

1. *The Hon. MARK BANASIAK: CAPEA has endorsed courses and endorsed providers. Are you, on notice, able to provide to the Committee a list or the number of those endorsed courses and providers, and perhaps the geographical spread within New South Wales?*

Current Courses accredited by CAPEA

Online self directed course aimed at Birthing Parents:

Nourish online program was accredited by CAPEA in 2017 & is currently under re accreditation by CAPEA. <https://nourishbaby.com.au/>

Training Programs for Educators:

Birth Inspirations Training Course for Midwives: for midwives currently facilitating childbirth education. <https://www.birthinspirations.com.au/childbirth-education-training-course-for-midwives/>

6 modules: self-directed online including the history of childbirth education, adult learning, facilitation skills, lesson plans, assessment of the educator face to face or online, class evaluation.

96 CPD points with ACM and can be used for applying for certification with CAPEA.

South East Sydney Local Health District Training (SESLHD-T)

Group Skills Facilitation Training for Antenatal & Early Parenting Facilitators: 2-day course, interactive workshop open to all educators, midwives, Child and Family Health Nurses, Aboriginal Health workers, Physiotherapists and Independent Childbirth facilitators. 14 CPD points.

Week 1

Establishing a Positive Group Environment

Importance of Personal and Professional Development

Effective Facilitation skills

Building Trust and Safety

Understanding Adult Learners

Universal Design for Learning

Mindfulness and Present-Centred Learning

The importance of the first 2000 days

Learning Tools and Strategies

Skills for Session Planning and Facilitation

Week 2

Understanding Group Dynamics

Effective Session Planning

Communication Strategies

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NSW Health Resources

Feedback and Evaluation

Learning tools and strategies

Legal and Ethical Responsibilities

Inclusive Language

Culturally Reflective Practice

Trauma-Informed Care

Equity and Equality

Importance of Closure Activities

Other training courses not currently endorsed by CAPEA

There are many qualifications that educators may submit to become a CAPEA certified educator in addition to the qualification as a midwife, physiotherapist, child and family health nurses. Most educators would be of a midwifery background.

There are currently no RTO providers of Childbirth and Parenting Education Facilitation Courses for educators.

Historically only National Association for Childbirth Education (NACE) and Birth International had recognition as RTO. One provider is working to re-establish a training course and will seek recognition from VTAB.

None of the commercial providers have applied for certification/ endorsement by CAPEA as either they have been a recognised pathway prior to the certification process, or not sought certification from CAPEA but instead from Australian College of Midwives (ACM). This demonstrates the lack of cohesive governance over a self-regulating industry working in different states and health systems.

https://www.midwives.org.au/Web/Web/Professional-Development/Endorsed_CPD.aspx?hkey=78fc8486-4882-4cd2-9623-de63788f04c8

Examples of Past and Current Training Courses

Commercial providers of Childbirth and Parenting Education Training.

Andrea Robertson Associates in Childbirth Education Course: 1993 Accredited by NSW VETAB, Graduate diploma in Childbirth Education 2004 -2008. Registration expired.

Birth International: run 2-day workshops for Facilitators: CPD points with ACM

Hypnobirthing Australia: The course consists of 3 components: Introduction to Hypnosis for Birthing – 1.5 days face to face training (part of the 4-day training) Educator Certification Workshop – 2.5 days face to face training (part of the 4-day training)

Hypnobirthing International: 4-day training, 32 CPD with ACM

Calmbirth: 5-day training course for midwives/ doula, medical professional: 104 CPD hours ACM

Public Health Educator Training Courses:

Hunter New England Health (HNELHD) Educators Course: written by Deb Galloway (past CAPEA President) was equivalent to 10 units or 1 semester subject at University of Newcastle for Master Midwifery course ran for 2 years; this had academic style assessments: no longer running.

Current:

Hunter New England Health Birth and Parenting Educators Course: 1999 - 2024

A 36-week course, run every 2 years, most recently in 2022: open to applicants outside the area Health Service, if places permit.

