



# **Seaforth Childcare Parent Orientation Guide**

**The care you want. The hours you need.**



**Family-owned early learning centre and  
extended hours preschool for children aged 0-6.**

# Learn, grow, make friends and have fun

Your child will love every day they spend at Seaforth Childcare

## Our values

Your child will enjoy the highest quality care and education at Seaforth Childcare – whether that’s as a baby, toddler or preschooler. We pride ourselves on becoming part of your extended family, so you can trust your little one to our dedicated team and the nurturing, caring, home-away-from-home environment we provide.

Our focus is ensuring your child enjoys safe, secure and stimulating surroundings every day they spend with us – something we believe is the key to happy, healthy and confident children. Your child’s social and psychological development is key at Seaforth Childcare, and our rich play-based learning program provides the very best in early education.

## Our philosophy

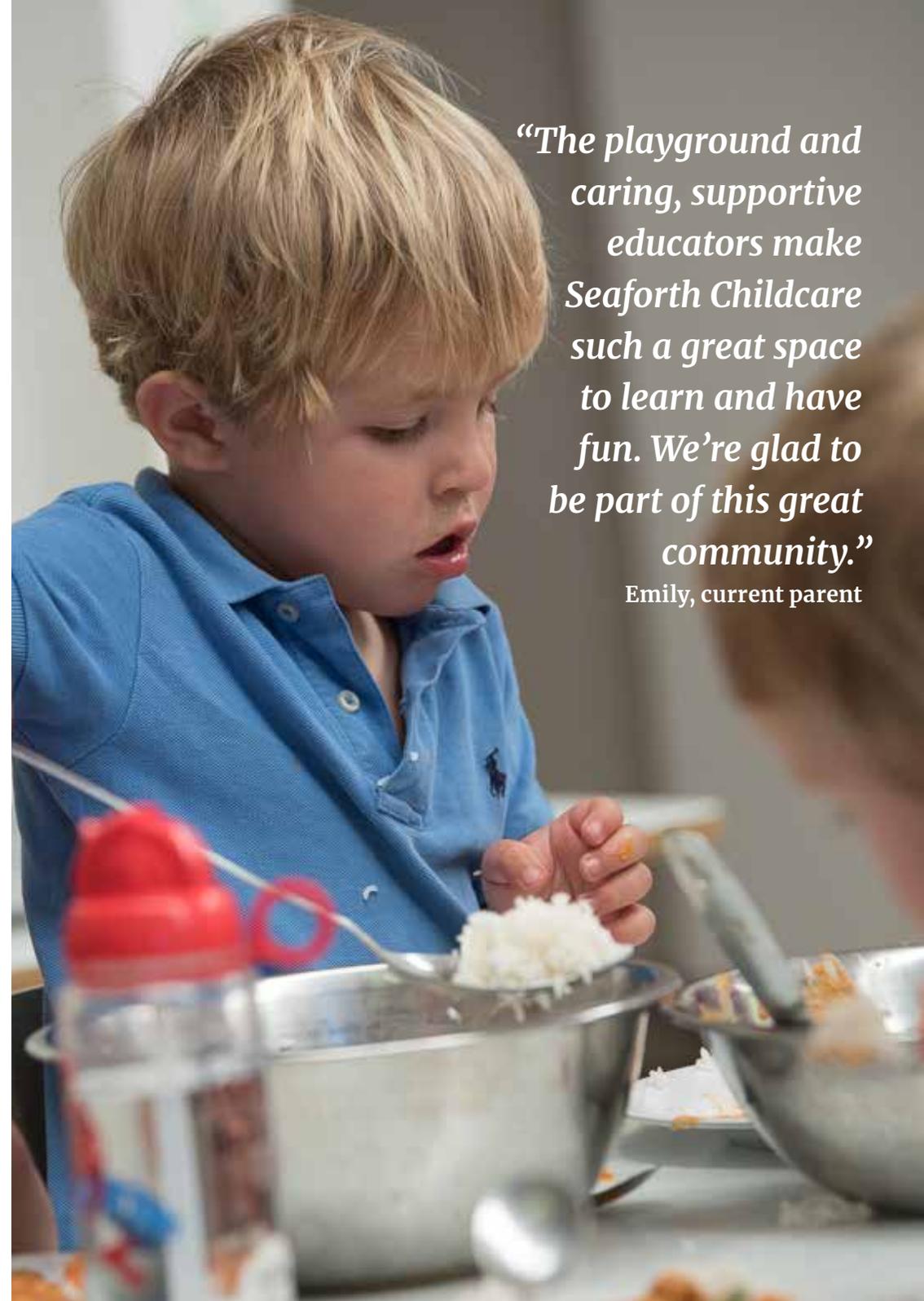
**Your child...** is viewed by our educators as being a confident, capable learner. We empower children to make informed choices about their environment and use a range of teaching strategies which support multi-modal learning and creative thinking.

