

ECEC Childrens' Fair 2014

This year ECEC is organising a Children's Fair at Jawalakhel Ground. This event is another way of moving towards ECEC's mission by providing activities that promote holistic and balanced development for children.

For those that attend, there will be a wide variety of exciting activities:

- Stage performances
- Fun activities and games for children
- Workshops for parents and care givers
- Face Painting, Food

COME and ENJOY!



ICDP launched in Nepal

After much preparation, on 2 June 2014, the International Children Development Programme (ICDP) was launched in Nepal at Early Childhood Education Centre (ECEC) with the support of Himal Partner (HP). The ICDP international trainers, Helen Johnsen Christie and Elsa Doehlie came from Norway to conduct the first of three 4-day workshops of ICDP Facilitator Training. This is the first time this training has been available in Nepal.

In recent years, Nepal has gone through civil war (1996-2006) in which both adults and children lost their lives, leaving many widows, orphans and broken families. To respond to this need this child development project is already a success in Nepal. The project aims to increase the psycho-social wellbeing of children in Nepal through improved parent - child communication.



1 Year Accredited Course

The Preschool Teacher Training is a unique programme to upgrade the competence of preschool teachers in Nepal through a 1 Year accredited course affiliated with Kathmandu University (KU) and NLA University college in Norway (NLA).

Throughout the course close individual supervision and support of a mentor is provided. Special attention is given to create a 'lifelong learning attitude' in order to maintain professional quality after the course. The following subjects are taught:

Child development, Learning/Teaching/Assessing, Learning Environment, Families Communities and Professional Development

2013-2014, 1 Year Batch students enjoyed their graduation programme with KU, NLA & ECEC family as you can see in the photo.

Qualification: minimum +2

Medium: English

Info Session: Sep 19, Oct 31, Dec 12,

Timing: 3pm to 6pm



Testimonials

"I will never use negative words or show negative behavior towards children. ECEC friends think that Ashish will be after this discovery a FANTASTIC uncle for his 3 Nieces."

- Ashish Shrestha, Level 1

"I learned the basic knowledge that all teachers need to have in their teaching profession to continue to be effective in their teaching roles."

- Devi Maya Pariyar, Step 1

"I will change my style of teaching by applying different strategies like circle time, more songs, small group teaching and integrated teaching."

- Anit Pandey, Primary Level 1

"I applied the knowledge that I gained in ECEC to my child which helped me to know what mistakes I was doing. I started looking at my child in a different way and started understanding that positive habits should be encouraged more rather than complaining about bad habits."

- Pragya Adhikari, Step 1

"Now, I am active in many creative areas such as new creations by many waste materials."

- Bipana Bhandari, Level 1

"The course has made a great impact. Catch them when / where they are good. It has given me to have a positive attitude, to be a role model by walking the talk."

- Ashene, Leadership Level 1

"It is very excellent way of teaching the sounds to students, because in actual letter and sound are different from each other."

- Pratikshya K.C. Phonics

"I am very impressed with the training. I had some ideas about teaching but this training has given me good insight for teaching children in easy and interesting ways."

- Samjhana Lohani, 18 days Course

"During this course I was able to spend time with our students to encourage and praise them to implement what they had learned. They were eager to learn new things and worked very hard. I am so happy that four of them already got jobs."

- Prabha Chamling Rai, Teacher Trainer

"A big change, I want to make in moral education. I realised after the classes they are not just listen for our life! I understood that discipline works and it starts with us. Now I promise I don't take any type of punishment to my children"

- Rukmini, Primary Level 1

On the Job training for new ECEC Teacher Trainers

When ECEC advertises for new Teacher Trainers, there are specific criteria. To become a trainer, we focus on people who have studied education and who have experience in teaching young children. But even when we find candidates who meet these criteria, more often than not their experience is in the traditional way of teaching and their educational study was mostly theoretical.

So when new teacher trainers arrive at ECEC, they take part in this training. One subject of this course is called 'How to Conduct an Effective Training'. Training adults is very different from teaching children. So in June 2014, started some of our new ECEC teacher trainers together with trainers from other organisations started on this 6-month course.



Learning organisation

We at ECEC want to be a learning organisation. A group of seventeen staff members recently took a course on how to use MS Project Software in order to improve the planning and project management in the office.

Participants came to the office for five weeks before work started. It felt a bit like being in college again. By the end of the course we were eager to begin using the new software.



