



Dom

Children's Services

Senior Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I started work with KCS in 2011

How many years have you worked with children?

I have been working with children since I was in University. I used to teach primary school children on how to use the computer.

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I enjoy having a laugh with them, sharing stories and ideas.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

being patient and creative

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

Doing gardening, sports, science experiments/challenges and group games.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I read books, work on my car and go outdoors.

What is your philosophy in regards to working with children ?

I believe in nurturing a child to be the best of what s/he would like to be and as a valued person of society.



Gryffen Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I started working at KCS in June 2018

How many years have you worked with children?

KCS was my first job in childcare however during high school I had many opportunities to volunteer and have worked with children before

What do you enjoy about working with children?

The thing I enjoy the most about working with children is the relationships that you are able to build over time through playing, supervising and caring for them.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

One of my strengths when it comes to working with children would be my ability interact and engage with Children attempting to understand what they love and trying to tailor activities to them.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I love going up to sport with the children and being able to play games like Cricket, soccer, oztag and many more. However I also really enjoy the free play time in the beginning of after school care because it's a good time to talk to the children.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I have many hobbies some of the include

- Listening and playing music, I have been playing the drums for 6 years now and I love it
- Running
- Reading I try to read both fiction and non-fiction books but I spend most of my time reading history books
- Hanging out with friends and family

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

As I work with children I have to understand that while each child behaves differently and has different needs they must all be treated in a fair and equal way. This equality is because children react to inequality and unfairness in a natural defiance and also because it is wrong for me as an educator to treat any child less than another as it violates their basic human rights. Furthermore I believe that children need to learn by doing so I must as an educator provide as much time as possible to practical use of things taught in our activities.



Jasmine

Children's Services

Senior Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I started working for KCS in July 2012.

How many years have you worked with children?

I've worked with children for 6 years.

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I love how creative and imaginative their minds can be, reminds me of when I was younger! They have bounds of energy! I'm always kept busy at work, no need to exercise in my spare time! It's truly rewarding watching the children grow and develop. They get so delighted after achieving a new skill or goal! I especially find it so wonderful observing the changes in our additional needs children.

No day is ever the same, so unpredictable!

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I have a great deal of patience and understanding. I am very approachable and love finding out about each child's interests and qualities. Providing guidance and support for the children. I enjoy building positive relationships with the children and their parents.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I've always enjoyed creative arts and sports. However, in the last 2 years I've been in charge of our sustainability program where we've created a new garden and incorporated our recycled milk jugs into a vertical wall garden. I've actually surprised myself; I never thought that using recycled materials can turn out so good! Children have also loved making glitter jars, lava lamps and mini terrariums with our recycled mason jars.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

- Online shopping – I need to stop!
- Going out with friends and family
- Reality TV shows
- Going to the beach and walks on the esplanade
- Netball/Oztag
- Live music

What is your philosophy in regards to working with children ?

All children are unique individuals who need a supportive and stimulating environment for them to learn and grow socially, physically, emotionally and intellectually.



Jessica

Children's Services

Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I started working at KCS around February/March in 2017.

How many years have you worked with children?

I have worked with Children for about 6 years.

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I enjoy many things about working with children this includes their endless energy , honesty , creativity and flexibility. As a Casual Primary School teacher , knowing that I am able to make a difference in their lives makes me enjoy my profession. Additionally, I enjoy seeing children able to reach their full potential. I learn many new things from playing with them and they help me see things from a whole new perspective.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I consider these following for my strengths when working with children:

- Having a calm and assertive approach when working with children. If you are calm then the children will be calm.
- Helping children to be resilient in any situation
- Patience
- Enthusiasm
- Positivity

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

My favourite activity/program that I do with the Children are arts and craft and playing ball games with the Kindergarten students.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

When I am not at work my hobbies include: Taking my Jack Russell Lily on beach walks , watching Crime Series on Netflix/Stan , eating out with my friends and family

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

My philosophy in regards to working with children is having a growth mindset. Children have the capacity to learn and grow their own skills.



Jordan Children's Services Coordinator

When did you start working at KCS?

I have been working with KCS since August 2010,

How many years have you worked with children?

I have worked with Children for 9 years.

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I am lucky enough to have seen 2 groups of children go from Kindy to year 6. It is great watching them grow and helping them along the way.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I really enjoy building positive relationships with the children and their families and consider this to be one of my strengths. I also believe I am good at understanding children's behavior and assisting them to make improvements.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

Being the Coordinator limits the amount of time I get to deliver direct programs but when I get the chance I love being involved in the sports programs.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I consider myself to be a very active person. When I am not at work you might find me doing one of the following:

- Playing soccer, cricket or Football (go the DRAGONS!!!!)
- At the beach
- Walking my 2 dogs
- Snowboarding
- Drawing

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

Play is one of the best ways to learn.



