

Media release

10th October

C&K teachers finalists in the 2018 Excellence in Teaching Awards

C&K is delighted to have two finalists in the Queensland College of Teachers(QTC) 2018 Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Each year, the QTC awards recognise teachers from around Queensland, for excellence in teaching.

This year, Moy Carra from C&K White Rock is a finalist in the *Beginning to Teach Award* and Narelle Dawson from C&K Bribie Island is a finalist in *Outstanding Contribution to School Community Award*.

Moy Carra, has extensive experience in early childhood education, after working in family daycare she completed her degree in teaching as a mature-age student and began with C&K in 2017.

“I love teaching the early years, there is so much change in the children in a short space of time; seeing them learn and grow is very special. I love that in the classroom we can sing and make music, their curiosity and ability to learn is incredible.

“Recently I have been telling them stories using Auslan and their ability to engage and willingness to connect is inspiring” she said.

Ms Carra said being announced as a finalist was a bit overwhelming.

“It is a bit surreal, because it’s what I do every day and you don’t tend to think what you do is exceptional, just part of my daily role,” she said.

C&K Regional Manager Jane Harpley said Moy has made a very positive impact on the children and on the broader community.

“Moy embraces the local community where the kindergarten is located and has worked hard to form relationships with the Elders to support the inclusion of the Yidinji language.

“Her positivity, passion and commitment is second to none, and her talent is endless, she even taught herself how to play the ukulele,” Ms Harpley said.

C&K’s second finalist, Narelle Dawson, strongly believes in inclusion and is dedicated to finding and creating opportunities to engage children with their broader community.

Narelle was a driving force in implementing a 'Bush Kindy Program' at Bribie Island, where as well as spending time outside connecting to nature and learning about sustainable living, the children learn from a local Aboriginal elder developing their understanding on traditional and contemporary local Aboriginal practices and culture.

Narelle's has developed various projects that encourage children to learn about being a positive community member and global citizen, one being weekly visits to the local Aged Care Facility.

C&K Regional Manager Meg Jones expressed how proud and excited C&K was that Narelle's strong relationship skills were recognised.

"A hallmark of high quality services is how connected they are with their local context. Narelle's work is an outstanding example of how children can be supported to be active and contributing citizens in their communities," she said.

C&K's General Manager of Children's Services Kathryn Woods said it was wonderful for Moy and Narelle to be recognised as finalists.

"It is wonderful to see two of our incredible teachers as finalists in this year's awards," Ms Woods said.

"Their professional expertise, passion for teaching and dedication to the children within their communities is commendable, we are incredibly proud of them and the work they do.

"We wish both Moy and Narelle the best of luck in the upcoming awards".

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**For further information please contact
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C&K is Queensland's largest, not-for-profit early childhood education and care provider and has a proud history of educating and caring for Queensland children for over a century. C&K manages a range of early childhood education and care services including kindergartens and childcare services. C&K services use the teaching guidelines Building waterfalls– a curriculum developed specially for C&K and recognised internationally. The C&K philosophy values inclusion and supports children with special needs, and from culturally-diverse backgrounds.