**Family...** is at the heart of everything we do, as these are the relationships children value most. Achieving a sense of belonging for your child and enabling a connection to his or her home, family and community is key at Seaforth Childcare, and we welcome your input.

**Our educational program...** is based on the Early Years Learning Framework. Our educators scaffold each children’s learning through intentional teaching and play, guiding them with a range of experiences that set them up for lifelong learning.

**Our learning environment...** You may think preparing your child for the transition to school happens the year before ‘big school’ but true learning starts the day your little one is born. Our welcoming educational and play spaces have been architecturally designed with this in mind.

**Our educators ...** Our team of friendly and qualified educators are highly respected on the Northern Beaches, and given many of them have been with us for years, they’re our greatest asset. They always welcome a chat with our families and can provide lots of helpful guidance on child development (and what to expect next!).



*“The playground and caring, supportive educators make Seaforth Childcare such a great space to learn and have fun. We’re glad to be part of this great community.”*

Emily, current parent

## Benefits for your child

- ✓ High quality, nurturing care and education for children aged 0-6 with higher educator to child ratios
- ✓ A huge leafy garden with thoughtfully-considered play experiences and a thriving kitchen garden
- ✓ Nourishing meals and snacks designed by dietitians and prepared by experts in child nutrition, made daily with high quality, seasonal ingredients
- ✓ Trained, caring educators who are passionate about early childhood education and love working with children
- ✓ Our much-loved and recommended transition to school / preschool program
- ✓ A range of extracurricular activities provided at no extra charge, including French classes, mindfulness programs, AUSLAN lessons and messy and sensory play
- ✓ Regular fit'n'healthy programs including Munch and Move

## Benefits for you as a parent

- ✓ Quality care and education with long hours for parents who need them – no more rushing home so you don't miss closing times
- ✓ Morning coffee available at drop-off so please help yourself to a cappuccino!
- ✓ A curriculum that's tailored to your child's interests, needs, strengths and curiosities
- ✓ Regular health assessments for speech, sight and hearing as needed
- ✓ Support and accessibility for breastfeeding mums, and a commitment to following the sleep routine you do at home to ensure your baby feels safe and secure with us
- ✓ Regular newsletters and email correspondence, and daily feedback via our online learning journal, Storypark, which gives you a window into your child's day
- ✓ Parent meetings and social events (including our famous end of year party!)
- ✓ Help provided in accessing government childcare funding.