The course outcomes:

- Understand adult education in the context of parenting education
- Develop skills in group development and facilitation
- Compare a range of creative learning activities
- Develop skills in presenting adaptive strategies to keep birth normal
- Design programs to be inclusive of different learning needs
- Facilitate programs both face to face and online
- Support discussions with evidence based practice
- Strengthen your approach to 'informed choice'

HNELHD hold up to two 2.5 day workshops /year across the district, in a rural or regional maternity site. The most recent workshop with 13 rural/ regional participants was held in Tamworth in March 2024. This is aimed at our rural and regional facilitators and is open to Midwives, Physiotherapists, Aboriginal Health Workers and Child and Family Health Nurses who provide education in the pregnancy or post-partum continuum.

Learning outcomes of the 2.5 day workshop

The course outcomes:

- Discuss learning and teaching in the context of Parenting Education
- Understand the basics of effective group facilitation
- Compare different learning styles
- Use learning strategies to support and promote normal birth
- Compare a range of learning activities for pregnancy, birth & early parenting
- Understand the basics of planning a Birth & Parenting Program
- Practice facilitating a mini teaching

Australian Breastfeeding Facilitators Course – 10960NAT Diploma of breastfeeding management nationally RTO accredited.

Current Certified Educators in NSW

NSW	Jennifer Opedisano	Port Macquarie
NSW	Belinda Meyers	Newcastle
NSW	Tracey Rayner	Menai
NSW	Betty Lu	South West Sydney Area Health
NSW	Jan Dilworth TRAINER & educator	Camperdown
NSW	Donna Griffis Trainer & educator	Newcastle
NSW	Karen Logan	Newcastle
NSW	Alison Beverley	Newcastle
NSW	Jane Shields TRAINER & educator	Newcastle
NSW	Michelle French	Newcastle
NSW	Alison Summerville	Newcastle

CAPEA Questions on Notice : Question 2

The Hon. MARK BANASIAK: Thank you. If we move towards this national curriculum model that you support and are involved in, where do you see CAPEA's role in that once we get a national curriculum? Would you want to be the quality assurance checker of that or would you palm that off to someone like ASQA who already does that work in a national space?

KAREN LOGAN: Are you talking actually going out and assessing hospitals

The Hon. MARK BANASIAK: Yes, that's what ASQA would do. They would assess a training provider and the trainer. Is that what you would—

KAREN LOGAN: We're not an RTO. As a voluntary organisation, we can collaborate and we can make recommendations but we don't actually have the physical capability of going out and—

The Hon. MARK BANASIAK: In a situation where ASQA is involved, it's not the RTO that goes out and does the assessing; it's ASQA that goes out and does the external assessment.

CAPEA has contacted ASQA and spoken at length with James Latimore Director, Operations Support at Australian Skills Quality Authority based in Sydney, New South Wales.

He clarified that although CAPEA have the Competency Standards and this sits within vocational training, there is no framework or legislation for ASQA to assess curriculum or educators. ASQA has no remit over Parenting Educators. Currently there are no RTO's providing this training.

There is currently no legislation to require that Birth and Parenting Educators have further facilitation training, or rewards in employment opportunities or payment awards to encourage further training.

CAPEA looks to the future to develop legislation and governance over Parenting Educators as an industry in its own right nationally, perhaps under the Job Skills Council as an emerging industry.

ASQA : Is for vocational assessment and training, below is the definition of vocational education.

Vocational education or Vocational Education and Training (VET), also called Career and Technical Education (CTE), prepares learners for jobs that are based in manual or practical activities, traditionally non-academic and totally related to a specific trade, occupation or vocation, hence the term, in which the learner ...

Whereas vocational courses focus on practical skills, higher education usually emphasises broad, in-depth knowledge of a specialist subject and involves many more written assessments, exams and theory-based tests.

Parenting education does not fit this definition as most educators employed in hospitals, public and private already have graduate academic qualifications.

CAPEA will look to closer collaboration with other stakeholders, Australian College of Midwives (ACM), Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) and the Maternal and Child and Family Nurses (MCAFNA) to promote future legislation, governance, and training.

