PHILOSOPHY

Blyth Primary School Out of School Hours Care service offers quality childcare with a focus on creative leisure and fun. Operating under the Blyth Primary School Governing Council, this After School Hours Care service holds a Vision for the children in its care: to maximise their personal development in the interconnected areas of Identity, Interdependence, Thinking, Futures and Communication. The detail of our Vision A Blyth student...is included in the parent information package.

SERVICE GOALS

An integral part of the Blyth Primary School, our child-orientated OSHC setting aims to achieve these broad goals:

- Value all children, and to encourage them to develop to their full potential within our safe, friendly and stimulating environment.
- Engage children in safe, creative leisure activities and to maximise their enjoyment of play.
- To offer holistic play and leisure opportunities to meet the varied developmental needs of the children in our care.
- Children, families and staff develop a sense of belonging and ownership as our community oriented service strives to be responsive to individual voices, seeks opportunities for participatory decision making and actively promotes shared communication.
- Develop mutually respectful relationships between children, families, staff and volunteers.

BELIEFS, VALUES & ATTITUDES

Children learn and come to understand the world they live in through play. Essential to the holistic development of the child, play provides opportunities for children to grow socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. Through interacting with their environment, objects, ideas and people, children become engaged in their learning development. They may experience a range of opportunities to practice skills, to enhance their self-esteem, to interact with others socially, thereby also learning about themselves and how to communicate, to problem solve and negotiate. Through play experiences children can also learn to be resilient, to learn skills of collaboration and independence, to explore new materials, be creative and to develop a respectful relationship with the natural environment.

Based on the foundation values of DECS Cooperation, Excellence, Fairness, Integrity, Respect and Responsibility our OSHC service will proactively support the local Blyth PS community values of Respect, Equity, Quality Learning and a Safe, Friendly environment.
HISTORY OF THE SERVICE:
Blyth Primary School Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service opened in January 2005. The service is operated by the Governing Council of the school with the intention to support the needs of the community and to strengthen the school’s role within the community.

Deb Tobin became Director in Term 1 2007.

At the Blyth Primary School Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service we work hard to build and maintain a store of materials and resources to enable staff to offer children a diverse range of recreational experiences.

This service operates within the Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) OSHC Standards and meets the accountability requirements of the Commonwealth.

VENUE
The service primarily operates out of the comfortable general-purpose room in the Administration block of the school and utilises the school’s kitchen area as needed. Children have access to the extensive playground and aesthetically pleasing grassed areas.

The service has 12 CCB places for After School Care. Therefore, we cannot offer care for more than these numbers. Care may also be limited by the availability of appropriate staff.

SERVICE STAFF
Deb Tobin, Director of the OSHC service, has experience in Family Day Care and as a mother. She has completed her first aid, asthma and mandated notification training.

The Director is responsible for the day to day operation of the service - this includes preparing and implementing children’s programs, overseeing children’s wellbeing and managing behaviour, booking and billing, maintaining resources and equipment, monitoring the budget and reporting to the Governing Council regularly.

Other staff members support the Director with the provision of the children’s activities and from time to time are required to reduce the child staff ratio to facilitate the inclusion of children with additional needs. Primarily our Relief Staff include Di Chivell and Sharyn Burford.

HOURS OF OPERATION

| Monday to Friday |
After School – 3.45 pm to 6.00pm

Pupil Free Days & School Closure Day – please check availability

Care will be provided on these days and fees will be charged accordingly. No care will be provided on Public Holidays.

Parents/Caregivers must supply a piece of fruit for After School Care with OSHC providing a nutritional snack and drink.

FEES

Parents/Caregivers are reminded that fees are charged for care and that the service policy relating to the collection of these fees and a debt management policy can be located the Managing To Support Quality Policy under the heading Financial Policy.

All parents/caregivers are encouraged to register with Centrelink for an assessment notice to enable staff to adjust the fees for services in accordance with your family income. Please speak to the Director for further information. The current fees are:

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<th>AFTER SCHOOL Hours:</th>
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<td>$11.00 for a full session or part there of</td>
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Fees may be paid to the Director or the school front office within 7 days after receiving the account. A receipt will be provided for each payment.

CANCELATIONS / NON ATTENDANCE

Parents/Caregivers should tell the service of their child’s inability to attend as soon as this is known and by no later than 9.30am the day of the booking.

This can be done by ringing the front office at school (PH 88 445 195) and leaving a message. Late notification will incur the usual fee.

We realise that sometimes children get sick in the morning and you cannot give 24 hours notice. We regret that the same policy must still apply.

CASUAL BOOKINGS