



Learning and Development Policy

Rationale: To ensure that children's learning and development is enhanced in ways, which are consistent with Bright Start Educare's philosophy.

Policy: Bright Start Educare members work co-operatively to ensure that the learning and development needs of children and their families are enhanced.

Procedure:

- Programme is implemented co-operatively by all teachers within the centre.
- Planning for infants and toddlers is primarily based on their own individual interests. Older groups of children will be planned for individually as well as in groups.
- The planning cycle ensures children's strengths and interests are being supported individually as well as within a group. Each child has a portfolio which is constantly revisited to document learning and development. Parents are encouraged to contribute to these through discussion and feedback within the family comments section of a learning story.
- Programming is based on observations of what children can do, their interests and their development. Teachers aim to support and challenge each child's learning by providing a rich array of activities and learning experiences which reflect the child's interests.
- Planning has no time limit, reflects children's interest and can be as short or as long as their interest.
- Appropriate links will be made to Te Whaariki and other relevant learning theories.
- Teachers plan activities that support the interests, strengths and abilities which have been identified through observations shared from home and at the centre.
- As a team we work together to record centre planning, and evaluate using 'notice, recognise and respond'.
- The learning journey is written and displayed prominently for parents and whanau to view.
- Teachers are responsible for supporting and documenting the learning and development for their own whanau children. They are responsible for collating and presenting developmental updates, anecdotal stories, artworks and photos within their portfolios. These portfolios are available to parents, whanau and caregivers to show the journey of their child's learning and development.

- Teachers reflect on their practice and own learning through regular discussion and sharing of individual children's portfolios with one another.

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