## 2016 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards

## State and Territory Award Recipient

## Bianca O'Malley

St Lawrence's Primary School Bluff Point, Western Australia

Bianca believes that a teacher's role goes beyond set curriculums and outcomes to educating children to realise their potential and make valuable contributions to society. She is also acutely aware that as a kindergarten teacher she is many students' first formal educator, and that she has a huge responsibility for each child's developing social skills, and to ignite a love of learning.

Bianca believes children learn best through play, and she provides a developmental play-based teaching and learning program. This also includes the emergent curriculum, where learning experiences are rich and relevant to the needs and interests of the children.

St Lawrence's Primary School believes in nurturing the 'whole student' and Bianca's work to build relationships with families begins prior to the start of the school year, so she can learn in advance how to meet each child's needs. She also maintains close relationships with parents, via a Facebook page, newsletters and co-constructed weekly learning, to continue to build relationships with and encourage parental involvement in each child's learning.

| Position                    | Other responsibilities | Category        | Subjects/level taught | Years teaching     |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Kindergarten<br>Teacher     |                        | Early Childhood |                       | 15                 |
| Years at this school/centre | School type            | Nominated by    | Town/suburb           | State and postcode |
| 15                          | Private                | Parent          | Bluff Point           | WA, 6530           |

## **Contact details:**

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