

# July 2020 Newsletter

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**Castle Hill**  
**Funhouse** Inc.  
*Before, After & Vacation Care Centre*



## On this month

**OOSH Educators Day** ----- 29<sup>th</sup>  
**International Day of Friendship** ---- 30<sup>th</sup>



We have many lost jumpers, jackets,  
hats, drink bottles and other items in  
lost property – come find us!

*Hi Funhouse Families.*

Welcome to July!

There are a few things happening so please read on  
to ensure you have all the latest Funhouse updates.

As always, if you have any questions or need any  
support with your child's journey at Funhouse,  
please don't hesitate to reach out:

m. 0423 843 917    ph. 9680 3361

e. [info@castlehillfunhouse.com.au](mailto:info@castlehillfunhouse.com.au)

*Keep Smiling!*  
*The Funhouse Team*



## Contacting Funhouse

If your family needs to contact Funhouse for any reason, these are the best ways to get in touch with us:



### The team:

[info@castlehillfunhouse.com.au](mailto:info@castlehillfunhouse.com.au)

ph. 9680 3361

text message: 0423 843 917

### Accounts:

[accounts@castlehillfunhouse.com.au](mailto:accounts@castlehillfunhouse.com.au)

Note: our book keeper Pina works on Thursdays and will respond then. For general inquiries, please contact the team above and we will do our best to support you.

### Centre Manager:

[isabelle@castlehillfunhouse.com.au](mailto:isabelle@castlehillfunhouse.com.au)

ph. 9680 3361

text message: 0418 687 579

## The Funhouse Management Committee



Our next meeting is scheduled for:

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 7pm**  
**Online**

**Welcome to our new committee!**

**President:** Erica Miller

**Vice President:** Nicole Corben

**Secretary:** Kathryn Vaughan

**Treasurer:** Amy McKeough

**General Committee Members:** Geoffrey Zhang,  
Sarah Waters, Mel Olennick, Janelle Shaw

As a not-for-profit organisation, Castle Hill Funhouse has a management committee comprised of families who currently use our service.

Without the support of parent volunteers, Funhouse will close. Please take the time to consider one of the position available and give back to our community:

The committee makes major decisions about Castle Hill Funhouse and is currently liaising with relevant stakeholders regarding Funhouse's response to COVID-19 updates as they come in.

## July Vacation Care

Please note in alignment with CHPS and current NSW Department of Health recommendations, there are no excursions planned for our July program. We have increased the number of fun in-house activities and worked with our children to create a fun program!



## Fees & Accounts

From the 6<sup>th</sup> of April until the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020 families will not be charged for any bookings at Castle Hill Funhouse. Instead the Government is providing direct funding to services like us so we can remain open for our current families.

Please note that from the 6<sup>th</sup> of April onwards, absences are not counted, and you will not be charged if your child is absent until the 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Families with outstanding amounts owing (for care or absences prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020) will continue to receive statements. Direct Debit Families with outstanding balances or payment plans will continue to be debited until their account is zeroed.





## COVID-19 Updates and Extra Measures

To continue best hygiene practices, we ask families and our team of staff to do the following:

- Maintain social distancing
- Use sanitiser prior to signing your child/ren in and out
- Follow general hygiene guidelines: cough into your elbow, don't attend Funhouse if you or your child is unwell
- Speak up to a Funhouse supervisor if you are concerned with the safety of your child, yourself and/or others
- All children to wash hands when arriving at before school care
- Inform the centre and school should your child test positive for COVID-19

*Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding*

If an authorised person is collecting your child from Funhouse and they are unwell OR at a high risk, please contact Funhouse via email to organise a different collection alternative



## Funhouse Opening Hours and Closure Days

Castle Hill Funhouse has been authorised to operate during the following hours:

### Before School Care:

7:00am – 9:00am

### After School Care:

3:00pm – 6:30pm

### Vacation Care:

7:00am – 6:30pm

### School Development Days:

7:00am – 6:30pm

Castle Hill Funhouse is closed during:

### National Public Holidays

### Two-week summer holiday closure:

Closing 6:30pm Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020  
reopening 7:00am Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

## OOSH Educators Day 2020



### Outside Of School Hours

OOSH Educators Day provides an occasion to take stock of all the invaluable work OOSH Educators do every day with children and families.

They are often at the centre of children's lives, building trusting and long-term relationships with children well into adulthood.

They can have a truly life-changing impact on children, acting as inspirational educators, role-models and mentors.

It's time to give a shout out to all the great OOSH Educators for their work and to make them feel valued in the profession!

Now, more than ever before, it's vital that we all realise OOSH Educators do far more than care for children: they are a significant contributor to a local school community.

Funhouse will be celebrating OOSH Educators Day by organising some events with our children and a Bingo night with our Management Committee.

*Thank you to our amazing team!*



# Ensure your Child Care Subsidy Continues

## A message from the Australian Government

The free childcare relief package is scheduled to end on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020

[Child Care Subsidy \(CCS\)](#) is starting again on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

If you were receiving CCS before 6 April 2020, it will automatically start again if you've stayed eligible and your enrolment is current and confirmed.

