

EDUCATION AND CARE

ECU NEWSLETTER

28 June 2022

GENERAL TOPICS

Service Engagement Record (SER) – new ECU document

The ECU has developed a new template to reflect both compliance and quality aspects of a service when our Authorised Officers (AO) conduct monitoring visits.

Formerly known as a 'Visit Summary Sheet', the SER lists 'key takeaways' for services to consider after a visit is conducted by an AO. Its purpose is to enhance transparency and ensure services, approved providers and AOs have a shared understanding on key areas after each visit.

You may access our SER template (with explanatory notes in blue) in this [link](#). The AO may also include resources/information booklets with the SER to initiate further reflections on key topics.

Resource Finder tool – ACECQA

Earlier this year, the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) launched a resource finder tool to help users to easily search and find resources, such as reports, videos and information sheets on a wide variety of topics.

This tool allows users to access over 240 online resources and will be updated with new content from ACECQA. Type any key words into the search bar and if required, use the check boxes to refine your results by topic, category, or resource type.

A helpful tip is to use the 'Export your search' function to download a go-to spreadsheet containing titles and URLs for all the resources generated on a search.

Check out the ACECQA Resource Finder [here](#).

2019 NQF Review – Decision Regulation Impact Statement (DRIS)

The 2019 NQF Review aims to ensure the NQF remains current and continues to improve practice in the education and care sector. The DRIS was published on 8 June 2022 and can be accessed through the [2019 NQF Review website](#).

The DRIS summarises the issues, options considered by governments, recommended changes to practice and recommended changes to the National Law and Regulations following public consultation.

2019 NQF Review – Communications Toolkit

ACECQA sent a Communications Toolkit to the education and care sector on 8 June 2022 to assist services to communicate the latest news on 2019 NQF Review to the public.

Approved providers and services are strongly encouraged to observe the ongoing updates.

Early Childhood Workshop

This workshop is catered to practitioners in the ECEC sector and offers a variety of activities to develop relevant workforce knowledge and skills.

The early childhood workshop will be conducted on 23 July from 9am to 3:45pm at the Riverside Golf Club, Launceston. See attached flyer on next page for further information and contact details.

EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKSHOP

"Lets Reconnect"
We all deserve to celebrate the sector & reflect on ourselves as practitioners, beyond isolation as we move towards our new norm.

9am -3.45pm
23 JULY
RIVERSIDE GOLF CLUB

DR RED RUBY SCARLET
Creative Director
MultiVerse

DAVID GILKES
Educational Consultant

LOUISE DORRAT
Early Childhood Consultant

WORKSHOP OFFERINGS:

- Creating cultures of critical reflection
- Exploring anti bias & social justice
- NQS Exceeding themes interwoven
- Identity, inclusion, advocating for children
- Tools for creative arts in early childhood

0363 444 628 or 63 318 737
onestopworkshoptasmania@gmail.com
<https://www.trybooking.com/BZOGJ>

COVID-19 TOPICS

FAQs – Vaccination mandates for ECEC sector

In response to queries from the sector on the current vaccination mandates in the ECEC sector, the ECU has consulted with Public Health and updated our FAQs:

- [How long will the vaccination mandate be in place for?](#)
- [Can unvaccinated ECEC staff members return to work in the ECEC sector under the same circumstances prior to the vaccination mandates in place?](#)

FAQs – mask-wearing mandates for ECEC sector

The ECU has received questions regarding the mask-wearing mandate.

Our FAQs have also been updated to reflect the latest information:

- [If a child \(who is a close contact\) attends care must they wear a mask?](#)
- [Do educators in an early childhood education and care setting need to wear masks?](#)

This [information sheet](#) in a letter template is a resource to support services at informing families about changes to Public Health's mask mandates at ECEC services.

Services are advised to contact the Public Health Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC) to obtain service-specific COVID-19 advice. The ECU will continue to share relevant information from Public Health to the sector without providing health advice.

- The CNC can be reached via email at covid.response@health.tas.gov.au or on mobile phone at 0467 960 114.

Please be advised that Public Health's emails and phone lines will be monitored at the following times: 8am to 8pm on weekdays and 8am to 5pm on weekends. After 5pm, the CNC mobile will be monitored by an on-call CNC.

These contact details provided by Public Health should only be used by services. The general Public Health Hotline remains available to others outside the sector.

Free flu-vaccination

The ECU is sharing this information on behalf of Public Health.

Free flu-vaccination clinics are available for children from 6 months. Parents may visit their local GPs and state-run community clinics for a free flu-vaccination. State-run vaccination clinics also provide COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters to anyone aged 5 years and older.

Parents can make a booking by phone (1800 671 738) or an [online booking](#) prior to a visit. A full list of locations of state-run community clinics can be found [here](#).

Where you can find more information:

The [Resources for living with and managing COVID-19 in ECEC services](#) page contains guidance and information on responding to COVID-19 related matters as we move towards living with COVID-19.

The [FAQs on ECU website](#) are frequently updated with the latest information.

Contact details

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