

Philosophy : Wee Nippers Mosgiel

The management and staff at Wee Nippers Mosgiel aim to provide high quality early childhood care and education for children in our community together with a support service for parents and whanau. We achieve this through having a foundation of strong relationships, well-qualified and caring staff, providing superior facilities and a quality educational programme.

Wee Nippers Mosgiel acknowledges and honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our commitment to our bicultural heritage is evident within our programme. We value the wealth of knowledge our families/whanau bring and their cultures, and we celebrate the richness and diversity this brings to our community.

We believe that children learn and develop where they are challenged as learners to explore and be curious within an environment that provides the opportunity for them to engage in uninterrupted, meaningful play, with, and alongside others. When this happens within a high-quality physical environment and it is supported by teachers who develop a responsive programme that is designed to meet children's social, emotional, cognitive and physical needs then children's learning is optimized.

Our Centre Philosophy is guided by Te Whariki as our core curriculum document. Our teachers aim to support children to become successful lifelong learners by ensuring a sense of well-being and belonging are developed from a young age.

Relationships with parents/whanau and children are positive and valued from the first point of contact, throughout the enrolment and settling periods and for the entire time the family/whanau attends the centre. This is a very strong commitment we have and is something that we are very proud of.

We endeavour to provide children with a rich curriculum that fosters their identity as a successful learner. The learning environment provides opportunities for children to learn through play within an enjoyable and fun atmosphere.

Our priorities for children's learning are implemented through quality teaching strategies in ways that are relative to each age group. Teachers are focused on supporting children to become and be:

- *Investigative learners - being curious and exploring through play, developing creativity and imagination*
- *Independent learners and managing themselves*
- *Resilient and to persevere*
- *Socially competent - building positive relationships with others*
- *Culturally respectful – supporting bicultural, multicultural and diversity within our community*
- *Risk takers*
- *Enriching verbal and non-verbal language which supports communication*
- *Respecting of self, others and the environment – leading to empathy and love for others*
- *Enquiring and wondering about the written world numeracy and information technology*
- *The natural world*