

# Fact Sheet – Diploma Early Childhood Education and Care



The CHC50113 Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care is a nationally recognised qualification from the CHC Community Services Training Package.

The Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care is for people who wish to take on a leadership role in an early childhood service and has a strong emphasis on advocacy for the rights of children; the development of strong relationships, effective workplace processes; inclusive, respectful and responsive workplace culture; and curriculum which focuses on the needs of a child and their individual context.

The C&K College of Early Childhood also offers the Early Childhood Teacher Bridging Program. This course is a tailored, 'fast-track' pathway to a diploma qualification that enables registered primary teachers to work as early childhood teachers. For more information please see the C&K RTO Early Childhood Teacher Bridging Program Fact Sheet.

## Where will this course enable me to work?

The Diploma qualification is often required for positions such as nominated supervisor, early childhood educator, family day care educator and family day care coordinator.

This qualification reflects the role of early childhood educators who are responsible for designing and implementing curriculum in early childhood education and care services. In doing so they work to implement an approved learning framework within the requirements of the Education and Care Services National Regulations and the National Quality Standard. They may have responsibility for supervision of volunteers or other staff.

Early childhood teaching students are able to be counted as diploma level educators for ratio purposes while they are 'actively working towards' an approved early childhood teaching qualification. For information on how, or when, a person is considered 'actively working towards' an approved early childhood teaching qualification please visit ACECQA website <http://www.acecqa.gov.au/actively-working-towards-an-approved-qualification>

The Education and Care Services National Regulations state under Section 126: Centrebased services - The qualification requirements for educators at centre-based services for children preschool age or under are - at least 50 per cent of the educators who are required to meet the relevant educator to child ratios for the service must have, or be actively working towards, at least an approved Diploma level education and care qualification.

## Why study with the C&K College of Early Childhood?

The C&K College of Early Childhood delivers high-quality courses which are capable of delivering the skills and competencies required in the workplace in a meaningful way.

What we do well is include the workplace supervisor/Director in planning structured learning for the student with the majority of assessments conducted in the workplace.

Structured learning may take place in the workplace, in the class-room, online, and/or as an additional support for self-paced learning.

The C&K Diploma program will give you the skills you need to foster children's educational outcomes, and to ensure their emotional, physical and social wellbeing whilst in your care.

The Diploma program offered by C&K College of Early Childhood incorporates the on-line professional development series '*Raising Good Kids: Managing Behaviour and Emotions in Early Childhood Care and Education Settings*'.

The *Raising Good Kids* online course series for early childhood professionals has been developed and presented by medically trained Child Psychiatrist, Dr Kaylene Henderson. Each of the three courses in the series provide research-based guidance on a variety of topics, in particular the management of emotions and behaviours in young children (aged birth to five), with examples set within early childhood care and education centres.

To support a great start to a new career, the first study cluster includes five units, including:

Cluster 1: units	Skills and knowledge required by educators working with children...
1. CHCECE007 Develop positive and respectful relationships with children #	... to ensure they can develop and maintain effective relationships and promote positive behaviour
2. CHCECE020 Establish and implement plans for developing cooperative behaviour #	... to support both individual and group plans for developing cooperative behaviour
3. CHCECE003 Provide care for children	... to ensure children's physical and emotional well-being is maintained and their self-sufficiency is nurtured
4. CHCECE005 Provide care for babies and toddlers	Skills and knowledge required by educators working with babies and toddlers to ensure that the children's physical and emotional wellbeing is maintained
5. CHCPRP003 Reflect on and improve own professional practice	Develop the lifelong skill of how to evaluate and enhance their own practice through a process of reflection and ongoing professional development

#note: these two units have been mapped to the on-line professional development course by Dr Kaylene Henderson, '*Raising Good Kids: Managing Behaviour and Emotions in Early Childhood Care and Education Settings*'

## Course details

This qualification reflects the role of early childhood educators who are responsible for designing and implementing curriculum in early childhood education and care services. In doing so they work to implement an approved learning framework within the requirements of the Education and Care Services National Regulations and the National Quality Framework.

## Course summary

This program is designed with commencements each quarter (January, April, July, and October).

