (02) 6620 2836 for an appointment

	<u>Tweed Heads</u>	<u>Kingscliff</u>	<u>Murwillumbah</u>	<u>Ballina</u>	<u>Byron Bay</u>	<u>Goonellabah</u>	<u>Casino</u>	<u>Kyogle</u>
	Paediatric Outpatients Clinic Tweed Heads Hospital Solander Street	Community Health Centre Turnock Street, Kingscliff.	Community Health Centre 8-10 Wol-lumbin Street Cnr of Nul-lum Street	Ballina District Hospital, Solarium Cherry Street	Hospital 54 Ewingsdale Road, Byron Bay Meeting room 2 Ground level	Child and Family Health 37 Oliver Ave, Cnr Cambridge Drive	Child and Family Health Canterbury Street, Casi- no	Community Health Centre Kyogle Community Hospi- tal, 199 Summer- land Way
TERM 2	Thursday 5 th July 8:30-12pm	Thursday 5 th July 1pm-3pm	Friday 6 th July 08:30-Midday	Thursday 5 th July 08:30-1pm	Friday 29 th June 08:30-1pm	Monday 18 th June 08:30-1pm	Friday 29 th June 12:00-2pm	Friday 29 th June 09:30-11:00
TERM 3	Friday 21 st Sept 8:30-12pm	Monday 17 th Sept 8:30-12pm	Friday 28 th September 08:30-Midday	Friday 28 th September 08:30-1pm	Wednesday 26 th Sept 8:30-1pm	Thursday 27 th Sept 08:30-1pm	Tuesday 25 th Sept 09:00-11:00	Tuesday 25 th Sept 12:00-2pm
TERM 4	Friday 2 nd November 8:30-12pm	Tuesday 6 th Novem- ber 8:30-12pm	Friday 9 th November 08:30-Midday		Friday 9 th No- vember 8:30-1pm	Friday 2 nd November 08:30-1pm	Friday 9 th November 9:00-11:00	Friday 9 th No- vember 12:00-2pm





Family Day Care News



Consider being Proactive this winter

to help prevent your children contracting colds and flu's. Talk to your health practitioner about preventative measures i.e. good nutrition, flu vaccinations, immunity boosters, regular hand washing etc.



Please send extra clothes for the cooler months

—the weather can change so quickly on the Northern Rivers. Shoes are also important for protection and warmth. Ask your FDC Educator about suitable footwear for their service.

Sick Children in FDC

To protect our Educators and the children in their care NRCS has clear policies outlining when children, educators and staff will be excluded from the childcare service: Children cannot come into care if they are suffering from vomiting, diarrhoea, high fever, a rash of unknown origin or who presents as obviously unwell at the commencement of care.

Sending children into care with their symptoms masked by medications only increases the risk of Educators and other children in care becoming sick. If your child becomes unwell during the day your educator will advise you of your child's condition ASAP and you may be required to arrange their collection from care. Please contact your Educator prior to care if you are unsure if your child is well enough to come into care.



Amber Teething Beads Safety

Please click on the link below view or listen to this warning about why the beads must be removed while children are sleeping.

<https://www.productsafety.gov.au/publication/consumer-protection-notice-no-35-of-2011-safety-warning-notice-amber-teething-necklaces>

FDC Educators are small business owners and therefore have expenses which must be paid on time. They also rely on their business as their source of income to meet day to day expenses. **Please make sure that payment for childcare is made on time to assist your FDC provider to continue to provide quality childcare for your child. Thank you.**



Free
Event for all Families



The Kinship Festival

Saturday 19th May 2018

10am-3pm Knox Park Murwillumbah

Community Corroboree

Join dance groups across the Bundjalung Nation
in a celebration of Kinship connections

Connect, Share and Participate in the Wisdom and Practice of
Healthy Families, Strong Values and Vibrant Community Culture

For more information: Jarulah or Lara

Ph: 02 6672 3003 M: 0431 951 162

kinship@mccentre.org.au

FREE
Children's Nature Crafts
& Activities All Day

FREE Bush
Tucker Lunch

LIVE MUSIC
OKA
The Mangrove Jack Band



Participate in creating a giant
sand, earth and ochre art
sculpture!



National Families Week



Murwillumbah Communities for Children



Murwillumbah
Community Centre