



KIWI KIDS PHILOSOPHY

Kiwi Kids Preschool promotes three core values: Freedom, Fun and Family.

Kiwi Kids is built on respect. Through Primary Caregiving and Key Carers, we are able to build strong and meaningful relationships which are vital in creating a safe and sure foundation from where children can learn, grow and explore. To ensure a sense of safety, well-being and familiarity for our children, each child is appointed their own Primary Caregiver or Key Carer who can meet each child's needs, along with those of their families and whānau. Kiwi Kids Kaiako and team work to empower children to have strong social and emotional identities, which in turn allows them to be confident, competent learners.

FREEDOM / Noho Herekore

Through the freedom of choice, the children explore the centres entire indoor and extensive outdoor environment each day at their own pace. We encourage uninterrupted play while also providing support and guidance, with a little structure that is well balanced to meet the needs and development of each child. By giving our children choices, we are empowering them to become confident and competent, independent learners. Our large indoor and outdoor environment gives the children the freedom to move and express themselves. Our daily programme allows for flexibility, as learning opportunities can appear at any stage of the day.

FUN / Tākarokaro

Our programme allows for children to learn while having fun! The programme is firmly centred around the emerging interests of the children and their curiosities. Kaiako allow for spontaneous experiences as well as planned, so that the interest is kept fun and focused on the children. Our programme and environment allow for children to be children and to have fun alongside their peers and kaiako.

FAMILY / Whānau

Building a strong partnership between families/whānau and the centre is paramount for whanaungatanga. We encourage open communication and active participation – including welcoming extended whānau and community input. We endeavour to involve our families in all parts of our programme, like inviting them be a part of birthday or family celebrations, cultural events and family evenings, showing a culture of kaitiakitanga by sharing in our prosperous garden and making sure whānau aspirations are valued. We recognise that each child's culture and beliefs are different and we support this by our inclusive, understanding environment. We have an open-door policy in which whānau are welcomed and encouraged to spend time with us in kotahitanga. We also recognise the importance of family within the centre and give the chance for children to spend time with their siblings during the day.

Reviewed: February 2021
Next review: February 2022

GLOSSARY

Kaiako - teachers

Whanaungatanga – building a community of support

Kotahitanga – unity/contributing strengths for the benefit of the whole

Kaitiakitanga – guardianship, environmental stewardship