

## ECE Waitakere Network Meeting minutes – Sept

**Date:** Thurs 15 September 2011 **Time:** 9.30am **Venue:** Henderson Service Centre, level 2 Auckland Council offices.

**Present:** Ngawai Beazley [MOE], Emma Bolwell [MOE playgroup co-ord], Christie Bradley [Edukids, Montel Ave], Erin Burr [Avondale Community Preschool], Julie Dent [Core Ed], Elaine Dyer [Violence Free Waitakere], Caty Ferguson [Homeplay co-ord], Gaylene King-Turner [HIPPY], Wendy Larmer [MOE], Louise Lennane [Auck Council, Strategic Planner Wellbeing & Collaboration], Jane Marti [ECE field officer NZEI], Julia Moore [minutes], Anne Shepherd [Waitemata PHO], Rika Strauss [HeadStart Childcare, head teacher], Jane Williams [B4 School check-Waitemata PHO], Tracy Winther [Violence Free Waitakere]

**Apologies:** Vicki Khoo [Barnados], Tania Christie [Y UNDER FIVES CHILDCARE CENTRE], Roseanne Webb [MOE], Carol Smith [Lecturer Early Childhood Education, Dept. of Education]

**Inwards and outwards correspondence:**

- Susan Warren advised us of COMET's Annual General Meeting will be held at The Gallery (former Manukau City Council), Wiri Station Rd, Manukau. Thursday September 22nd, 7.30-9.15am. Dr Roger Blakeley, Chief Planning Officer, Auckland Council will speak about the role of education in the Auckland Plan. Please RSVP by 16th September to [glenda.plaisted@manukau.ac.nz](mailto:glenda.plaisted@manukau.ac.nz) or 968 8773. COMET is supported by the Manukau Institute of Technology COMET (City of Manukau Education Trust) is a charitable trust established by Manukau City Council and a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) of Auckland Council.
- Susan Warren & Colleen Brown from COMET are working with Council to organise a meeting to look at how ECE can have a voice with Council, and how we can work together to increase access to ECE across Auckland. As soon as we get a date from Council we will be in touch to invite you to the meeting – I think they are looking at early October
- Roxanne de Bruyn [RdeBruyn@cognition.co.nz](mailto:RdeBruyn@cognition.co.nz) will send copies of Cognition's magazine "Kuranga" to ECE Waitakere network members if wanted

**Matters arising from correspondence:**

none

**General business**

1. **B4 school check:** Anne & Jane asked for feedback on completing SQT forms for 4year old as part of the B4 School checks. Since 2008, it is called the '8<sup>th</sup> Wellchild check', educators & parents complete questionnaire with parent's consent. The ECE network suggested privacy clause to be on form & language to be changed as it is 'negative'. One member remembers the form to be 'tedious' and did not want to repeat with sibling.
2. **Child poverty & ECE presentation- 28 Sept:** Jane Marti from NZEI discussed future event with guest speaker Assoc. Professor Michael O'Brien, Chairperson of the Child poverty Action Group (CPAG). After presentation, there will be an opportunity to share & discuss initiatives in early childhood education. Wed 28 Sept, 6 – 8pm, Council Chambers, Henderson Service Centre, 6 Henderson Valley Rd, Henderson (above the train station) This is a free event. RSVP to Jane Marti 360 4694, 027 289 1854 [jane.marti@nzei.org.nz](mailto:jane.marti@nzei.org.nz)
3. **Home Play project:** Caty Ferguson new co-ordinator for Home Play, based in street communities in West Harbour. Currently looking for a venue for meetings in centralised location. Home Play hope to develop a working relationship initially with West Harbour school to support good transition to school, promote good parenting skills and hopes to identify barriers for participation in ECE.
4. **Toddler Day Out:** Elaine Dyer [Violence Free Waitakere] talked about difficulty of funding TDO. MOE used to give large slice of budget per year and were considered major partner on all advertising. MOE altered priorities and ultimately Violence Free Waitakere is now carrying the whole responsibility for organising the event. TDO is considered a huge icon for Children's Day and inter-agency showcase for ECE sector with a large focus on education & healthy communities in West Auckland. It brings communities together to give parents choices and form building blocks of networking

and good education choices in many areas of community. TDO is a major player as a best practice model in the development of the community hub approach, and has a large number of increasing and sustained participation of Pasifika and Maori families.

5. **New SKIP publications:** Elaine Dyer presented new publication “Out of nappies’ for pregnancy & ages birth to 6 months. Also ‘Whakatupu series” increasing bi-cultural journey in literature resources.
6. **Increasing male involvement:** Elaine Dyer has more questionnaires for males to fill out who are involved in ECE sector.

**Next ECE network meeting:** Thursday 6th October, 9.30am, venue TBA  
enquiries@ece-express.co.nz.