

The countdown is on!

We're throwing open the doors of the First 5 Years early childhood education centre tomorrow, 20 May, and we can't wait to show and share all the amazing work that has gone on here at our Retro Street site.

From 9.30-11am tomorrow, you, the Emerald community, are our special guests but we'll also be welcoming our Emerald fires and police to the centre, and the local Girl Guides will be cooking up the sausages while our chef Miss Mariana whips some tasty treats for the morning.

We have a fabulous raffle in aid of Bush-kids and we would just like to give a big thank you to all the Emerald businesses and organisations that donated to it - Frankie the Rat, Central Western Communications, Fair Dinkum Meats, headspace, Roses and Beans, the Maraboon Tavern, Mitre 10, the Tip Shop, one anonymous donor and three of our educators in Christine, Cindy and Jen.

We can't wait to meet you, but in the meantime, meet some of our wonderful staff.

Our chef

Miss Mariana

Mariana was born and raised in Brazil, but since she was a little girl she has always enjoyed travelling abroad and exploring new cultures and languages.

Mariana speaks Portuguese, Spanish and continues to learn English.

"I've travelled to four continents and I still want to explore the world," Mariana said.

She came here to learn English but fell in love with this paradise and today calls Australia home.

"In my day-to-day life I love visiting new places, cooking for my family, studying astrology and watching the sunset," she said.

In Australia, Mariana has completed her Certificate IV in Commercial Cookery, Diploma in Hospitality Management and Diploma in Leadership and Management.



First 5 Years chef Mariana hard at work during a team building exercise in early May where staff worked developing our purpose, values and what we want our centre to be for families and the community.

"I was living on the Gold Coast in a long-distance relationship and out of love I decided to move in with my partner," she said.

I have now settled in Emerald with my partner Ryan and his two beautiful daughters. I'm enjoying the country life, making new friends and creating memories with my Australian family."

Lead Educator - Toddlers

Miss Rei

Rei has been in Early Childhood Education since 2016 and has experience with all different age groups from 0-5.

"My passion particularly lies in the 1-2 year group, one of the biggest milestones at this age

is learning how to communicate and how to make good choices," she said.

"I hope to be involved and support and encourage these little people to explore and learn"

Being creative through arts and crafts, PC gaming and cooking are some of Rei's favourite things.

"I also love collecting house plants, breeding live bearers and spending time with my little family of four," she said.

Lead Educator - Kindergarten

Early Childhood Teacher Miss Christine

Christine has relocated from Bogan Gate, NSW,

to Emerald with her four beautiful children.

"My children are my inspiration to everything I do and to always go out of my way to do my best," she said.

Miss Christine is passionate about empowering and helping the children that come into her care to have the "skills, knowledge and confidence they need to enter the world and succeed, making sure they get the best out of their lives".

Christine believes in working closely with families to develop a strong, positive relationship with families and the children. She cannot wait to meet everyone and settle in to Emerald life.

Along with 8 years experience in the profession, Christine also holds her Certificate III and Diploma in Early Childhood Education, and is currently studying her Bachelor in Early Years Education.

Lead Educator

Taiah

Taiah has been living in Emerald for two years now after moving here from Rocky to live her partner Ryan.

"I have loved my time here so far, creating new friends and memories," she said.

Taiah has been in the Early Years Education profession since finishing high school in 2020, and has loved every moment.

Having completed her Certificate III, Taiah then enrolled straight into her Diploma, which she hopes to finish this year, before enrolling in her Bachelor of Education.

Taiah took on the role of Lead Educator at the start of this year, and will be continuing this exciting journey with the very lucky Senior Toddler children of First 5 Years.

In her spare time Taiah plays rugby league on the weekends for the Blackwater Crushettes, and during the week she plays touch with friends.

First5Years

Quality Kindergarten Education you can Trust

We understand it's mid-year, and most families have Kindy sorted. There is still however an opportunity! Maybe you'd like an extra Kindy day? Or need a day or two of long day care in an industry leading Kindy environment? If that's you, we have you covered

- QLD Govt Funded Kindergarten Program
- Experienced Early Education Teachers
- Long Day Care for working families
- Modern resources and a nurturing environment

We have places available today for 4 years and above. Contact us to book a tour and see why we are a quality choice for Emerald families.



First5Years.com.au