Kristina Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?
January 2016

How many years have you worked with children?

5 years through dance teaching and OOSH care

What do you enjoy about working with children?

Interesting interactions, getting to know their unique personalities, fun times, watching their growth.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

making them feel important and that even the little things about them count, understanding their individual needs, being patient and understanding.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

Cooking and face painting

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

- Dance teaching kids 3-18 years old
- Movies
- Family and friends

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

Treat every day as new one, appreciate the uniqueness of every child and support them as they flourish.



Kristina

Children's Services

Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I started working at KCS in June 2018

How many years have you worked with children?

I have been working with kids for about 4 years

What do you enjoy about working with children?

What I enjoy most about working with children is that I am able to watch the students grow and develop into confident young learners. I believe that it is important to provide students with a range of learning experiences and activities that are able to build the students gross motor skills and cognitive skills. I also enjoy seeing the students interact with their peers and create new friendship groups.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

My strengths in working with children would be encouraging students to participate in the activities. I know that by being inclusive and reminding the students to try their best and have fun they are encouraged to participate in the activities. Another one of my strengths is trying to get kids to work in a team whilst playing a range of games. Team work I believe is important as it allows the students to work with their peers and build their communication skills which leads to forming friendships.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

My favourite activities to do with the children involve tag and a range of mini games such as ship, shark and shore, poison ball, bull rush and skipping. I enjoy playing these games with the students as it not only builds their skills in sport but it also allows the students to interact with their peers that are of similar age.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

Some of my hobbies when I am not at work are reading a range of books and playing the piano. I have played the piano for about four years and really enjoy it. Some of my other hobbies include playing netball as I have played it for about eight years and my favourite position is centre.

What is your philosophy in regards to working with children ?

My philosophy in regards to working with children is that I believe that individuals are constantly learning every day. Through their learning experiences and interactions with others, children are able to acquire a range of skills and knowledge that they are able to use in the future. I know that my purpose as an educator is to provide students with an opportunity to build their knowledge and skills and that I am able to achieve this by providing them with a range of learning experiences.



Lahra

Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

April 4, 2018

How many years have you worked with children?

1 Year

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I enjoy the smiles the children give back. Especially when I am taking care of a child who cannot even talk (that's priceless) Their smile is a feedback that they are enjoying the care the service has been giving or when they share their positive experiences throughout the day. When I get challenged by how good the kids could play ball (basketball, etc.)

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I consider my patience and a heart of acceptance towards the children to be my strength.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I love doing art and crafts with the children, and I'm starting to love cooking with children especially when they help clean afterwards.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I usually read spiritual and ministry books; playing instruments, cooking, while/or taking care of my nephews.

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

The children that we take care now will be the future us. I believe that when children are given the proper care, they will also grow taking care not only of themselves but also to people around them. Show them what love, kindness, understanding and all positive virtues are, they will grow having them.



Lisa

Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

August 2009, 10 years

How many years have you worked with children?

IN 2005 I completed my Diploma of Early Childhood Services and started working in Preschools and Agencies. From 2006 I started working in OSHC

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I enjoy watching them grow and providing programs and ideas for Preschools and centres I have worked in which aid in their learning and development.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I have been asked in a training session what animal i would be at work, I said "a bird". I am comfortable in our work environment to work wherever needed. I feel I am patient, caring and have a positive attitude. The art and nature play areas, and working with additional needs and younger children are also my strengths.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I think it has to be art. It doesn't have to be difficult things, but rather things that are joyful. I like it when older children can help younger ones and the art program can be for a variety of age groups and part of the program and theme every day.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I have been a scout leader since the age of 18. I love nature and community work. I also have a big family (extended) & love to visit Aunts, Uncles, cousins as well as my siblings and friends on weekends.

What is your philosophy in regards to working with children ?

Each day I step into the workplace, working with a great team, I can do my part, big or even small, to make a difference long term in children's lives



Mahlia

Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

August 10th, 2017

How many years have you worked with children?

Since high school as a Sunday school teacher and babysitter.

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I am still astounded by the simple yet profound perspectives of kids – they really say it “how it is”. Where there are kids there is laughter and comedy, which I appreciate.

I love working with kids and their high energy and natural motivation/curiosity to learn.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I find it easy to interact with kids, and love getting to know them and their interests. That is why I have dedicated almost four years of study to become a Primary teacher, in order to learn how to best guide and equip the next generation. Believe it or not I was also once a kid myself, and I have a strong empathy for what kids go through and experience!

