



YOUR MONTHLY SNAPSHOT

In the month of February we introduce a new team member—Ritu Mahares, celebrate eSafety Day and share an article on Sustainability in practice. We are also highlighting our upcoming events:

- Leadership Breakfast
- OSHC Network Group
- FASD
- Little Scientists

If you have any ideas, great stories to share or practices occurring in your service, please get in touch with the team so we can share and highlight what is happening in the sector across the state.

This month also sees the re commencement of our RTO classes. We have been busy throughout January updating our Canvas platform to create a more learner friendly space for their studies. We welcome new learners and workplaces to our RTO and welcome back our ongoing learners and workplaces. The team are excited to see you all in the coming weeks in your region.



UPCOMING EVENTS

LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST

Our Leadership Breakfast Series is an opportunity for you to listen and share professional knowledge over a light breakfast before your working day.

The Hobart sessions start on **Thursday 24th February**. Now is the time to register! [Click here](#)

The North sessions start on **Tuesday 16th March**. Now is the time to register! [Click here](#)

2021 OSHC NETWORK GROUP

After last year's disruptions we are back on track to continue and build on our popular OSHC Network Group sessions across the state with a focus on developing practical skills for individuals and teams working with school age children.

Topics brought forward from last year include: implementing STEM in OSHC, extending on children's interests and ideas, applying the principles of Playwork to OSHC, identifying and documenting children's learning, starting clubs in OSHC, developing a leadership program for school age children, exploring arts and crafts, plus integrating opportunities for the development of life skills.

It is intended each OSHC Network session will be delivered face-to-face for 1.5 hours every 8 weeks and held within an OSHC environment in the greater Hobart, Launceston and Ulverstone areas. Here participants will engage in experiences to develop their practical skills and delve into topics to inspire, challenge and create positive opportunities for children.

Look out for further information on our Events page through the link below—coming soon!

[**FIND OUT ABOUT ALL OUR EVENTS**](#)



LEARN TO UNLOCK
THE WONDERS OF STEM



LITTLE SCIENTISTS HUMAN BODY

We may look quite different on the outside, but underneath our skin, our organs, muscles and bones are working in very similar ways. Investigate your sense of smell, focus on your breath and explore exciting functions of the human body. See the human body through the eyes of a child and learn how to playfully include scientific models into your setting.

During this seven-hour workshop, you will learn how to scaffold children's interest in anatomy and will explore exciting functions of the human body. This hands-on workshop will help you identify opportunities and challenges of this STEM topic and provides you with ideas for age-appropriate experiences. You will learn about the benefits of using and making scientific models in an early childhood setting and understand why and how to evaluate models with children.

By the end of this workshop, you will know how to support children with their questions about the human body and feel confident to include scientific models into your practice.

This workshop aligns with the principles, practices and outcomes of the EYLF, NQF and the Australian Curriculum.

Ulverstone—Tuesday 16th March 2021

Launceston—Wednesday 17th March 2021

Hobart—Monday 22nd March 2021

REGISTER NOW WITH LITTLE SCIENTISTS



SAFER INTERNET DAY

On **Safer Internet Day** the world comes together with a shared vision of making online experiences better for everyone. As the official committee in Australia and a leader in the global effort, eSafety celebrates the day as one of the most important events of the year.

eSafety Commissioner Australia have developed resources that are being launched to mark Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 9 February 2021. Did you know? 81% of Australian parents with preschoolers say their children use the internet.

It is never too early to **start the chat** about online safety with the children and families in your services and settings. You can use eSafety's Early Years tips and resources to encourage basic digital skills in a fun and positive way, helped by young sugar glider twins Swoosh and Glide.

Make a start this week, then keep building good online safety habits throughout the year!

[Visit the eSafety Commissioner Website](#)



UPCOMING EVENT

What is FASD [Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder] and how can early childhood educators include children with FASD into their programs?

FASD in partnership with Gowrie Inclusion Agency Tasmania and Gowrie Training & Consultancy have organised a facilitated professional development sessions facilitated by Vicki Russell from FASD Tasmania.

The presentation will include:

- Overview of FASD – context - impact of alcohol in society and particularly women’s use; impact of alcohol at a cellular level and epigenetics; prevalence (international, national and state rates), Australian diagnostic instrument and diagnostic process
- Presentation of FASD – impact on development - brain and physical – presenting difficulties across the lifespan, identifying risk factors.
- Strategies to support the inclusion of children (FASD) within daily education and care programs – Vicki will draw on her experience and Certificate of Mastery in a neurobehavioural approach (USA) .

Session Details:

Hobart: TBC

Launceston: Wednesday 31st March 10.00am– 12.00pm

Venue: Launceston Library Civic Square Room

Ulverstone: Thursday 18th March 9.30am—11.30am

Venue: Ulverstone sports and Leisure Centre, Flora Street, West Ulverstone

This is an exciting opportunity not to be missed! Register on the link below.

[**REGISTER NOW**](#)



WELCOME RITU

Ritu Mahares joined the Gowrie Training & Consultancy team in January 2021 as a Trainer and Assessor. Ritu is originally from New Delhi (India) and is now settled in Hobart with her husband and eleven-year-old son. Ritu holds her Early Childhood Education and Care Diploma qualification as well as her Certificate IV (TAE) in Training and Assessment.

Prior to her relocation to Tasmania, Ritu was working as a Business Development Manager in a market research and consulting firm. She is a performance-driven educational professional with over 12 years of experience in early childhood setting and educational services, relationship management, client retention, sales, process, and business development. She is self-motivated and reliable with an excellent understanding of cross-cultural relationships, learner's individual needs and learning style, community networks and Australian early childhood national quality standards and framework.

Ritu has strong communication and organisational skills having worked in diverse performance-oriented business environments. She is passionate about learning new things and taking challenges in life. She comes with self-efficacy, efficiency, and ability to lead students to success.



EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE

We invite you to take a look at an article in The Spoke, sharing stories of sustainable practices occurring across Australia.

‘If we all take the time to care for our environment, we will make a difference together. DR Sue Elliott and Australia-Aotearoa Alliance for Early Childhood Education for Sustainability (The Alliance) share how to implement sustainable ways into early learning services, from workshops to wiser consumption and what we should consider when purchasing goods.’

The Alliance have several important goals they are currently working towards, including ‘embedding education for sustainability more strongly in the National Quality Standard (NQS) and Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and underpinning nature play program pedagogies with sustainability principles and practices.’

This blog article invites the reader to consider some of the following questions:

- What is a natural product and what is human-made?
- What happens to our stuff when we no longer need it?
- Where does it go?
- Are our food and other items produced locally?

[READ FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

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