

## Award takes a village

A Sunbury-based day care service has been recognised as one of the best in the country.

Our Village Family Day Care has been selected as one of four national finalists in the 2017 Excellence in Family Day Care Awards from more than 900 day care services in Australia.

Manager Michelle Pasic said the team was "thrilled" to have been chosen.

Ms Pasic said the day care service, which cares for children across Macedon Ranges and Hume as part of Sunbury Community Health, was driven by quality care and innovation.

She put the achievement down to the commitment of the educators and Sunbury Community Health's dedication to ensuring every child had access to quality care.

The 39-year-old service supports and trains its educators with regulated early childcare education. The educators then care for the children in their own homes.

Family Day Care Australia chief executive Andrew Paterson said the Sunbury-based service was listed as a finalist because it demonstrated "strong engagement with the national quality framework and the highest standards in educator practice; educator support and business management".

"The family day care service is an integral part of the community, providing flexible, quality education and care with the aim of achieving excellent outcomes for children," Mr Paterson said.

The National Service of the Year will be announced in New South Wales on October 28.

**Serena Seyfort**

Lucas, Stevie, Our Village Family Child Care co-ordinator Sharon Wilson, Tiernan, educator Kelly Guarracino and Tanisha. (Shawn Smith)

