



Queensland Early Childhood Sustainability Network Inc.

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD APPLICATION FORM

Please refer to the QECSN Sustainability Awards Guidelines in order to complete this application.

Please focus on ONE project.

On completion save as PDF and email this application to: admin@qecsn.org.au

Please check guidelines for application closing date.

Your Details

Centre/Service Name:

C&K Gaven Community Kindergarten

Address:

25 Pinevale Drive, Oxenford, QLD

Person to Contact:

Name:

Cherie Jenkins

Phone:

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Current member of QECSN Inc.



Queensland Early Childhood Sustainability Network Inc.

Certification: In submitting this application, I certify that all photos submitted have approval of the person photographed or their parent/guardian to be used in this application and may be uploaded onto the QECSN Inc. website or Facebook site. I also acknowledge that this application may be shared with others via the QECSN Inc. website. www.qecsn.org.au and Facebook site.

Name Cherie Jenkins

Date 8th December 2019

The Project

Project Category: please select **one** by placing an **X** in the box

Service Engagement and Improvement through Sustainable Practices and Processes

Educator(s) leading change: Rethinking Sustainability

Children leading change for sustainability

Title:

A creative title that reflects the focus of the project

R.E.A.C.H
Recycling &
Environmental
Awesomeness
Community
Hub



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Telling the Story: (300 words max)

Prompts to consider:

- Describe the inspiration for the project
- Describe the different parties that were involved and how decisions were made.
- Tell us about any local relevance to your centre or location.
- Tell us about the long term potential for the project.

As a centre, we love the idea of being able to provide an environmental service that could directly impact the community at large. Our goal is to educate and involve the children in daily sustainability practices that they can then apply in their home environment.

As a team, we brainstormed and designed a sustainable way to create an eco-friendly recycling hub offering an easy and accessible way to recycle multiple types of household items. We collaborated with a past father who was able to build our hub to our specifications using repurposed and donated items. We chose durable materials suitable for outdoor use so that we can keep the hub in a position where it is accessible to the community outside centre hours.

In order to extend our reach into the community, we have registered with Terra-cycle to become a drop off point for various, previously unrecyclable items.

Our long-term goal is to continue educating families about our impact on the environment by role-modeling sustainable practices and working towards a zero-waste future.



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Linking the Learning: (500 words max)

Prompts to consider:

- Describe the changes and outcomes from the project and how they were experienced from multiple perspectives
- Link to EYLF, QKLG, NQS and or ECEfS research or policy

R.E.A.C.H has greatly impacted the community's involvement in the various sustainability schemes available. We have people from within the wider community coming to drop off their items, and because we have set up our hub alongside other sustainable practices we widen their knowledge of what can be recycled, repurposed and reused contributing to our goal of having a waste free society.

Since introducing R.E.A.C.H we have had more family engagement, parents have become more aware of what can be recycled and our intake of usable waste has increased. This has also meant that the children have a wider variety of resources to encourage their creativity and extend on their play.

Building waterfalls

We are connected to a natural and sustainable world. Educators embrace the natural world and commit to a sustainable future. Families contribute local and traditional knowledge about the environment and a sustainable world.

NQS

3.2.2 The service cares for the environment and supports children to become environmentally responsible



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Future Potential: (300 words max)

Prompts to consider:

- Describe the plans for the future of the project
- Describe how the project has empowered stakeholders
- Describe the continued differences that the project might make.

In the future we hope to expand the range of products that we recycle and re-use and our ultimate goal is to widen our reach within the community and continue to educate children and families so we can reduce the amount of waste going into landfill and leave a smaller footprint.

R.E.A.C.H is at child height and visually shows children the types of waste that can be reused helping them to become stronger advocates for our project; they then feel empowered to educate their friends and families. We believe it provides the children a strong foundation in learning how to care for our environment and will have a lasting impact that influences them for their future practices.

The momentum of the project has given staff encouragement and inspiration to look into more ways we can help the children create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.



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Photos (insert up to 4 photos)

Prompts for photos:

- Choose photos that reflect the spirit and focus of the project
- Choose photos that will help to inspire others to change
- Choose photos that help the viewer to understand how they might engage in a similar project.

Photo 1 Caption

Inspiration for station



Photo 2 Caption

R.E.A.C.H



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Photo 3 Caption

Evette helping a lady from the community unpack her recycling



Photo 4 Caption

Dreamworld's delivery to our drop off



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