



Partnering with Parents and Whanau

The Preschool recognises that when the home and the preschool work in partnership, this significantly benefits children and their learning. Parents are valued as the experts in their child's lives; their aspirations for their children are of central importance. The Preschool teachers welcome parental involvement in all parts of the day, and in all areas of the Preschool.

Parents have a Vital Part to Play in their Children's Learning

A very significant way for parents to be involved is to take part in planning for their child. The Preschool wants to know the dreams and aspirations that parents have for their child, and wants to work with parents to realise these. Storypark is the platform used to record children's learning; parents and whanau are invited to comment on stories, add family stories and photos to their child's profile. Parents are invited to include their home language and cultural symbols in these. Valuing parents is an important part of our Christian philosophy and reflect the Preschool's Christian Character.

Parental Input into the Programme

Parents and whānau are welcome here at Preschool: there are many ways to be involved. When possible during the current climate around COVID-19 and other health and safety restrictions, families are encouraged to come along to spend time with their children during the day, playing with them, spending time talking and encouraging their learning.

Parents and whanau have many interests and talents: parents are invited to share special talents and skills with the children and teachers. The Preschool loves the wonderful times when parents and grandparents have shared with us their family stories, their music and songs, shown the children how to do origami, flax weaving, shared their culture, etc. There are many other ways families can contribute to the life of the Preschool: e.g. parent evenings, sewing, bathing new babies, bringing along pets to the show the children, etc. Working bees are also a lovely way to get to know people and develop new friendships and connections with other families.

The Preschool has special family and whānau events, such as parent evenings, parents' "play nights" and regular family and whānau celebrations, such as Christmas and Matariki. These are very special times, and are enjoyed by everyone. Once again, these events depend on the current health and safety restrictions.

Management Committee

The Management Committee has parent representatives: parent elections are held every two years. The Preschool values the input of parents into policy review and development, and the parent perspective that they bring.