

Pineapples Early Learning Centre

CULTURE & IDENTITY POLICY

RATIONALE

Pineapples expects an awareness and appreciation of bi-cultural heritage and support Te tiriti o Waitangi and the use of Te Reo Maori as a living language. We acknowledge and respect the unique place of Maori as tangata whenua and ensure that all children have the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the dual heritage of New Zealand. We understand that parents and children who are Maori (or claim Maori ancestry) are entitled to the same benefit and privilege as others along with respect for cultural differences and aspirations.

LEGISLATION

Licensing Criteria 2008 – Regulation 43: Curriculum (C5, C6)

GUIDELINES

- Teachers are expected to use Te Reo Māori phrases and words;
- Teachers will discuss and inform others of appropriate practice with regard to tikanga Māori to increase awareness of the partnership inherent with Te Tiriti O Waitangi;
- Visual aids and language prompts are displayed throughout the Centre encouraging teachers to extend their knowledge of Te Reo Māori;
- Te Reo Māori and recognition of culture is naturally incorporated into the curriculum; Teachers value Maori children's identities as Maori as the foundation for and key to their success as Maori.
- Teachers and management endeavour to make, find and provide Māori and natural teaching resources.
- Assessments will reflect children's individual cultures, this includes Storypark.
- There will be clear links reflective of acknowledging children's individual cultures through meeting minutes and self review documentation.
- Centres will recognise National days of importance, (refer to C Appendix (i), National Celebrations List). These days will be put on the staff calendar with an explanation about the significance of this day. Discussion will occur at mat time with the children and further experiences may be provided;
- A range of resources are available highlighting different cultures within our centre emphasising our bicultural identity.
- Teachers respect cultural diversity and individual needs by supporting them in our programme;
- Teachers are intentional in their practice and in their use of language when interacting with children, ensuring it is culturally inclusive and positive.

Date created: December 2018

Date reviewed: December 2018

Next review date: December 2020