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11th June 2014

Dear Michael Carter,

**RE: Small Environmental Projects  
Integrating Sustainable Practices for Growing Vegetables**

The raised garden beds were purchased from Cowra Men's Shed along with soil from Bryant's Concrete and Plants from Bunnings.

The children were able to assist with filling the beds using wheelbarrows and shovels. We then chose plants to suit the climate and season. We used a mix of herbs, vegetable and fruiting trees. The process of this funding has allowed us to continue with moving towards a more sustainable environment where the children have the opportunity to take part in a very hands on approach. Throughout the process plus over the coming months we will change the gardens beds to suit the seasons, thus continuing to teach our future generation on how sustainable practices can involve the whole family and community.



The project has allowed us to implement the National Quality Standards in Early Childhood Education and care by following a number of Elements. These include Element 3.2.1: Outdoor & indoor spaces are designed and organized to engage every child in quality experiences in both build and natural environments.

Standard 3.3: The service takes an active role in caring for its environment and contributes to a sustainable future

Element 3.3.1: Sustainable practices are embedded in service operations

Element 3.3.2: Children are supported and become environmentally responsible and show respect for the environment



Carinya



Family Day Care



Mobile



OOSH

These elements and standards help to guide us when educating our future generation. They impart much fundamental ideas and practices in our everyday lives both at home and in the community.

We feel this was very successful and involved children as learners. The process of applying for the funding was brilliant and when granted has allowed us to bring in other community services such as the men's shed.

On behalf of Cowra Early Childhood Services – Carinya we would like to say thank you to Michael Carter and the Cowra Shire Council

Sincerely

Michele McGuinness  
Assistant Director



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