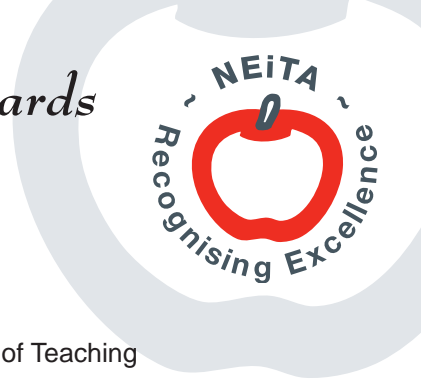


NEiTA 2009 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards

State and Territory Award Recipient



Joanne Greaves

Diploma of Community Services (Children's Services), Bachelor of Teaching
(Birth to 5yrs)

Kangaroo Ground Pre-school, Kangaroo Ground, Victoria

Nominated by: Committee of Management, Pre-school parents

Position: Preschool Director • Category: Early Childhood • Level taught: Preschool 4 year-old level, 3 year-old level • Years teaching: 15 years (pre-school assistant), 4 years (teacher) • Years at this school: 19 years • School type: Government • Town/Suburb: Kangaroo Ground • State: Victoria • Postcode: 3097

Why teaching?

Having worked for 15 years as a pre-school assistant, I was inspired to study, as a mature age student, to extend and build on my knowledge and understanding of early childhood education.

My passion is to inspire and guide young lives as they continue on their journey of learning and exploration of the amazing world we all share. I enjoy working with the children and their families to provide a community pre-school that is welcoming, supportive, respectful and busy every day with investigation, discovery and learning through play.

Creating a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment

The atmosphere at Kangaroo Ground Preschool is one of warmth, caring and nurturing. As pre-school director, Joanne Greaves creates an environment in which the children feel safe, secure and stimulated to learn. She calls on her nearly two decades of experience as a pre-school assistant and newly qualified teacher to recognise the individual qualities and experiences that each child brings to kinder. She works in partnership with the children and their families to help each preschooler realise their true potential.

Joanne's teaching program provides opportunities for both individual and group learning experiences. She embraces an emergent curriculum, which is designed around the interests, abilities and experiences of the children, as well as events in the community and the world. Her program is play based and focuses on the development of the whole child, where the children engage in free play, self-directed learning and teacher guided group experiences.

The grounds of the pre-school create a perfect learning environment with flourishing flower gardens and vegetable patches in a beautiful rural setting. Vegetables grown and harvested by the children can be shared at snack times creating a sense of common ownership.

The children at Kangaroo Ground Pre-school enjoy a collaborative interaction with other children in the wider community. Joanne invites Kangaroo Ground Primary School students to visit the pre-school to read to the children each week. Also welcome at the pre-school is Grandma Noel, a volunteer who spends time with the children each week. These visits not only create a great community spirit, but also help prepare the pre-schoolers for their transition to primary school. Kangaroo Ground Pre-school also proudly supports the local 'Soul of a Child' playgroup and is endeavouring to collect food to assist the Diamond Valley Food Share project.

Joanne is a caring and inspiring teacher whose influence reaches beyond her own pre-school children; it also reaches out into the wider community.

Contact details:

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Teacher: Joanne Greaves
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For further information, please contact:

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