*“Our boys are treated as if they're family and they just love it.”*

Alice and Josh, current parents

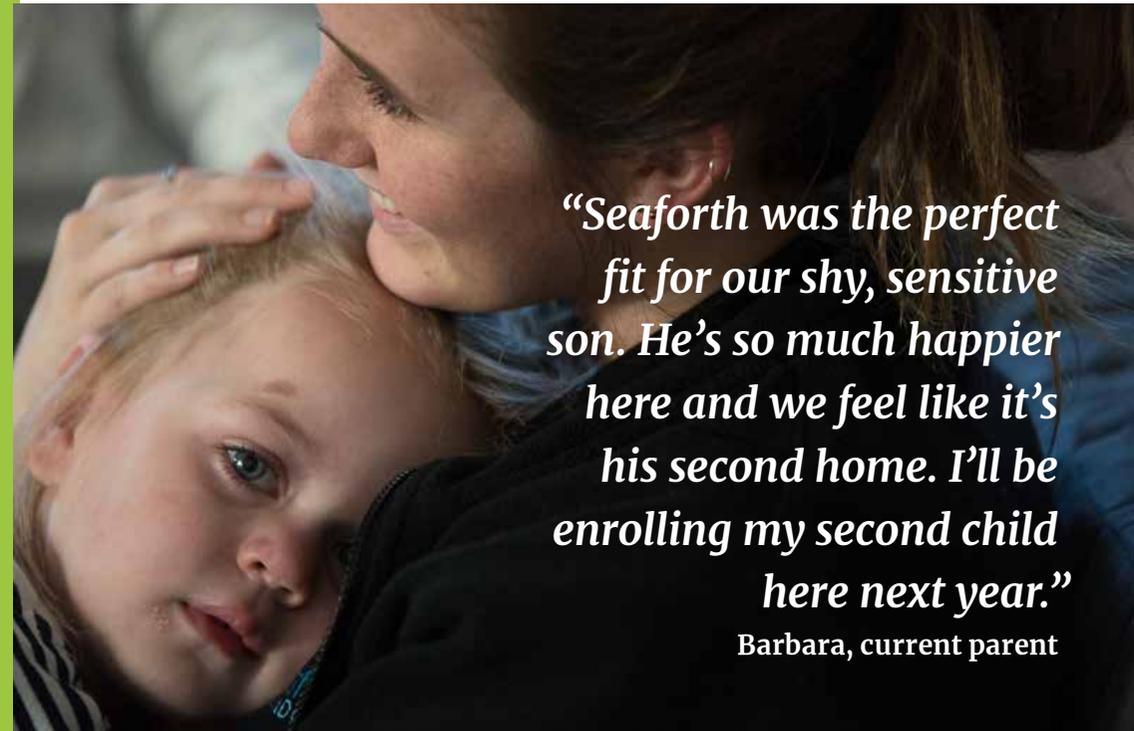
## From babyhood to school-readiness

**If your child is a baby...** We know how important routine is – especially yours. All the babies at Seaforth Childcare receive one-on-one care with our nurturing nursery staff, who are keen to follow your child's sleep routines, play times and meal times. Nothing can replace a baby's parent but we work hard to create a happy home-away-from-home for your bub.

**If your child is a toddler...** Our early learning rooms will be where your little one spends a lot of time. Our educators tailor programs to your child, creating engaging activities that stimulate the imagination, arouse curiosity and

encourage problem-solving. From risky play in our leafy garden, to messy play in our art centre, a session of mindfulness or cooking with produce from our kitchen garden – all of this may be part of your child's day with us.

**If your child is a preschooler...** our School Readiness Program will be front and centre, and it's all about helping your child prepare...and it goes beyond academic abilities! We also look at social skills, emotional and communication skills, readiness to learn – which includes your child's ability to concentrate, follow instructions and process information, and his or her confidence in sharing ideas. Chat to us about the school readiness curriculum if you'd like to know more.



*“Seaforth was the perfect fit for our shy, sensitive son. He's so much happier here and we feel like it's his second home. I'll be enrolling my second child here next year.”*

Barbara, current parent



*“We absolutely love Seaforth Childcare. Other centres we’ve experienced simply don’t compare.”*

Penelope, current parent

### **Building future eco warriors**

We’re big on practicing sustainability at Seaforth Childcare – not only does it help your child develop an appreciation of the natural world, but we believe it also lays the foundations for being an environmentally responsible adult. Both our playgrounds have gardens at child height so the children can participate in caring and nurturing the plants, and we also have a worm farm the children help with. Our children aged 3-5 enjoy regular outings to a kitchen garden (complete with tadpoles, chickens and stingless bees) where they learn about food, where it comes from, how to grow it and even how to cook it.

### **About us**

Seaforth Childcare is a privately run, extended-hours preschool and early learning service founded by Anita Commander in 1991. As a parent of two teenagers who both spent their early years at Seaforth, Anita knows all too well how difficult it can be to leave your little one in the care of others. So, creating a personal service for families and an inclusive, caring and nurturing environment for all the children who attend Seaforth Childcare continues to be Anita’s focus nearly 20 years on. She’s supported by Seaforth’s dedicated director Sophie Harrop, who’s an Early Childhood trained

teacher and also a mum herself. Sophie has worked here since 2005, and thoroughly enjoys helping all the children in her care thrive, have fun and make memories they’ll take with them forever.

### **Our location**

Seaforth Childcare is located on Sydney’s beautiful Northern Beaches. Our local area is a safe, family-friendly suburb with leafy streets, a community vibe and the bush and the beach just minutes away. The city is a 20 minute drive from our Centre. Drop-offs and pick-ups are a breeze with our ample on-site parking.

*“The educators have encouraged my kids’ personalities to thrive... I attribute the great social skills and resilience my kids have to the care they’ve received at Seaforth.”*

Maya, current parent



## Set your child up for success

Scientific evidence shows that babies and young children who receive high-quality childcare and early learning with play-based educational programs develop better social skills. They also have a readiness for the classroom, and the confidence to thrive at 'big school' and beyond.

We'd love to be part of your little one's early learning journey. Talk to us about saving a space for your child!



*We acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of our local area and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We're committed to working towards national reconciliation and integrate aspects of indigenous culture into our curriculum throughout the year in a meaningful and respectful way.*