



Education Statement

The Playhouse Pre-School is committed to implementing a high quality, educational programme. We believe children learn through play. Through interactions with both children and adults, through guiding and role-modeling within a safe, challenging, stimulating and inclusive environment.

This programme will follow the guidelines of Te Whāriki, the Aotearoa/New Zealand Early Childhood Bi-cultural Curriculum Document. It will incorporate all areas of play, such as; sand, water, manipulative, blocks, dramatic, creative, arts, nature, science, math, literacy, carpentry, play dough, clay, music and active movement, forming the basis of all observations, evaluations and planning within the Centre environment. The principle of whakawhanaungatanga (your relationships) incorporates the acknowledgement of whakapapa (cultural identity) as the framework that connects people to one another, to generations past and future, and to the wider environment. It reminds us of our responsibilities to one another as well as to our kaupapa (philosophy). It encompasses the concept of inclusiveness, whereby we seek to reach out to those around us and to include them within our kaupapa (philosophy), It acknowledges the connectedness between people and all aspects of our environment for example, the connections between the Maunga (mountain), Awa (river), Whenua (land), Moana (sea).

The Centre's planning is on a daily basis following the emergent curriculum.

- Learning that emerges out of a child's immediate experiences;
- Experiences recognized, supported and extended by educators;
- Observations carried out and linked to Te Whāriki

Each child attending the Centre will be planned for through individual, core, group and integrated learning experiences, where educators will endeavor to empower children: "to grow up as competent and confident learners and communicators, healthy in mind, body and spirit, secure in their sense of belonging and in the knowledge that they will make a valued contribution to society." (Ministry of Education, 1996, p.9).

Parents/whānau are able to assess their child's ongoing learning and development through Educa, our online portfolio system, which enables parents/whānau to read, contribute positive feedback and add stories they may have about their child. Each child will also have a hard copy of their portfolio kept at Pre-School for viewing. This record will hold a variety of the following:

- Learning stories;
- Relevant artwork;
- Photographs & Ditti's;
- Relevant parent/whānau contributions and information.

There will be long-term goals set for the Centre, which will be reviewed on a regular basis. This will be achieved by meeting with educators, through communication with parents/whānau and assessing the needs of children through observations and the needs of educators through annual appraisals.

Through a high standard of curriculum planning we aim to meet the individual needs for quality education and care of each child attending The Playhouse Pre-School.

