

Ā mātou tūruapō | Our Vision

Updated April 2020

Working together building Naenae's neighbourhood heroes

Ako whānau, ako tamariki

(Building families, building young ones)

In the outworking of our vision:

- We provide **arohanui** (a loving), **manaakitanga** (a caring) and **whakahoahoa** (a friendly) environment that is **welcoming** to anyone who walks into our centre, as we believe they are all part of our All About Children whānau (family).
- We make **connections** with our whānau and our hapori (community) through regular, purposeful neighbourhood trips as part of our **local** marau mātauranga (**curriculum**).
- Our **diverse** kaiako (teacher) team supports all tamariki in developing **real-life skills** in our **inclusive** teaching environment, as part of meeting your needs.
- Our industrial environment that surrounds us provides opportunities to show off the industrial nature of our tamariki where you can **dream it, imagine it, create it, build it, make it and fix it**.

Ā mātou kaupapa | Our Philosophy

Updated April 2020

Underpinned by five core pou (pillars)/ values

Respect | Wonder | Empathy | Creativity | Resilience
Whakaute | Mīharo | Aroha | Auahatanga | Manawaroa

Respect | Whakaute

Respect is the key to relationships. When we show consideration for another person, we communicate to them that they are valued. Feeling values contributes to a sense of trust and self-esteem and is reflected in the individual's ability to form and maintain relationships with others.

"A person's a person, no matter how small." – Dr. Seuss.

What does respect look like?

Ki Tamariki (For Children): Our tamariki have a valid voice and always come first. We believe in teaching the three ways to Respect – respect for themselves, respect for others and respect for things and objects. Manners and politeness in our centre are valued and the mahi (work) of our tamariki is valued and looked after and names and ūkaipotanga (belonging) is important.

Ki Whānau (For Families): We acknowledge and encourage cultural views, beliefs and values held by our whānau to be part of our centre. We know parents are first kaiako and we value what they have to say about their tamariki. In this way, we work in partnership with our whānau.

Ki Kaimahi (For Staff): In our team, we encourage each other and lift each other up. We model respect in our language (verbal and non-verbal), actions, and attitudes. We know, use and respond to each of our kaiako's appreciation languages: words of appreciation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time and workplace physical contact.

Ki te Taiao (In the Environment): We believe in the important of treating our resources and environment with respect. We provide a safe and secure social, emotional, physical and cultural atmosphere for children to thrive. We partner with, protect and participate in upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi and are always adding more layers of te reo Māori me ngā tikanga ā iwi.

Ki te hapori (In the Community): At All About Children Naenae, we are tidy kiwis working to keep Aotearoa (New Zealand) beautiful. We are invested in our local community and work hard to develop working relationships with our local groups and businesses – keeping the neighbourhood neighbourly.

"Children learn through responsive and reciprocal relationships with people, places and things." (Te Whāriki, 2017)

Wonder | Mīharo

Wonder is to be filled with admiration, amazement, or awe. It is the enjoyment of something we don't necessarily understand. When we are full of wonder, we exercise our curiosity and delight in the natural beauty of life.

“Wisdom begins in wonder.” – Socrates.

What does wonder look like?

Ki Tamariki (For Children): We believe that tamariki have a natural curiosity that can be expanded upon. We know that exploration and learning through play is the “work” and “job” of our tamariki. We value seeing the world through a child’s eyes.

Ki Whānau (For Families): We believe our parents hold an outstanding amount of knowledge and wealth of experience. You are trusting us with your own bundle of wonder – we want to nurture this!

Ki te Kaimahi (For Staff): Our kaiako still believe in having child-like wonder. We acknowledge our own gaps and limits and that we don’t know everything about the world or every answer, but we can find out together. We can always learn something new about each other and learn new things from our team.

Ki te Taiao (In the Environment): We believe in a beautiful environment which inspires tamariki and their imagination. We know that there are untold stories, myths, legends and memories that can be made from what we hold in our space.

Ki te Hapori (In the Community): We know that fresh and new is always available out in our community each day. We believe links to our community allow for new discoveries in nature and the real world.

“Te manu e kai ana it e miro, nōna te ngahere; te manu e kai ana it e mātauranga nōna te ao.”

“The bird who partakes of the miro berry owns the forest; the **bird** who partakes of **education owns** the **world.**” (*Te Whāriki, 2017*)

Empathy | Aroha

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another without judgement. When we empathise with someone else we show them we care about their feelings.