CAPEA recommend:

A Clinical Midwife Consultant in Birth & Parenting Education for every Area Health Service in Australia

To Implement a health department requirement in all states

That person would:

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provide a consultancy service to clinicians and managers at all levels throughout HNE. This will be achieved across the domains of clinical service and consultancy, clinical leadership, research, education, and clinical services planning and management.

The provision of an identified leadership role at the following levels:

- Professional
- Service
- Cross–boundary
- National

The Key Accountabilities:

- Actively collaborate with executive, senior managers, other clinical leaders and relevant stakeholders leading the preparation, implementation and evaluation of strategic directions, service development and annual operational plans for the Parenting Education Service
- Lead ongoing development and review of practice for parenting education services provided at multiple sites across Health Districts in collaboration with key stakeholders
- Provide an leadership role and develop professional networks through the contribution of professional expertise in Parenting Education in District, State, and National midwifery/Parenting Education bodies or specialist clinical groups, including; NSW Pregnancy, Birth and Early Parenting Education Coordinators Network
- Provide a leadership and management of a team of core staff within the Parenting Education Service and a team of sessional parenting educators.
- Provide a complex and expansive expert consultancy service within the Parenting Education environment across multiple service groups, including hospital managers and staff on all levels across Health districts, community and rural facilities
- Provision of high quality, responsive and contemporary client-centred parenting education service in hospital and community settings
- Identify, lead, support and adopt innovative models of parenting education for women, men and families and health professional based on best available evidence and guidelines related to Parenting Education
- Develops, implements and monitors a range of complex educational programs for low, moderate to high risk clinical environment
- Develops, implements and evaluates professional development programs related to leading Parenting Education groups, for Midwives, Child and Family Health Nurses, Physiotherapists, and other health professionals
- Facilitates and contributes to the development of specialised education resources
- Contributes specific expertise to parenting education practice by leading, coordinating and evaluating guidelines for service provision
- Leads, initiates, participates and collaborates in quality improvement activities to improve service provision.
- Lead, participate and support in relevant research and/or clinical practice improvement projects
- Conduct and or adapt and apply related research to Parenting Education and Midwifery within services to facilitate delivery of current evidence based clinical practice for patients/clients to promote best practice.
- Has primary responsibility for developing and monitoring of curricula

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- Contributes and networks to the direction of professional development related parenting education at state and national level through participation in professional organizations specific to parenting education
- Primary responsibility for convening local and area meetings for staff involved in providing parenting education service for professional networking and ongoing review
- Manages complex reviews of programs, service provision and/or professional development related to significant practice change and continuous improvement
- Identify and lead the adoption of innovative models of care and guidelines based on best available evidence related to the specialty area
- Conduct and or adapt and apply related scientific research to clinical practice within services to facilitate delivery of current evidence based clinical practice for patients/clients.
- The Area CMC Parenting Education must be involved with National professional organizations such as:
 - the NSW Pregnancy, Birth and Early Parenting Education Coordinators network
 - Childbirth And Parenting Educators of Australia (CAPEA)
 - Australian College of Midwives (ACM)
 - Maternal and Child and Family Health Association
 - APA Physiotherapy Women's & Men's Special Health Group.

A Midwife/physiotherapist to be responsible to provide quality Birth and Parenting Education Courses in every Maternity Service:

To Implement a Health Department requirement

- Located within every maternity birthing and /or early parenting service, both public or private
- Appropriately qualified midwife or women's health physio to oversee the organization and provision of Birth and Parenting Education Courses, according to the Standards for Educators published by CAPEA
- Assess educators as part of performance review using CAPEA Competency Standards and Assessment Tool.
- Liaise and gain support of the Area CMC Parenting Education
- Designated and paid for allocated time, highly skilled midwife/ physio in all maternity services, (public and private hospitals) to
 - ensure quality facilitators
 - ensure quality face-face or live on - line courses for parents

Address pay rates for educators for face-to-face and set-up/down time

- Renumerated by qualifications and acknowledge facilitating birth and programs is a specialized area.
- Renumerated appropriately to allow for program development, lesson plan development and set up and pack up time.