



Beach Kids

Early Learning Centre

Whānau Information Pack



Welcome

Nau mai, haere mai

Welcome to Beach Kids Waihi! We understand that choosing an Early Learning Centre for your child is no small feat. As parents, you are entrusted with the most important job of all - raising your child. At Beach Kids Waihi, we are dedicated to working alongside you in this adventure, ensuring that your child is given every opportunity to thrive and succeed in life.

We take pride in our legacy of 35 years of nurturing the growth of young minds and are grateful for the trust placed in us by many families over the years. As a vibrant and diverse community, we celebrate and embrace the uniqueness of each child, providing opportunities and experiences aligned with their passions and interests.

We are enablers of learning. Our dedicated team understands that every child learns differently and we take the time to nurture appropriately, providing challenges that are tailored to each child's needs. Our learning environments are designed to encourage social and emotional growth, as well as the development of a strong sense of self as your child finds their place in our community.

We feel honoured that you are considering Beach Kids Waihi to join you on this exciting journey with your child.



A home away from home



Working alongside families for growth



Nurturing the growth of young minds



Child Lead Learning with immersive Environments

Our Vision

To tatou tirohanga

We place children and their families at the core of our focus. Our approach is comprehensive, incorporating various enriching activities and experiences to nurture young minds and help them flourish.

We are a centre that values integrity and local community impact. We are dedicated to enhancing the lives of our tamariki, by providing them with an enjoyable and stimulating environment for their personal growth and education.

Each of our rooms has been designed to cater to the specific needs of our tamariki and kaiako alike. We have spared no effort in providing them with a space that promotes boundless creativity, encourages imaginative play, and fosters a love for learning. We strive for all our resources to have been obtained from ethical sources and we provide a diverse range of educational opportunities that stimulate their curiosity and promote their holistic development.



Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is inspired by play, nature, and diverse communities, creating a lively learning experience. Our environments are intentionally designed to enhance learning.

Celebrate the joy of playful exploration

Our mission is to empower your child's educational journey by providing a secure and joyful learning environment. Our curriculum, which is based on the New Zealand Early Childhood Education curriculum, Te Whāriki, is designed to prepare children for their future academic and personal ventures. Our expertly trained kaiako guide and support your child, allowing them to flourish to their fullest potential. Moreover, our nature-rich surroundings and play-based learning approach ensure a well-rounded, immersive learning experience.

Passionate about lifelong learning, constantly exploring

Our approach to children's education is comprehensive and seeks to develop skills such as problem-solving, resilience, determination and empathy, alongside literacy and numeracy.

We believe children's families, culture, and community serve as a foundation for meaningful experiences and relationships. Through effective assessment and evaluation practices, we create a positive, inclusive, and responsive environment, tailored to meet each child's unique needs and abilities. This approach fosters growth and development in all aspects of a child's life.



Our Rooms

Ohinemuri

(Early Years)

0 - 3 Year Olds

Our indoor environment is gentle and nurturing and feels like a home away from home. The outdoor environment, on the other hand, is immersive and full of wonderful opportunities for your child to learn and explore. The natural grass and the garden is a much-loved area of our outdoor environment. Both the outdoor and indoor spaces are designed to nurture your child in a safe and secure environment.

Whether it be painting, push and pull toys, blocks, storytelling, sensory play or any other activity, the children are engaged and contributing to the vital early stages of development.

Pukewa

(Kindergarten)

3 - 5 Year Olds

The environment is a mixture of learning opportunities for our tamariki in this room. We provide children with the opportunity to explore, investigate and make discoveries. We enable our children to be active participants in their learning and use their interests to shape the direction of their learning.

Play is the main focus for learning concepts such as language, colours and numbers. Being this age is a time for growth and change and our aim is to extend and support children to guide them towards independence and social competence. We also offer a school readiness program for 4 year old's.



Centre Information

Settling In

Beach Kids Waihi recognises that each child is an individual and when changes take place, we aim to minimise disruption. Every child has a unique way in which they deal with change and when transitioning we accommodate their needs

Beach Kids ensures a smooth transition for children coming to us from home or another centre. We aim to provide parents with support and encouragement, so they will feel confident and reassured about their decision to place their child in our care.

