



Meet Our Family Day Care Educators

Elodie, Waverley Family Day Care Educator

What has been the most rewarding part of your role?

Definitely seeing the children happy and building their French language skills. Helping them develop and grow into good little humans by teaching important values such as respect, love, tolerance, and care.

Tell us what you have learnt about yourself in your role as a Family Day Care educator.

I learnt how to be patient, very well organised and also how to handle children's big feelings. I have also learned how to run a business and build relationships with families.

What qualities and skills do you need to have as a Family Day Care educator?

Patience and passion are key skills to possess, you need to be caring and very resilient.

What challenges have you had working from home?

Lack of social interaction with other adults and sharing the house with my partner who works from home as well. You also need to make sure the house is always safe, clean, and tidy.

How have you been able to help the community by providing this service?

I have assisted families who want their child to learn a second or third language, take great care of them and support them on a daily basis ensuring their children are healthy and well taken care of.

What modifications have you made to your home in order to set up your Family Day Care?

You need to make your home "child friendly", I had to make modifications to all the windows, put locks on doors, install baby-gates and remove any sharp or dangerous items that could harm the children.

What have been the financial benefits operating a Family Day Care?

The wage is well above what I use to earn and being able to claim part of the rent is beneficial. It is overall an upgrade, compared to my previous roles.

What have been the benefits of joining a not for profit, local government service? Why did you choose Waverley Family Day Care?

I was referred to Waverley Family Day Care and I don't regret it at all. The staff has always been super helpful and very supportive even in unprecedented times such as COVID 19. The level of information and the availability of everyone at WFDC makes our job so much easier. The WFDC are very supportive, they are always here for us.

Describe a typical day.

Le Petit Prince is a French immersion service.

At 8am, the doors open and families start dropping off the children. We then play in the playroom with our educational program of the month, before having our morning tea and starting a learning experience (painting, homemade playdough) based on the interests of the children. At 10am it is park time, walk, playground. 11:30 lunch, 12:30pm nap time, 3:30pm afternoon tea and then free play and activities, music etc before 5:30pm pickup.

"I wanted to have my own business and transfer my knowledge of French culture into my education and care setting".

Tell us a little bit about yourself

I'm Elodie, and I am French. I have lived in the South of France for most of my life. I have always worked in hospitality in luxury establishments and I have been in Australia for almost 8 years. I became an educator in July 2019. My family daycare is Le Petit Prince Bondi Junction where I run a French immersion program through play based learning.

Why did you become a Family Day Care Educator?

I discovered my love for early childhood through babysitting and nannying in France. I wanted to have my own business and transfer my knowledge of French culture into my education and care setting.



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Bex, Waverley Family Day Care Educator

Tell us what you have learnt about yourself in your role as a Family Day Care educator.

I have learnt that I can and like wearing many 'hats'; as a business owner I am an accountant handling tax, a writer creating learning stories, a community worker nurturing my relationships with children and support within my families. I can be independent and offer a bespoke service while still be part of the WFDC team sharing and learning new things. I have loved the ability to create a community with the families in my service.

What qualities and skills do you need to have as a Family Day Care educator?

Strong communication with both children and parents, the ability to juggle and to think on your feet, as there is always something happening and there is only you, so you need to be an independent worker.

What challenges have you had working from home?

As my own children have gotten older I have had to learn to adapt, adding school runs etc and striving to make it work. It can also be difficult to manage my time out of hours to meet with parents, complete paperwork and tasks.

How have you been able to help the community by providing this service?

People see me in the park with a group of children and I have been asked for tips and community links. I am an information center for families.

"I have loved the ability to create a community with the families in my service."

Tell us a little bit about yourself

I am originally from England and have worked with children for 30 years. Before working with Waverley Family Day Care for the past 10 years, I was a teacher in a preschool and have completed my NNEB Diploma.

Why did you become a Family Day Care Educator?

Because it meant I could work and be with my children at home while professionally, I could continue to do what I love and work with under 5's.

What has been the most rewarding part of your role?

The children I have met and the families I feel I have supported. I know what it feels like to be away from extended family overseas, this has enabled me to build a community and help families socialize and connect with one another.

What modifications have you made to your home in order to set up your Family Day Care?

A self-closure on the back gate, safety glass contact on windows, stair gates, safety clip on doors as well as steadily increasing my equipment and resources over time.

What have been the financial benefits operating a Family Day Care?

Initially my own children were in my care so I had no external care costs, the ability to set my own fees and hours, and the fact that I do earn more per hour than working in other early childhood settings are all beneficial.

What have been the benefits of joining a not for profit, local government service? Why did you choose Waverley Family Day Care?

It has been great to have access to play sessions, garden excursions and opportunities to collaborate face to face with other professionals at Waverley Family Day Care. They have been helpful with placing families in my care off their waitlist when needed and provide high quality support.

Describe a typical day.

7:40- set up outside space, 8-10am- Children arrive, interest based experiences to help with separation transitions ('hero activities'), 10-11:30am- Excursion in community, 11:30am- Games/group time/cognitive play, 12pm- lunch (families provide), 1pm- stories/song/group times/discussions, 1:30pm- sleep/rest, 3pm- afternoon tea, 3:30pm- garden time/sandpit/digging, 4:30pm- Inside for dancing/yoga/music, 5pm- pick up time.