

Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day. - Dalai Lama

Marjorie Mann



By the Kindy 1 Educators and Children

In case you missed it: Child Care Subsidy hourly rate caps changing from 7 July

The Child Care Subsidy (CCS) hourly rate caps and family income thresholds will go up from 7 July 2025. The hourly rate caps and income thresholds are adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The maximum hourly rate we subsidise is based on the type of care you provide. The 2025–26 hourly rate caps for each care type are outlined below.

Care type	Hourly rate cap for children below school age	Hourly rate cap for school-age children
Centre Based Day Care	\$14.63	\$12.81
Outside School Hours Care	\$14.63	\$12.81
Family Day Care	\$13.56	\$13.56
In Home Care (per family)	\$39.80	\$39.80

Learn more about hourly rate caps and see the rates for second and younger children [on the Department's website](#).

The family income thresholds have also changed according to the CPI, as outlined below:

Family income	Subsidy rate
Up to \$85,279	90%
More than \$85,279 to below \$535,279	Between 90% and 0% The percentage decreases by 1% for every \$5,000 of income a family earns
\$535,279 or more	0%

A family's CCS subsidy rate is the percentage of the hourly rate the government will subsidise.

Read more about [how much CCS a family can get](#) on the Commonwealth Department of Education website.

- ❖ Plastic Free July
- ❖ 7th-11th NAIDOC Week The 2025 theme, "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy,"
- ❖ 16th Music lesson trial
- ❖ 18th Pyjama Day
<https://fundraise.thepyjamafoundation.com/fundraisers/marjoriemannlawleydcarecentre>
- ❖ 28th-31st Early Learning Matter Week

Poster title

Ancestral Lines

Artist

Jeremy Morgan Worrall



Language around mealtimes and food

Ditch the 'good' and 'bad' mindset

It's easier to refer to foods such as vegetables as 'good' and lollies as 'bad'. We naturally do this because we know vegetables have lots of vitamins and minerals for growing bodies, whereas lollies are high in sugar. However, other confusing messages about other foods creep in, especially when kids overhear adult conversations – for example, someone said carbohydrates are 'bad'.

By teaching kids that some foods are 'bad' and some foods are 'good' we are potentially setting them up for a poor relationship with food. All of us (adults included) should be able to eat foods without any shame or guilt. Food holds no moral value.

We shouldn't feel 'virtuous' because we ate a salad and we shouldn't feel 'naughty' because we ate chocolate.

A better way to talk about food is to say 'everyday' food helps our bodies grow, be stronger and healthier. Whereas 'sometimes' foods are nice but they don't give our body everything that it needs. By using the words 'everyday' and 'sometimes' to describe foods, we are also giving our children very clear instructions on when they can expect to have these foods.

No food is better than another

Another commonly used word for the 'sometimes' foods is a 'treat'. And kids will often seek these out, particularly if you've resorted to using them in the past as a bribe or reward. The problem with the idea of 'treat' food is that you inadvertently elevate that food to a special status, and it becomes highly prized. If they don't get the 'treat' they may even feel like this is a type of punishment. No food should have a higher status over others, they should all be there to be enjoyed – we just have foods that we enjoy 'everyday' and those that we enjoy 'sometimes'.

Using a 'treat' food as bribe to eat another food backfires in more ways than one. If you offer them ice cream in exchange for two more bites of broccoli then you are doing 2 things:

First: Encouraging them to ignore their feelings of hunger and satiety (fullness).

Second: Elevating the bribe food and demoting the other food

[How to talk to your children about food - The Healthy Eating Clinic](#)



HEALTH & SAFETY: Child Safe Practices

As we prepare for new national safety legislation coming in September 2025, our team has been reflecting on our practices to ensure they continue to meet the highest standards of care.

From **14th July**, we'll be making two important changes to further support child safety and respectful learning environments:

1. Respecting Children's Privacy in Displays

We'll no longer display identifiable images of children (such as their faces) in public curriculum documentation.

Instead, we'll focus on sharing learning through:

- Photos of hands, creations, and learning spaces
- Capturing the process of play, discovery, and exploration

This protects children's privacy while still celebrating their learning meaningfully.

2. No Mobile Phones on Premises

To support a calm, child-focused environment, we're introducing a **no mobile phone policy** for families on centre grounds.

This helps:

- Protect children's privacy
- Support presence during drop-off and pick-up
- Align with Child Safe Standards

Reminder signs will be displayed at entrances as we all adjust.

