



Queen of Hearts, Balmy Beach



Abigail Milliner – General Manager

Abigail started at Queen of Hearts in September 2020. Her background in childcare began in 2017 after completing her Degree in Youth and Children Studies at Wilfred Laurier. Since 2017 she completed her ECE diploma and gained employment experience in both preschool and toddler classrooms. In January 2021 she became Nursery Manager of Queen of Hearts, Balmy Beach being responsible for Customer Service and the Queen of Hearts Curriculum, Policies and Procedures. She has now taken extra responsibility of looking after the reservation needs of families

A message from Ms Abigail

I am lucky enough to have joined the Queen of Hearts team in September 2020. Although I am still relatively new, I absolutely love the nursery school. My enjoyment from this job comes from being able to interact with the children and watching them grow and develop. This creates a passion to do more for each child and shows it is the right choice for me to be working in this field.



Becky Gibbons–Teacher Mad Hatters

Becky started at Queen of Hearts in Balmy Beach in January of 2023. Born and raised in Owen Sound, she gained her ECE certification in 2019 at Georgian College and has worked in different childcare setting since 2017. Before coming to Queen of Hearts, Becky worked as an EarlyOn coordinator at the M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre. She also facilitated cultural programs at different EarlyOn locations in Grey-Bruce.

A message from Ms Becky

I am excited to be a part of the Queen of Hearts family community, helping bring excellent quality care to families. I cannot wait to get to know all of the children and their families. I am grateful for the opportunity to support, love and learn with the children every day as they engage their minds and ask questions. I look forward to supporting their struggles and successes, and encouraging them as they broaden their horizons and explore new passions.



Brooklyn Rouse –Teacher Mad Hatters

Brooklyn joined Queen of Hearts in September of 2022. A local of Owen Sound, she went to Georgian College for ECE. Already having a background in child care, Brooklyn joined Queen of Hearts to continue her pursuit of finding ways to bring music and learning into all parts of children's lives. She is excited to make connections with all of the children and to help them learn and grow.

A message from Ms Brooklyn

I am beyond excited to start my work here and get to know all of the children I will be working with. Every child is an individual and I strive to make each one of them happy and safe.



Jennifer Ferreira –Teacher Mad Hatters

Prior to working at Queen of Hearts Jennifer was employed at a Veterinary Clinic as well as helping many families and friends with the care of their children. Jennifer also looked after children for a local church group. She joined Queen of Hearts, Owen Sound in September 2019 and trained in all classrooms before becoming a teacher at Balmy Beach.

A message from Ms Jennifer

I simply love working with the amazing team and helping to expand the minds of the young children. Being part of their everyday learning and development is so rewarding.



Kim Hawthorne – French Specialist

Kim started with Queen of Hearts in April, 2021. She is currently completing the Early Childhood Education program online through St. Lawrence College in Kingston. Kim completed two years of the Concurrent Education Program through Nipissing University including French language courses. Kim is a graduate of the Ontario French Immersion program, completing placements in French Immersion classrooms at a French language childcare center. She has over twenty years' experience working with children

A Message from Ms. Kim

I absolutely love watching the children grow and succeed. It is such a wonderful opportunity to learn and grow as a teacher alongside them. I am really looking forward to expanding the French language curriculum at Queen of Hearts. I look forward to sharing my knowledge, creativity, imagination and passion for education with the children and their families.



Carrie Blundell – Teacher White Rabbits

Born and raised in Owen Sound, Carrie attended Georgian College and received her diploma as a PSW. Working in long term care and doing housekeeping for the elderly, she became interested in doing an ECE apprenticeship and working in childcare. Carrie joined Queen of Hearts in October 2022 as a General Assistant, and in November transitioned to take over as a Teacher in the White Rabbits room. Having children of her own, she couldn't help but jump on the opportunity to join the Queen of Hearts team and be part of each child's development.

A message from Ms Carrie

I am very excited to be part of the Queen of Hearts team and to start my apprenticeship in the future. I am looking forward to learning more and seeing each child progress and grow as individuals.



Grace Holyome – Teacher White Rabbits

Grace started with Queen of Hearts in 2018. She graduated as an ECE from Fanshawe College in 2022. Grace really has experience in every aspect of Queen of Hearts, from school age to preschool and toddlers. It is wonderful to have her now as Teacher in our Balmy Beach White Rabbit room and is a real favourite amongst the children, always positive and with a smile; she is a favourite of her colleagues too.

A message from Ms Grace

There is so much I enjoy about Queen of Hearts. It is a wonderful place to work. My colleagues are amazing and the children and families are the best. I am really lucky to be a part of this school.



Jennifer Mielhausen – General Assistant

Jennifer joined Queen of Hearts in January of 2023. Growing up in the Owen Sound area, she has three children, whom she loves to spend time with, and watch as they play hockey every chance they get. Originally working for a cleaning company as well as catering, Jennifer has had a passion for taking care of children from a young age. She is excited to be part of the team, watching the children learn and grow, knowing that she is a part of their wonderful journeys.

A message from Ms Jennifer

I have always wanted to be a part of teaching children the fundamentals of learning. I am new at Queen of Hearts and am looking forward to growing and expanding with them.



Alesha Doran – Teacher – Supply for Balmy Beach

Alesha studied at Trent University and achieved a BA in Women's Studies before moving back to Owen Sound and joining the Salvation Army where she completed her ECE before moving to join the Queen of Hearts team in April 2015. With her wealth of experience and being a much loved teacher, Alesha leads a White Rabbit Classroom in Queen of Hearts, Owen Sound North but also supports the Balmy Beach and Owen Sound team when needed.

A message from Ms Alesha

Working at Queen of Hearts I learn something new from the children every day and I love to watch them grow and develop throughout their time with us. I particularly enjoy our outside learning and how it's incorporated into the children's day.