“The great gift of human beings is that we have the power of empathy.” – Meryl Streep.

What does empathy look like?

Ki Tamariki (For Children): We believe in supporting tamariki to know the names of emotions, what they look like and how we can respond to them. We reassure the feelings of our tamariki and we accept that we all have bad days.

Ki Whānau (For Families): We believe in supporting our whānau through hard times. We have a no judgement attitude and we acknowledge that quite often, we hold the important role of being the shoulder to cry on and a listening ear.

Ki te Kaimahi (For Staff): We acknowledge our kaiako have life experiences, qualities and emotions which make us human. We are a team that doesn't walk away when a kaiako is struggling and we believe that empathy doesn't stop for us when we walk out the door – it is a way of being. We know that 'teacher' often means unregistered counsellor, nurse, doctor, nutritionist, coach, mentor and social worker.

Ki te Taiao (In the Environment): We believe and role model that living things deserve our empathy. We encourage learning about emotions and empathy through all our curriculum areas.

Ki te Hapori (In the Community): We give back to our community whenever we can and as a centre we are there for our community in times of need. We know that in order to be contributing members of society, we need to have empathy for those around us if we can expect that in return.

“Over time and with guidance and encouragement, children become **increasingly capable** of managing **themselves** and **expressing** their **feelings** and **needs** | *te whakahua whakaaro.*” (*Te Whāriki, 2017*)

Creativity | Auahatanga

Creativity is the ability to transcend traditional ideas, rules, patterns, and ways of being. When we are creative we can develop meaningful new ideas, forms, methods and interpretations. Creativity is risking what is for what could be.

“We can’t just give someone a creativity injection. You have to create an environment for curiosity and a way to encourage people and get the best out of them.” – Ken Robinson.

What does creativity look like?

Ki Tamariki (For Children): We believe in children being active explorers, taking risks and finding new ways of being and doing. We understand that children are giving their own interpretations and using their thinking and brain development in new ways.

Ki Whānau (For Families): We bring a creative approach to building relationship with our whānau. We understand that no whānau is the same, therefore no approach should be the same. We believe in inspiring creativity at home and we acknowledge and celebrate our whanau creativity – dance, music, food and cultural celebrations.

Ki te Kaimahi (For Staff): We encourage creativity in our centre and exploring what could be. We celebrate that creativity is where our kaiako thrive with finding new things and ideas. Creativity should be role modelled by us first to ignite the flame of creative thinking.

Ki te Taiao (In the Environment): We provide different provocations and curriculum areas and believe in inspiring tamariki to be able work with limited teacher instruction so creativity can flow. We believe in an ever-changing environment and fresh approaches to support children’s interests. We pride ourselves in promoting natural and open-ended resources.

Ki te Hapori (In the Community): We connect the creativity in our community back to the learning in our centre. We support our neighbourhood art and creative's.

“We believe children are competent, complex thinkers, curious and rich in potential.” (*Te Whāriki, 2017*)

Resilience | Manawaroa

Resilience is the ability to recover readily from adversity. We are resilient when we can maintain our positivity and optimism in difficult times and circumstances.

“Persistence and resilience only come from having been given the chance to work through difficult problems.” – Gever Tulley.

What does creativity look like?

Ki Tamariki (For Children): We acknowledge that this is one of the most important characteristic that makes us “ready for school and ready for life.” Resilience means we encourage our tamariki to get back up, try and try again, persevere and to never give up.

Ki Whānau (For Families): We believe that everyday offers a fresh start in our centre. We acknowledge how much adversity our whānau can face and are there to support them, no questions asked.

Ki te Kaimahi (For Staff): We role model resilience each day and we provide encouragement because we never give up on our tamariki. We give ourselves permission to be human and make mistakes in our reach for excellence. We hold high expectations for our each other and our tamariki because we know they can succeed.

Ki te Taiao (In the Environment): We believe in quality over quantity – for our environment to withstand the years of supporting children’s learning. We provide a delicate balance of structure, routines and challenges within the safe and secure boundaries of a free play curriculum.

Ki te Hapori (In the Community): We want to be a shining light in our community – not battered and weathered by what comes along. We take pride in our centre space and let our community know who we are. We appreciate our visitors and wider learning community who are part of our centre.

“Children are encouraged to feel comfortable about saying ‘I don’t know’ and risking failure.” (Te Whāriki, 2017)