



# RAINBOW COTTAGE EXCEEDS NATIONAL STANDARDS

Dubbo Regional Council's (DRC) Rainbow Cottage Childcare Centre has exceeded the national standards for early childhood education and care at its most recent National Quality Standards assessment.

The National Quality Standards, developed by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority, sets a high national benchmark for early childhood education and care and outside school hours care services in Australia.

Rainbow Cottage Coordinator Briana Merchant said that receiving this result was a very exciting accomplishment for the Centre, with only three other long day care centres in the Dubbo Region achieving this.

"We're proud of the work that we do at Rainbow Cottage, and it's great to be recognised as a top-tier early childhood education facility."

"I'm grateful for all of the educators here and equally grateful for the Dubbo Region community that supports us year in, year out."

Rainbow Cottage Childcare Centre 'exceeded expectations' on four of the seven Quality Areas that are used to assess early education services nationally.

This garnered the Centre an overall rating of 'exceeding expectations'.

"At Rainbow Cottage, we have a strong emphasis on family and pride ourselves in creating a fun, educational and child focused curriculum for all children. Our educators are passionate and dedicated and always put 100 per cent into everything that they do," Ms Merchant said.

The seven quality areas are Educational Program and Practice, Children's Health and Safety, Physical Environment, Staffing Arrangements, Relationships with Children, Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities and Governance and Leadership.

The centre was assessed on 6 and 7 February during their Assessment and Rating audit by the NSW Department of Education's Early Childhood Education Directorate.

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