

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

It is the right and privilege of all New Zealanders to be enriched in an environment that acknowledges and supports the heritage of both Te Tiriti o Waitangi partners. Each child that attends Tuakau Learning Centre has a right to learn and understand Māori Language (te reo Māori), values, customs and practices at a level that is appropriate to their developmental stage of understanding. To ensure that this occurs, the following practices and procedures will apply:

There will be acknowledgement and acceptance of Māori customs and practices according to the knowledge of staff. These will be incorporated into the programme by:

- a. Appropriate greetings to children, parents/caregivers and whānau members, visitors and staff
- b. Correct pronunciation and use of people's names
- c. The use of equipment, books, puzzles, resources and provision of activities that reflect Tikanga Māori
- d. Use of waiata (song) throughout the daily programme
- e. Appropriate use of, and respect for natural resources in centre activities and environment
- f. Encourage the centre community to recycle, and to respect the natural environment
- g. Frequent use of te reo Māori in conversations, songs, requests, karakia and encouragement
- h. Allowances will be made in the budget to purchase resources, books, puzzles and equipment that reflect both biculturalism and tikanga Māori

Staff and visitors of the centre be will guided by the following practices to ensure that we comply with Māori kawa:

- a. Wherever possible, children are to sleep with their bodies lying in the same direction, or head to head. Children are not to sleep head to feet
- b. No one will walk over a person's body
- c. Food is for eating and will not be used for any other purpose. Playdough/gloop ingredients will be sourced separately ie not from the kitchen and would require other ingredients to become a food.

- d. The kitchens will only be used for the preparation and storage of food only. Any first aid, hair brushing and the like will be carried out elsewhere
- e. We will wash all food related items (cloths and towels etc) separate from other laundry.
- f. Children will be provided with opportunity to explore a variety of natural resources and develop an understanding of respecting Papatuanuku.

Staff development opportunities will be encouraged to advance their knowledge and understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi and of Tikanga Māori. The following provisions will be made:

- a. Provisions will be made under the Annual Budget
- b. Staff will be encouraged to take advantage of any invitation given by local Māori to attend marae gatherings, hui and the like of
- c. Staff will receive support during staff meetings in the active use of Te Whaariki in Tuakau Learning Centre

Tuakau Learning Centre staff and Management support children to be confident in their own culture and be sensitive to the cultures of other people. This will occur in the following ways:

- a. Staff members act as positive role models by using appropriate language and by exhibiting a strong personal philosophy of the importance of Biculturalism.
- b. Children are supported to respect each other regardless of ethnicity or family background.
- c. There will be an on-going review of centre policies and practices to ensure that all parties needs and aspirations are being heard, and that all receive equal opportunities.

Next Review Date: *September 2024*

Signed: _____

Licensing criteria for ECE services 2008 - C5, C6