



KEY KAIAKO POLICY

RATIONALE:

In order for children to develop a sense of trust and security within the environment it is important that they have one key person with whom they can create a secure base. We believe all learning happens within the context of relationships.

TE WHAARIKI (NZEC CURRICULUM):

Well-being – Goal 2: children experience an environment where their emotional well-being is nurtured.

PROCEDURES:

- Each child in the centre will be assigned a Key Kaiako. Careful consideration will go into assigning a teacher to a particular child and their family, taking appropriate shifts of staff into consideration.
- We respect and celebrate that the child's primary caregiver is and always will be the parents or guardian. The centre Key Kaiako acts as a support to the parents and family as well as the child – it's a 3-way partnership.
- The key teacher approach works successfully when there is a whole team approach. This ensures the key teacher relationship is not an exclusive one and all information will be shared with their other teachers in the centre either verbally or through a notebook system which is kept in the main room. This notebook is for teaching staff only.
- The key teacher will make themselves available to the parents by sharing their times when they can be most easily contacted, such as non-contact times.
- As much as possible the key teacher will be involved with the child's care routines and rituals.

Date approved: February 2022

Review Date: February 2024