

Curriculum Policy for Preschool

The preschool curriculum follows the Montessori *Planes of Development* by preparing an environment that meets tamariki (children's) learning needs informed by Montessori pedagogy, reflects Te Whāriki 2017 (early childhood curriculum) and the Licensing Criteria Education and Care Centres 2008.

The principal will ensure that:

1. The Montessori philosophy underpins all curriculums and its delivery. The delivery of the curriculum is designed to meet the specific needs of the developmental age and stage of tamariki.
2. The Montessori curriculum lays the foundation for development by recognising the needs and Sensitive Periods of children between the ages of three and six. The environment is designed to cover the areas of practical life, sensorial education, mathematics, language and environmental studies.
3. Current research, which is relevant and augments our Montessori practice, is incorporated into the programme.
4. Through partnership, parents/whānau and kaiako (teachers) share information and observations in relation to the learning and development of, and decision-making about tamariki. This approach ensures a mutual understanding of children's skills, interests, dispositions, cultural background, and the aspirations whānau have for them.
5. We encourage tamariki to be confident in their own culture and develop an understanding and respect for other cultures.
6. We have a preschool which is bicultural and supports and embraces tikanga Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
7. Where needed, we will obtain information and guidance from appropriate agencies to support the learning and development of tamariki and work effectively with parents/whānau.

The principal is delegated the responsibility to ensure the curriculum is covered. The following procedures exist:

- Curriculum Delivery
- Learning Support
- Te Whāriki
- Tracking Māori Tamariki

Signature of Chairperson, Wā Ora Montessori School _____

Date _____