

Dear Kinross Wolaroi Families,

We are delighted to introduce ourselves and the exciting opportunity Gowrie NSW will bring to Kinross Wolaroi families, children and school community. Gowrie NSW is pleased to inform families that we have partnered with Kinross Wolaroi School as the OSHC provider. We will be providing the Before and After School Program, along with the Vacation Care Program each school holidays.

Who are we?

Gowrie NSW was established in 1940 with a vision to see children thrive and amplify their contributions to the world. In 2020 this vision still resonates today, where we strive to give children a strong voice in their community and recognise their citizenship. Our historical commitment to social justice and honoring diversity, means that we are constantly challenging our thinking, our practice and our pedagogical approach. We recognise the importance that our educators in partnership with experts, research their practice to ensure it upholds our promise to children and families, and our strategic intent of *Greater Reach with Greater Impact*.

Throughout our 80-year history, Gowrie NSW has been at the forefront of early and middle childhood education & care. Gowrie NSW is a proud not-for-profit, values-based organisation with a focus on providing quality education and care centres for children and families, along with leadership and professional learning to the early childhood sector in NSW / ACT through our professional development arm. The philosophy in each of our programs is respectful of the traditional owners of the land, responsive to the community it serves, and underpinned by pedagogical practices supported by national and international research.

Today, Gowrie NSW manages the following programs across regional/rural and metro NSW and ACT:

- Eight Early Education and Care centres (long day care services in NSW / ACT), including a centre in Central West.
- Ten Outside Schools Hours Care programs (including two services in the Central West)
- NSW Inclusion Agency (funded by the Commonwealth)
- Adult Migrant Education Program in partnership with TAFE NSW
- Education Hub - providing professional development opportunities to the sector

We have experienced great success working in a collaborative partnership model and understand the uniqueness of each community in which we work.

Connecting with children and families.

Families are critical partners and we would love to know about your family and your children who will be using the program. We are committed to partnering with the Kinross family community to ensure our programs are reflective and inclusive, we truly believe we are stronger together, recognising families as the child's first and expert advocate.

We have designed a short survey for you to complete so we can start to build a profile of those who will be utilising the service. We are keen to understand:

- Your expectations of the program
- Age of your child/ren
- What your child likes to do in their sparetime?
- Likes/interests of child?

Given the current COVID -19 risk profile Gowrie NSW and Kinross families are unable to meet onsite to hold a meet and greet session as we would have intended. We are currently working with the school to determine creative ways for connection and sharing of information. We will circle back with you all shortly as to the mechanism for connection.

Additionally, we would have been motivated to meet with the children to determine their interests, their wishes and desires for program development.

Next steps

We are working hard at completing all our regulatory requirements in terms of obtaining a transfer of service approval as we are aiming for a commencement date of Term 4.

Family survey is schedule to be sent on: 5th of September, 2020

Gowrie NSW will be in contact by week 8 to establish a means of connection to enable a meet and greet session where we can provide additional collateral and information about the program we will be offering.

We are confident we can implement the right approach to ensure future success. Our strategic intent is heavily focused on the notion of "stronger together" and we are excited about the opportunity to build a strong partnership with Kinross Wolaroi children, families and school.

Many thanks,

Belinda Rohuan

General Manager, Gowrie NSW OSHC