Cooperation

In recent month, ECEC got some trainees via the organisation F-SKILL. F-SKILL is an organisation that provides training for disadvantage youth.

After the training, F-SKILL facilitators said: *"ECEC and F-SKILL began working together from April 2014. Our goal is to provide skills for ECD Facilitators. Throughout our time together we found that our participants in ECEC training have learned many new skills. The teaching techniques they presented were very impressive including modern learning methodologies and the positive impact these have on learners. We can see that graduates of ECEC courses have a high rate of getting a job in their profession."*



Parents' Seminar

Republic day in Nepal, May 29 is an ideal day for Parents' seminar. This was the thought of Living Stone Academy, Baby Bloom and Gems. These schools had invited their parents for a seminar. Our staff: Uttam, Nabin, Pitambar, Kamala and Reann were "running" between these schools and gave a total of 394 parents in one day. A record for ECEC! The parents seminars were fun and many parents commented that they felt encouraged to continue the challenging role as a parent. They also understood the play way method and disciplining their children with love.



Saptari Project

Nanda Khapangi and Bijaya Karki share about their experience as teacher trainers in the Saptari Project. *"We were surprised when we visited Bhawana's classes. The classroom environment had been changed. Children's work was hanging in the classroom and the way of teaching was now child-friendly. When we shared how happy we were with the changes in her classroom."* She said: *"The management encourages me to follow the traditional way of teaching because parents want academic teaching rather than holistic development of children. But ECEC has given me the conviction of learning through play. I am doing it and will be doing it in future as well."*



GEMS – Fantastic Time with training

Teachers of Classes 4 – 6 from GEMS school recently attended ECEC training during their free afternoons during exams. Starting four years ago, ECEC conducted training at GEMS Sanepa Block for teachers of Classes 1 – 3 with excellent results. Now the children who have received three years of child-friendly, play way method teaching are moving up to Class 4 and on to GEMS' Dhapakhel site. Because of this, the teachers of Classes 4 – 6 were also motivated to make similar changes to their teaching methods.

During the training at ECEC, the teachers learned many ideas of how to make learning active rather than passive. The feedback from the trainees was also very positive.

It was a joy for our teacher trainer to see the changes that have started in the teachers' hearts. We at ECEC hope that implementation will happen quickly and effectively.



Staff Retreat



Our ECEC family of nearly fifty, spent a day together in Dhulikhel on 25 July. If you noticed a bus full of people singing and laughing all the way to Dhulikhel, that was us!

We left early in the morning in order to enjoy the whole day together. Our theme was 'Working Together – Walking Together'. Kunti chose an inspirational text that encouraged unity in His love. As we sang and did action songs together, we felt the love of our Lord that unites us. Our ECEC values of Love, Integrity, Creativity and Cooperation were discussed in relation to our different personalities and how we can show and express these to everyone who comes in ECEC.

During lunch time, we enjoyed the beautiful view from Dhulikhel. In the afternoon, we discussed our Children's Fair programme in detail. This will be a huge event organised by ECEC during the autumn this year.

Looking at the group photo, you can enjoy a bit of our retreat too. How many faces do you recognise?

ECEC Kathmandu Office has moved!

ECEC's Kathmandu Office started in 2012 as an outlet of the Lalitpur Office in the north of the city. It was established in order to reach schools and parents on the other side of the city to help them understand the importance of children's formative years. In the past two years, more and more people have come forward for training. With the demand for more training and lack of space, July 2014, The Kathmandu office marked a milestone by moving to a new location. ECEC Kathmandu office is now near Medi Care Hospital at Chabahil with two training halls, separate office rooms and reception.

Being in our new, bigger office feels very different but in a positive way. We hope to fulfill the demands for training and look forward to bringing transformation to the teaching and learning system of our nation.



Training Schedule for Headoffice & KTM office (September 2014 – February 2015)

Month/Course	Step 1 Level 1		Step 1, level (2-4)		Phonics 1		Parent Training	Aya Training		Curriculum Dev	
September	7	21	-	-	-	8	9,23,30 (KTM)	26	-	-	-
October	5, 26	-	13,27	13	6	15	14,21,28 (KTM)	29	7	10	-
November	16	3	24	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
December	7, 28	15	-	-	-	1,8	-	-	30	-	-
January	18	26	1, 25	-	-	-	-	30	21	2	-
February	8	-	-	19	2, 9	-	-	19	17	6	-

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