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

Probably the kindy program. We have so much fun playing group games (my favourite being soccer of course!)

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

- Watching and playing soccer/futsal
- Reading good books (anything from novels to philosophy)
- Crochet
- Spending time at the beach
- Hanging out with friends and family

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

All children have equal value and are deserving of equal respect. It is my privilege and responsibility to work with young people. All behaviour is a form of communication, which must be understood according to individual contexts. Kids learn best when engaged and having fun.



Mel

Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

19/06/2019

How many years have you worked with children?

6 months

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I enjoy working with children because no single day is the same. Their energy, creativity and resilience both inspire and motivate me to become a better individual. I adore children and their curious nature. I'm a firm believer of leading by example, so I enjoy when children aspire to do the right thing. Working with children, for me, is extremely rewarding because they teach me just as much as I teach them. It brings me so much joy to know I have contributed to a child's social, emotional, physical and mental development. I love feeling like I have made a child feel stronger, happier and more empowered. Knowing that my job is to help children achieve their full potential, brings a huge smile to my face.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

- I am a quick learner
- I love to listen and provide help when needed
- I am compassionate and understanding
- I am able to think rationally and solve problems
- I am reliable, honest and engaging
- I am respectful, thoughtful, kind and empathic

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I was recently given the opportunity to co-facilitate a mindfulness program with the students. We played a game with them called 'Living Links' where they were given the time to let off steam. They all took turns to say things that made them angry. In the end all the children had been linked together by string, after realising they had similar triggers to what angers them. They learnt that one trigger can lead to several different triggers as well. We gave the students an opportunity to mediate afterwards and share what kinds of emotions they felt before, during and after the session.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

- Watching movies
- Going for walks
- Reading
- Exercising
- Baking

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

My philosophy in regards to working with children is that all children are unique and should be given the opportunity to develop and learn at their own pace. Students should be given choices and numerous hands-on activities so that they allow their curiosity direct their learning. Teachers have a responsibility to care for and act as a guide to children's development. Children require a safe, stimulating environment where they are able to freely express their thoughts, ideas and emotions. This will increase their confidence when building relationships with others. By working with children, I hope that they receive the freedom to reach their full potential.



Morganne Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?
May 2019

How many years have you worked with children?
5 Years

What do you enjoy about working with children?
Watching them grow, seeing their big smiles when they accomplish a goal

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?
Taking the time and listening to all the children

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?
Talent show 100% singing, dancing you name it. Their little smiles is the icing on the cake

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?
I love going to yoga and taking my dogs on big bush walks

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?
I believe that each child is an individual with individual needs & wants. I understand that children learn so much through play.



Tahlia

Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I have been with KCS since April 2019.

How many years have you worked with children?

One year

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I like working with children as I have the opportunity to aid their social and emotional development, at the same time ensuring they are safe. I also find it rewarding seeing children learn new things everyday as they are always curious and eager to gain knowledge.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I believe that one of my strengths is that I am good at understanding every child despite different ages and abilities, which makes me able to adapt to their needs. I feel that I am engaging as an educator, with an ability to maintain children's attention while keeping them entertained. Another one of my strengths is that while I create the opportunity for kids to have fun around me, I respect the need for maintaining appropriate boundaries.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I enjoy reading to the kids as well as playing sport and card games.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I enjoy playing and watching sports such as soccer and basketball, as well as other hobbies such as listening to music, watching movies, gaming and spending time with family and friends.

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

Have fun, stay safe and learn while following the rules.



Zoe

Children's Services Educator

When did you start working at KCS?

I started working with KCS in March of 2018.

How many years have you worked with children?

I've worked with children for a bit over five years.

What do you enjoy about working with children?

I love their energy and enthusiasm. I think there is something really refreshing about chatting with kids and learning from them - they see the world in such a unique way.

What do you consider to be your strengths when working with children?

I think I am able to listen to them and get to know them on a personal level - one of my strengths is being personable and approachable with children.

What is your favourite activity/program to do with the children?

I really enjoy doing nature area with the children. It is so interesting to see the way they interact with each other and make fun for themselves with natural objects.

What are your hobbies when you are not at work?

I really enjoy catching up with friends, reading, going out in nature/ going on walks and sports.

Your philosophy in regards to working with children?

I believe that older people with authority over children should strive to be kind, encouraging and supportive - but also utilise discipline when necessary. Children are precious and vulnerable and therefore need to be cared for - when one works with children they need to keep this at the forefront of their mind and treat them accordingly.