



Preschoolers At-home
Uniquely Achieving



Become a home-based educator

Are tired of juggling work, family and training but you still need an income? Would you love to be at home with your children as they are growing up? Are you hearing about work/life balance and see it as important, but not sure how you can attain it? If you answered yes to those questions, and are able to demonstrate responsive relationships with children and families then maybe you might like to consider a career change as a Homebased Early Childhood Educator.

Due to their continued growth, PAUA Early Childhood Homebased Education Service is currently looking for Homebased Educators in Wanganui and the surrounding areas. "Early childhood qualifications are a bonus but not a requirement," Raewyn Overton-Stuart (PAUA Director) says. "If you have a passion for working with children and a willingness to develop these skills further then we would love to hear from you. As



Callum has a cuddle with mum and Noah.

well as the ongoing training and support offered by our Visiting Teachers, if you would like further training and a NZQA qualification then we have a great partnership with "Training for You" here in Wanganui who offer our Educators the National Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care - Level Three."

There are many reasons to become a home-based educator. For Bobbie

Fantham, PAUA was a great choice. She says, "For me, as a solo mother, it ticks all the boxes. I get to watch my son grow up and develop, which was really important to me, as well having other children around that he can interact with. On top of that I get to have an extra income but don't have to spend time away from Callum by going off to work."

Jodi Reid, who started as an Educator with PAUA over a year ago after working in retail, says "I love being an Educator because I get to be at home, and the children in my care enjoy the aspects of a home environment whether its outside in the garden, or inside doing baking. We also go out to the parks and Mainly Music as well as the PAUA Playgroups and Community Outings. The children are very much a big part of my life now and I'd be lost without them. In fact they are an extended part of my family as we often go to visit with my mother and grandmother, who also love to spend time with them too."

Carolle Rose is PAUA's newest Educator, having decided recently to leave the childcare centre she has been working at to be self-

employed at home. "I get the best of both worlds. I get to work with children which I love, and also the potential to earn more money by doing it at home! However to me the most important thing is the knowledge that I'm able to provide quality care and education as the home-based ratio means that I have no more than four children at any time, with no more than two of them being under two years. As an Early Childhood Educator I know the benefits this has for children."

Brainwave Trust, a national New Zealand organisation whose aim is to raise public awareness about the new findings in brain research, emphasises the importance of early experiences on infant brain development. "By engaging with and educating each other about the importance of the first three years, we give all New Zealand children the opportunity to reach their potential. A baby's brain is unique and precious. The way it develops will determine who he or she will become. Genes may establish a child's potential, however it is day-to-day experiences that will help the child to fulfil that potential. At birth the baby's brain is only 15% developed. Most of a baby's brain development actually occurs after the birth - in the first three years of life. It is the child's experiences during these years that enable the brain to grow. *In particular, it is relationally-rich experiences which provide children with the 'brain-food' they need to grow into happy, secure and well functioning adults.* Poor experiences during this time can have lasting negative effects on a child's brain, and who they can become."



Carolle and Constance enjoying time together.

Last weekend at the TRCC course "Whakawhangaungatanga" held in Wellington for Visiting Teachers and Educators involved in Homebased Education, delegates were told that if it wasn't possible for children 0-3 years to be at home with their parents, then the next best option for a relationally-rich environment would be for them to be in home-based care. "It is the richness of the in-depth relationships that home-based education can provide that sets us

apart from other types of Early Childhood Education," Raewyn says, "Children are with the same person from the time parents drop them off, to the time they are picked up in the evening. This Educator provides a stable environment for the children, responding to all their needs, which in turn means deep relationships are formed."

You can find more about Brainwave Trust at www.brainwave.org.nz and PAUA at www.paua.ac.nz



Noah and Bobbie enjoy a game together.



Jodi with her PAUA children, Billy and Lucas.




Proud to keep the educators talking!

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Do you need childcare?

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For more information please phone **RAEWYN 344 7282** or **0800 728 277**



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