If you'd like your child's daily journal emailed instead of viewing displays, please contact the office. We're also exploring more ways to keep families connected while prioritising safety and dignity.

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership.

We're excited to share a great resource that was passed along to us by one of our parents, Ellie — who is also a school teacher! Ellie uses this tool in her own classroom and finds it really helpful, so we thought it might be useful for families at home as well.

[My Safety Network | Little BIG Chats Series - Read by author Jayneen Sanders](#)

[Consent | Little BIG Chats Series - Read by author Jayneen Sanders](#)

[Private Parts are Private | Little BIG Chats Series - Read by author Jayneen Sanders](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=shared&v=8crkkNi_X0E

FOCUS: Play Matters...

The Executive Leadership team Shelley, Jenna and Eloise attend the Play Matters Summit in June. Here's a summary of the 2025 key findings and developments from *Play Matters* in Western Australia:

1. WA Play Charter & Strategy

The *Play Matters Collective* has been instrumental in advancing the **WA Play Charter**, a shared framework that champions every child's right to play. This charter is the foundation for a broader **WA Play Strategy**, which aims to embed play into education, community planning, and policy across the state.

2. Concerns Over Full-Time Kindy

A major issue in 2025 has been the State Government's trial of full-time kindergarten. While it may ease childcare burdens for families, early childhood advocates—including the WA Commissioner for Children and Young People—have raised concerns that it could reduce time for unstructured, play-based learning. The pushback has reignited calls for a statewide strategy that protects play in early education.

3. Community Mobilisation

More than 10,000 Western Australians and over 150 organisations have backed the movement for a WA Play Strategy. This groundswell of support reflects growing awareness that play is not just fun—it's essential for children's emotional, social, and cognitive development.

4. Play-Based Learning Under Pressure

Despite strong evidence supporting play-based learning, many early childhood educators report barriers to implementing it effectively. These include curriculum constraints, lack of resources, and pressure to meet academic benchmarks too early.

5. Play Matters Australia's Broader Role

While the *Play Matters Collective* leads WA-specific advocacy, *Play Matters Australia* continues to deliver programs like **Sing&Grow** and community playgroups across the state. Their 2025–2028 Strategic Plan focuses on expanding access, strengthening partnerships, and embedding play in family and community life

[Click here to watch a video This is why play is so important](#)



Plastic Free Friday: Reflecting on Our Relationship with Soft Plastics

This month, our team is taking a closer look at soft plastics—those flexible wrappers, bags, and films that sneak into our shopping carts and homes more often than we realize. While they're everywhere, their environmental footprint runs deep, especially when they're used once and sent straight to landfill.

We're asking ourselves:

- *Can we avoid them altogether?*
- *If we do use them, are we reusing or recycling them responsibly?*
- *Do we make mindful choices at the shops—opting for unpackaged produce or bulk goods over plastic-wrapped convenience?*

It's not about perfection. It's about progress. A simple swap, like bringing reusable produce bags or choosing paper over plastic, can add up to a big collective impact. Let's challenge ourselves to track what soft plastics come through our doors this month—and where they end up.

Together, with small conscious actions, we can build habits that lighten our environmental load—one Friday at a time.





Babies Exploring Pride Month Through the 100 Languages and Rainbow Colours 🌈❤️ Our babies have been exploring the beauty of Pride Month through the vibrant colours of the rainbow and the expressive "100 languages" of children. Whether through sensory play, painting, movement, or simply joyful discovery, they are engaging with ideas of love, identity, and belonging in ways unique to them. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️



Our toddlers made their own rainbow pasta and used their "100 languages" to represent rainbows! 🌈🌟

Through sensory play, creativity, and exploration, they expressed their understanding of rainbows in many unique ways — through colour, texture, movement, and joy. Each strand of pasta became a tool for storytelling, expression, and connection.



Kindy 2 and Kindy 1 Celebrates Pride Month Through the 100 Languages and Rainbow Colours 🌈🌟 Our Kindy 2 children have been celebrating Pride Month by exploring the rainbow - a symbol of love, inclusion, and diversity. Using their "100 languages," they expressed what the colours mean to them through arts, painting, building, storytelling, and imaginative play. From conversations about kindness and friendship to creating colourful art, they are learning that everyone is unique and that our differences make the world a brighter place. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️



Upcoming for the team in July:

- 15th Reflections PD
- 17th Team Leader Meeting and Professional development
- 20th Protective behaviours
- 23rd Staff meeting Well Being
- Group curriculum Reviews and creating term 3's group Curriculum