Transition Process

We encourage all parents visit the centre with their child before they start at Beach Kids, so that both the parent and child become comfortable in our space. Once your child is comfortable, we generally ask parents to step away for a period of an hour or so, to see how the child engages with the environment. We will provide feedback of your child's time at Beach Kids. From there, we work with your wishes and desires and move at your pace to transition your child into Beach Kids.

Centre Communication

Beach Kids will communicate with parents through Storypark when there are planned reviews through the Education Review Office and are welcomed to be actively involved in the review process. Beach Kids will have all policies available for parents/whānau on our website and a copy of the policy handbook is available at the reception area of our centre.

Beach Kids Waihi utilises Storypark to document your child's learning journey of exploration and discovery, and to stay in contact with parents and whānau.

Newsletters are sent monthly via email to update on any special events coming up and exciting things we would like to share.

Decision Making

The decision-making process will reflect sensitivity and respect to different cultural values of the families attending the centre. We operate an open-door policy, where parents and family are welcome into the Centre at any time. We believe decisions should be made consensus involving staff, children, and parents/whānau. In this way people are empowered.





Illness

Exclusion of children with infections and/or disease from early childhood centres is sometimes necessary where there is potential for further spread of infection.

Please notify the centre if your child is unwell or unable to attend by 8am on the day or the day before. Text, call or email the centre manager using the contacts on the back page.

It is important that children are not sent to the centre if ill, or with a contagious or a notifiable disease (eg. conjunctivitis, measles, chicken pox, etc) as we are unable to accept them (this being in compliance with Ministry of Education Regulations and Infectious and Notifiable Diseases Regulations 1996).

The centre manager has the right to refuse a child who may be infectious to other children and staff. This is necessary for the well-being of all the children at the centre.

(Please refer to Illness Policy in policy handbook)

Absences

All enrolled days are charged, regardless of whether a child attends or not. Therefore, all sick days are payable. We also do not do day swaps - if your child does not attend a session on a particular day, he / she cannot attend another session during the week to cover. For long term absences please speak to the centre manager.

If your child becomes unwell during the day, we will contact you or your emergency contact to come and collect him/her immediately

Aspirations

We recognise that parents and guardians and whānau have needs and aspirations for their children. Families are given the chance to discuss these needs and aspirations in an atmosphere of respect, understanding, support and warmth. Beach Kids Waihi endeavours to work with parents / guardians and whānau, strengthening the bonds between the centre and the home.

(Please refer to the Parent/Whānau Policy in the policy handbook)

Operating Hours

8.00am - 4.00pm (Monday to Friday)

We are closed on Statutory/Public Holidays.

We are closed 1 day of the year in August for a Centre wide trip.

This day is not charged.

If we close due to emergency closure you will be notified immediately and that day will not be charged.

Fees

Under 3, Casual and non ECE hours: \$6.50 hour

3 and over with ECE hours:

20 hours free (max 6 hours a day*)

Then \$6.50 hour if booking exceeds 20 Hours per week.

*6 hours are to be between the hours of 8:30am and 2:30pm

Invoices are sent weekly to the main bill payers email address on the enrolment form. Fees are sent for the previous weeks sessions and we appreciate accounts to be settled before the next run of invoices are sent.

All permanent bookings are to be paid for whether a child attends or is absent. We rely on regular payments to pay our staff and to provide quality care for your child. Please remember to give us at least two weeks' notice when your child is leaving the centre permanently.

Childcare Subsidy

If you require assistance with completing a WINZ Childcare Subsidy form, our Centre Manager is available on site to guide you through the process. The childcare subsidy forms are conveniently located on the foyer wall for your ease of access. Don't hesitate to ask for help - we're happy to give you a hand!

To see if you are eligible

<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/childcare-subsidy.html>

Sibling Discount

We have a sibling discount in place where multiple members of the same immediate family are eligible for a 10% discount on both child's fees.



For more information or to book
a tour please contact us.



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