

# SARA

“My feelings of our daughter Sara’s time at EarlyEd ... GRATITUDE!”

## Who’s Working Where

**Sara McEvoy, Clerical Assistant, TAFE, St Leonards.**

“Hi, my name is **Sara McEvoy**, I have been working at **St Leonards TAFE** for **17 years** at this job.

I never worked at **TAFE** before but I was a student at **Northern Beaches** for 2 courses and that was computers and filing, that is why I am here.

My hours are 10:30am until 3:00pm, I have lunch break at 12:30pm til 1:00pm then return to office. I leave level 1 at 2:55pm to drop mail if any.

I finish work at 3:00pm so **outside of work** I do social outings. I do **Young Adults Mosman Group**, I do **Sunday Cruises the Up Club North** for disabilities, and also **Riverlink Socialites**.

I am an Aunty of 7 so from the oldest to the youngest I have **Charlie, Polly, Madeleine, Archie, Georgie, Edward and Alastair**.

I have close girlfriends, bus friends and like to chat with others. My hobbies are swimming, going out with friends and being with family.

My brothers are **Jonathon** and **Sam**, my sister is **Kate** and I am the youngest in the family but also the favourite Aunty of 7, they all love me, they also play with me all the time”.



Public Servant. Sara has a full social life and loves her job. She is engaged in her local community.

Many times therapies were challenging such as my husband building a “standing frame” into which we had to stand her daily to strengthen her muscles. Our eldest son would go riding on his bike so as not to hear her cries... it worked though.

We don’t have photos as the times were different but the memories are solid!

Sara still has Down syndrome even though the NDIS had to have this proven to them!!

I can only imagine if the NDIS had existed 37 years ago how things may have been... I am grateful The Early Education Centre DID EXIST and was supported by North Sydney Council.

The Parents were the Committee and assisted the staff wherever we could.

*Suzanne*

My feelings of our daughter Sara’s time at Early Education North Sydney all come down to GRATITUDE!

Sara was our fourth born child, brothers 7 and 6 years and a 20 month older sister. Sara was born on 3rd December 1981 and diagnosed 3 days later with Down Syndrome. We were quickly told by a friend of the existence of the Early Education Clinic at North Sydney.

When the Clinic resumed from the Christmas break in late January 1982 Sara commenced attending 3 mornings a week for the various therapies on offer.... these built up to include Physiotherapy,

Speech and Occupational Therapy. Loads of singing and laughter... when we advanced to that stage.

They were busy mornings with groups of 4 to 6 similar aged children and social interaction also commenced. I might add today Sara is still friends with 5 of these adults now in their late 30’s Plus! (Their mothers also have a strong bond) Sandra Leonard and Betty Hook were the main facilitators aided by caring, patient staff.

Sara did not graduate from the Centre as our family was transferred to NY in 1985 where her Pre-school Education commenced, followed by Elementary School.

We returned to Sydney in 1989 and Sara commenced school in a support Unit at Cromer Primary, followed by 6 years at Chatswood High, also in a support Unit. She graduated from CH in 2000 with a Modified HSC.

In 2001 Sara commenced employment at TAFE St Leonards in a clerical position for 20 hours a week and remains in employment there, even though many changes have occurred.

Sara is a Permanent Part-Time