1. **Full fee** paying student: \$9,180 (\$340 per unit)
2. **Subsidised training** subject to eligibility under the **Higher Level Skills** Program: Student co-contribution fee is \$3,780 (\$140 per unit) for non-concessional students

or \$2,517 (\$93 per unit) for concessional students. Refer to Higher Level Skills Factsheet for eligibility rules:

<https://training.qld.gov.au/site/training/Documents/incentives/hls-factsheet-student.pdf>

3. **Apprenticeship pathway** is subsidised under the **User Choice** Program: You may be able to access government funding for an Apprenticeship. Please contact us for more information. Calculation of the student co-contribution fee is as per the nominal hours per unit of competency.
4. **C&K full-time and part-time staff:**
  - a. C&K supports staff undertaking an Apprenticeship through structured on-the-job and/or off-the-job paid training and there are no additional training course fees when studying with the C&K College. Please refer to C&K Careers.
  - b. who enrol in a Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care, outside of an Apprenticeship pathway, may be eligible for subsidised training (as per option 2 above). Please contact the College to discuss staff discounted student co-contribution fee.
  - c. Where staff are not eligible for government subsidised training, C&K staff may undertake individual units at the reduced cost of \$250 per unit.
  - d. Students of the C&K College of Early Childhood may also seek financial assistance with the cost of the course under the C&K Education Assistance Policy and/or apply for VET FEE-HELP.

## Study now, pay later with VET-FEE Help

Students enrolling into the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care course are eligible to apply for the Australian Government's VET FEE-HELP loan scheme. VET FEE-HELP is a loan given to eligible fee-paying students to help pay for part, or all, of their tuition fees which means that you can begin studying without paying any upfront fees.

Students repay the loan to the Australian Government through the tax system once a student reaches the minimum income threshold level for repayment set by the Australian Taxation Office.

**How do I apply for VET FEE-HELP?** Read through the C&K Student Guide, VET FEE-HELP Information Booklet, and then select VET FEE-HELP under the Finance options on the Application for Enrolment Form. A VET FEE-HELP assistance form will be sent to you by the Student Services Advisor as part of the enrolment process.

## Apprenticeship pathway

If you wish to become an Apprentice, visit the Australian Apprenticeships website for tips on securing employment as an Apprentice. Then let your employer know you want to study with C&K College of Early Childhood.

Prior to enrolling, please read the C&K Student Guide and complete an expression of interest form.

## What is Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)?

RPL understands that you might have gained valuable skills in paid or unpaid work, and in activities such as *informal* training. RPL involves an assessor matching your skills and knowledge to the requirements of the Diploma. If you already hold relevant skills and knowledge you might not have to complete all or part of the training program.

In addition, if you have gained skills and knowledge through formal education or training, or have other qualifications, other processes apply. Your assessor will also consider if these can be recognised towards the qualification.

To achieve competency through RPL you will need to provide documented evidence that demonstrates you are able to meet all the elements/performance criteria for a particular unit of competency. This includes demonstration of the underpinning knowledge, values and attitudes as well as the practical skills required to perform to the standard stated for that unit. It is also important that you discuss your RPL application with people in your workplace as they will be asked to verify your skills and knowledge.

If you have current industry skills and experience, but not a formal qualification, you may be eligible for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Please contact the C&K College of Early Childhood to discuss how RPL might benefit you.

## **Study Pathways and Articulation Arrangements**

C&K College of Early Childhood offers adaptable courses that respond to the latest industry developments and are linked to real employment opportunities.

We offer guaranteed vocational placement and provide a link to employment opportunities, with graduates eligible to apply for a position with the Creche and Kindergarten Association. Or students may arrange their own vocational placement in an organisation of their choice.

The College offers multiple delivery options for our courses, so you may choose to study in a way that suits your lifestyle. Students may study on a full-time or part-time basis.

Flexible learning means you may study at your own pace through distance learning. If you prefer the campus experience, you may study in a classroom environment at our training campus at Kedron.

If you're not sure what's right for you, give us a call. We're happy to talk you through the options and help you make the best choice to suit your individual situation.

Full-time: distance learning 18 months (self-paced, phone tutoring, and vocational placement and work-based assessment)

Apprenticeship: 18 months to three years (self-paced study, block release time and/or appropriate structured work-based learning and assessment) – we specialise in finding a training solution which is right for the Apprentice, the service and timeframes.

External – Blended/flexible: 18 months – 3 years

C&K College of Early Childhood have four major intakes in January, April, July and October.

If you are interested in starting a qualification outside of these times, please call 1800 177 092 for more information.

Apprentices are able to commence at any time throughout the year. A full-time Apprenticeship must be for 38 hours per week, on average. A part-time Apprenticeship must be for a minimum of 15 hours per week.

