

# Introducing *Kim Thomas*

Field Consultant -

Brisbane and surrounds

My zone is Brisbane and surrounds, this means I am in a lot of traffic most days. I turn on my music and practice mindfulness. The silver lining is I get to visit a diverse range of Educators in many different settings. All unique and wonderful environments!

My favourite part of working with the Educators is building strong, trusting relationships, to support their growth with Holistic. I let them know I value them and what they do, and I inspire the Educators to be proud of their chosen careers. It takes a very special person to nurture and guide children, and I have a team of the best!

All HAFDC Philosophy resonates with me, but in my role as Field Consultant I relate to empowering, respecting, guiding, and practically supporting the 'whole' Educator.



Recently, I walked up to an Educator's front door and knocked. I looked around and there was a huge (30cm but it looked more like 2 metres) lizard looking at me. This was not a good thing...! The Educator had her door locked of course, all I could do was stand there terrified! When the door finally opened I just about jumped onto the Educator, she was so startled I nearly gave her a heart attack! What made it worse was the children were behind her so I had to pull myself together and role model how wonderful it was that we had a lizard come to say hello! All in a day's work!

My background has been forever in Family Day Care. I raised my children whilst being a FDC Educator, and studied Cert III and Diploma between Netball, go karting, school runs and soccer. I am sure you all know what I mean!

After my children left school, I became a Field Consultant and found my real passion, to mentor, not just the Educators compliance and making sure Educators were within the Law, Regs and NQF, but the whole person.

I also completed a Training and Assessment Certificate to have the skills to guide the Educators who were studying.

My blended family consists of two of mine, two of yours, one of ours, and I am Yaya (grandma) to eight grandchildren, 0-11 years. My interests have changed over the years but my family has always been my priority.

I recently bought a lovely bike to ride with my older grandsons but they told me I ride too slow, so I bought a set of golf clubs (pink of course), I just need to learn to hit the little white ball, it can't be that hard, right!

I feel I bring wisdom and experience to my Field Consultant role. I have walked in the Educator's shoes, and I know the highs and the lows of being an Early Childhood Educator.

I bring a sense of humour, strong work ethic, humble, honest, open communication and a lot of gratitude. I also LOVE my job!

**My goals for my zone include continuing to develop a great team culture where we can all enjoy coming together to celebrate different events; be humble and proud of the service we are part of; and to contribute, promote and be strong advocates for FDC under the Holistic Approach Banner.**



Everyday is a great day at HAFDC for me. I am looking forward to my first HAFDC National Conference as I have heard a lot of good things!



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