

# 2016 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards

## State and Territory Award Recipient

### Michelle Reynolds

Blueys Treehouse Freshwater  
Freshwater, New South Wales

At Blueys Treehouse Michelle is invested in making positive contributions into the lives of the children, families, and the community.

Michelle encourages close relationships with parents as their input is invaluable to the wellbeing of their children. Michelle also believes in the importance of open communication with children and their families, and sees parents as her greatest resource in meeting each child's individual education needs.

Each morning her preschool group begin their day with a time of gathering in a Yarnin circle. Acknowledgement to Country is shared by the children and educators, welcomes from around the world are shared in different languages, at this time news of daily activities are discussed and how each day is a celebration of time together. The focus of this time is a daily journey of finding ways to practice respect and embrace different peoples and their cultures from around the world.

One of Michelle's many passions is raising awareness of the need for early year's Indigenous education. Michelle has raised needed funds for World Vision Australia's charity the Warlpiri Community for their early year's project. Through two children's art auctions run from her centre she has been able to raise over \$20,000 through her parent community. This passion is instilled in the children and together Blueys Treehouse Freshwater community is developing appreciation of indigenous culture.

Blueys Treehouse Freshwater, which has only been open for three years, has an extensive waiting list which is a reflection of Michelle's leadership of this beautiful centre. Blueys Treehouse Freshwater has a strong relationship with feeder schools, which are complimentary of its school readiness program.

Position	Other responsibilities	Category	Subjects/level taught	Years teaching
Director/ Educator		Early Childhood		29
<b>Educator</b>		<b>Early Childhood</b>		<b>29</b>
3	Private	Parent	Freshwater	NSW, 2096

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#### Contact details:

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