For graduates of the Diploma course, the C&K College of Early Childhood has a number of articulation arrangements in place to support students continuing in study, including

- Australian Catholic University – for the Bachelor of Education (Birth to Five years) at any location/jurisdiction students will be eligible for 80cp (for specified credit) and for the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary) at any location/jurisdiction students will be eligible for 30cp to 60cp (for specified credit depending on strand)
- CQ University - nine exemptions into CQ University's Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) CC14 or the Bachelor of Education (Primary) CC12.
- Griffith University – 80CP credit transfer towards the Bachelor of Child and Family Studies 1095 (4 semester, 3 year degree), Logan campus, for completion of the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care (CHC50113)

## Blue card eligibility and exemptions

To work with children, all people need a current Suitability Notice (commonly referred to as a Blue Card). It is against the law for training institutes to allow students to undertake work experience without one.

Registered teachers do not need to apply for a blue card but should instead apply for an exemption card under this category.

To find out more about blue cards contact the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian on 1800 113 611 or visit the website: [www.bluecard.qld.gov.au](http://www.bluecard.qld.gov.au)

## Immunisation

Students should be aware that undertaking vocational placements and/or working in the Early Childhood Education and Care Sector they may be exposed to diseases that are preventable by vaccination. To manage the risk to educators, the Service may require the completion of a vaccination record or full immunisation.

## Vocational Placement

Students completing an Early Childhood Education and Care course through the C&K College of Early Childhood are provided with vocational placement, resources and support to gain the knowledge, skills and awareness and understanding of responsibilities of the role of educator needed to work successfully with children.

To be clear, students completing qualifications with C&K College of Early Childhood who currently do not work within Early Childhood Education and Care profession must complete unpaid Vocational Placement. This practical component will allow the student to gain experience in working in an Early Childhood Education and Care Service in a variety of situations.

All assessment is competency based and completion of the placement will be based on competent completion of required tasks, however there is a mandatory requirement for you to complete a minimum number of hours for certain units.

## Recommended resources

Students who undertake the Diploma Program with C&K College of Early Childhood are provided with the following texts to assist students in completing assessments and they provide useful resources for the role of early childhood educator or teacher.

- Walker, L., Miller, S., & Tansey, S. (2014). The Early Childhood Educator for Certificate III. North Ryde: McGraw-Hill Education (Australia) Pty Ltd.
- Walker, L., Miller, S., & Tansey, S. 2014. The Early Childhood Educator for Diploma. North Ryde: McGraw-Hill Education (Australia) Pty Ltd.
- On-line professional development course by Dr Kaylene Henderson, 'Raising Good Kids: Managing Behaviour and Emotions in Early Childhood Care and Education Settings'

Dr Kaylene Henderson graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery in the 1990's before pursuing specialist training in Psychiatry. She then spent her final years sub-specialising in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry while gaining invaluable clinical experience in helping children and their families tackle a range of social and emotional difficulties.

## Application Documentation

Applications cannot be fully processed until all supporting documentation is supplied. Copies of certificates and educational awards must be certified, and if in another language, must be accompanied by an official English translation.



To certify your documents ask an appropriate individual who is not a friend or family member (e.g. Justice of the Peace, Accountant, Bank Manager, Clergy, Barrister, Police Officer, Minister, School Principal, Medical Doctor) to state on the copy “this is a true copy of the document sighted by *name*” and include their name and address, contact phone number, profession or occupation, and date signed.

## Lodging an Application

When you are ready to lodge your application, please ensure all sections of the Application Form are completed and confirm you have gathered and attached all required documentation.

If there is additional information you require prior to making a decision about which qualification and/or how the C&K College of Early Childhood can support your career endeavours, please contact the C&K College of Early Childhood on 1800 177 092 or email your questions to [ckcollege@candk.asn.au](mailto:ckcollege@candk.asn.au).

**Contact us at:** C&K College of Early Childhood  
257 Gympie Road, Kedron QLD 4031  
Website [www.candk.asn.au](http://www.candk.asn.au)

## Privacy Statement

We (C&K) collect and use information that relates to our purpose of providing early childhood education care services and training and related ancillary purposes, including promotional activities. This includes information about children in our care, parents/guardians of those children, families, staff members, carers, clients, students and volunteers. We have processes and procedures in place to ensure that we collect, store, use and disclose personal information, and uphold your rights, in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (Privacy Act).

We will only collect and use information that is necessary to meet our purpose, or in accordance with legal requirements, and will do so on the understanding that the information collected and used is kept private and confidential.

## RTO Number 5025

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