

# **Facebook Guide for Family Day Care Educators**

Our community face - accessible, trusted, and familiar for families and local networks.

## **Purpose & Tone**

**Purpose:** Facebook is your community hub — great for visibility, storytelling, and trust-building. **Tone:** Friendly, caring, and community-minded. Write like you're talking to parents at drop-off.

## **Profile Setup**

- Username: @YourFDCName or @EducatorName.FDC
- Profile Photo: Smiling educator photo or logo.
- Create a Business Page (you can't have a business page without a personal profile)
- **Profile Picture:** Your logo or a friendly professional photo.
- Cover Photo: Bright and inviting (your play area or children's art wall).
- Fill in all details hours, location (suburb only for privacy), and contact info.
- Add your website or Instagram page link.
- Add a clear About section that includes your philosophy, services, and educator experience.

#### What to Post

- Photos and short videos of play setups and environments (no child faces unless approved).
- Daily moments: craft setups, outdoor play, nature walks (with permission).
- Announcements: open vacancies, special events, public holidays.
- Educational posts: tips for parents ("5 ways to support early literacy at home").
- Family appreciation posts: "Thank you to our families for your support this term!" > you would gain more followers if the parents of the post allowed you to tag them.
- Celebrate themes (e.g., NAIDOC Week, Book Week, World Environment Day).
- Share Windermere ECECS posts.

## **Grow Your Followers**

- Use relevant hashtags: #FamilyDayCare #PlayBasedLearning #EarlyChildhoodEducation #FDC
- Post 2 times a week + daily stories.
- Join local groups: "Mums & Bubs [Your Suburb]," "Parenting in [City]," "Local Business Network."
- Engage by offering helpful advice or sharing your events.
- Collaborate with nearby services comment and tag them.
- Invite your families and local friends to like your page.
- Use short, clear captions with emojis for warmth.
- Always tag a location when uploading a post or video

# **Engagement etiquette**

- Always reply to DMs within 24 hours, even if just to acknowledge receipt.
- Keep responses professional and warm:
  - o "Thank you for your kind words, [Name]! It's such a joy to see children thrive."
  - o "I appreciate your support community means everything in Family Day Care."
  - o "Thanks for your message, [Name]! I'll DM you details about our current availability."
  - o "That's such a great question! Every child develops at their own pace here's how we support that at our FDC."
- Feel free to share other's posts to your story.
- One or two emojis are fine, but avoid hearts, slang, or text talk ("lol," "omg")



# Be Professional and Friendly

- Use your real name with a welcoming profile photo.
- Respond politely to messages and comments.
- Keep your tone warm, approachable, and inclusive.

## **Share Engaging, Educational Content**

- Post photos (with parent permission) of play-based learning, outdoor exploration, and creative activities.
- Celebrate children's milestones in a general, nonidentifying way (e.g., "We explored colours!").
- Do use location tags (e.g., #MelbourneEducators).

#### **Keep Families Informed**

- Share announcements about vacancies, events, and important updates.
- Remind families about policies, safety, and routines in a positive tone.

# **Maintain Privacy and Permissions**

- Always get written consent before posting any photos or videos of children.
- Avoid sharing any personal details about families or children.

# Join and Engage in Local Groups

- Participate in local parent, childcare, or business community groups to expand your reach.
- Offer advice or contribute to conversations as an expert in early childhood care (not just to advertise).

# **Use Visuals Wisely**

- Use bright, real photos from your day care to show authenticity. Use natural light for photos.
- Include your logo and consistent brand colours for a professional look. Mix photos, videos, and stories.

## **Stay Consistent**

- Post regularly even simple updates once or twice a week keep your page active.
- Schedule posts using Meta Business Suite if needed.

#### Don'ts

## **Don't Share Confidential Information**

- Never post names, addresses, or identifying details about children or families.
- Avoid showing license plates, street signs, or school uniforms in photos.

# Don't Complain or Vent Online

- Keep personal frustrations, conflicts, or negative comments off your business page.
- Avoid posting about disagreements with parents or colleagues.

## Don't Post Low-Quality or Irrelevant Content

- Skip blurry photos, meme overload, or unrelated topics.
- Avoid reposting viral videos or controversial content that could dilute your professional image.

#### **Don't Overuse Promotions**

- Balance promotional posts (vacancies, services) with educational and community-focused content.
- Too many "advertising" posts can turn followers away.

# Don't Ignore Engagement

 Don't leave comments or messages unanswered — it can look unprofessional.

## Don't Mix Personal and Professional Accounts

- Keep a separate business page for your Family Day Care.
- Avoid posting personal opinions or photos unrelated to your service.

# **Don't Forget About Compliance**

- Follow Family Day Care and privacy regulations in your state or region.
- Avoid making unverified claims or comparisons with other services.

For how to create and schedule Facebook posts – <u>click here.</u>
For how to create and share a story on Facebook – <u>click here.</u>
For how to post a video on Facebook – <u>click here.</u>
For how to post in a Facebook Group – <u>click here.</u>