Follow these five steps to make sure you've stayed eligible and receive the right amount of CCS:

1. Give Centrelink your [2020–21 family income estimate](#) to receive the correct CCS percentage and avoid an overpayment.
2. Check your [activity hours](#) to receive the correct amount of hours of CCS per fortnight\*.
3. Make sure your child meets [immunisation requirements](#).
4. Check your child's [enrolment details](#) are current with your child care service and re-enrol if you need to.
5. [Confirm your income for 2018–19](#) if you haven't already by 30 June 2020.

\*From 13 July 2020, the Australian Government is easing the activity test for CCS. This means you may be able to apply for extra activity hours if COVID-19 has affected you. There will be more information about how to do this in July.

If you're [new to child care](#), you should [claim](#) CCS as soon as possible. From 13 July 2020, you'll pay full fees unless you're getting CCS.

For more information, visit [Services Australia](#).

The Department of Education, Skills and Employment has created an information sheet for [families about the transition arrangements for the end of the Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package](#) and the return to CCS.

If you need to cancel your permanent bookings at Castle Hill Funhouse, you will need to provide two weeks' notice and communicate this information in writing.



### Information for Families

Services Australia has many helpful YouTube videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3zxsbyVCpwnYhFc34h7TjcMGfdFcC7k>

Please catch any of the supervisors: Isabelle, Sue, Tamika or Louise if there's anything you'd like to chat about

Alternatively, please complete our online Feedback form:

<https://castlehillfunhouse.com.au/forms/complaints-incidents-grievance-form/>

**Feedback**  
is always welcome 



## Accessing Funhouse

For your own safety, we ask families to  
**use the school paths to  
access Funhouse**



Do not use the side gate  
behind the bag shed and  
instead walk along the  
paths/paved area to our new  
outdoor sign in/our area.

## Safety at Funhouse

**IMPORTANT**

While at Funhouse, if you are ever  
concerned about the safety of your  
children or the safety of others, please  
share your concern directly to the  
supervisor of the day, the Responsible  
Person, the Centre Manager or the  
Management Committee



**Be You offers information and resources specifically designed for Educators on specific mental health-related topics. At Castle Hill Funhouse, the team of staff is engaging with different modules and meet termly to consolidate the information in the context of Funhouse.**

This month, the staff participated in a staff led 'BeYou' training. This training assisted staff learn how we can foster children's resilience, develop social and emotional skills, and empower children in educational settings such as Funhouse. The staff increased their mental health literacy and gained insights into how we can support children develop resilience. We addressed how to foster independence and responsibility in everyday learning contexts, experiences, and activities. The staff got involved in some group exercises, practical activities, and games to test their learning. We aim to implement strategies learnt from the training to promote children's sense of agency and autonomy, develop emotional skills to promote resilience, and involve families and communities in the process.



*Lauren and Hannah*



## Weekly Sport

Week 10 Term 2: Soccer

Week 1 Term 3: European  
Handball

Week 2 Term 3: Basketball



# COVID-19 Resources

## If you have symptoms



- **Self-isolate first.** Call your GP or visit a public COVID-19 clinic: [www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19)
- Travel in your own car or a private car driven by a family member or an existing close contact. **Do not travel by public transport, taxi or ride-share service.**
- **Wear a surgical mask.** If unavailable, ask for one immediately when you arrive.

If you need a test, you can visit a COVID-19 clinic:

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/clinics.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/clinics.aspx)

[www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/coronavirus-covid-19-gp-respiratory-clinics](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/coronavirus-covid-19-gp-respiratory-clinics)

## Testing is available at the following public clinics in Western Sydney:

Blacktown Hospital	Westmead Hospital	The Children's Hospital, Westmead
18 Blacktown Road, Blacktown 7am - 11pm, 7 days Phone (02) 9881 8000	Level 2, E Block, Corner of Hawkesbury Road and Darcy Road, Westmead 7am - 9pm, 7 days Phone (02) 8890 5555	Corner of Hawkesbury Road and Hainsworth Street, Westmead 10am - 8pm, 7 days (02) 9845 0000

## COVID-19- need more information or help?

Call 1800 020 080 (24/7) for health questions or to check symptoms

Call 13 77 88 (24/7) for non-health related questions

Call 1800 512 348 (24/7) for mental wellbeing support

Visit [www.healthdirect.gov.au](http://www.healthdirect.gov.au) to check symptoms

Visit [www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19) for all other COVID-19 related information.

Call 13 14 50 for FREE help in your language



**Protect yourself and others.**



**Practise good hygiene**



**Practise social distancing**



**Stay home if you can**

Please catch any of the supervisors: Isabelle, Sue, Tamika or Louise if there's anything you'd like to chat about

Alternatively, please complete our online Feedback form:

<https://castlehillfunhouse.com.au/forms/complaints-incidents-grievance-form/>

**Feedback**  
is always welcome

