

# Waitangi Kindergarten Philosophy

*We the teaching team at Paihia Waitangi Kindergarten are committed to an emergent, child focussed, child initiated, play and resource based curriculum which is attractive, safe, stimulating and fun!*

*We embrace the principles of Te Whariki, believing it is important to offer children a holistic range of learning experiences in all areas of their development whilst focusing on their developing strengths and interests.*

*We believe it is our responsibility to guide children to reach their full potential by providing and facilitating an environment that enables children to learn skills, acquire knowledge, develop confidence to experience new things and which fosters a love of life-long learning.*

*We have an enduring respect for Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the dual heritage of Aotearoa and reflect this through the pumanawatanga (morale, tone, pulse) of the kindergarten. Te Reo and Tikanga Maori are woven into our everyday practice.*

*We recognise and value the multicultural heritage of our Paihia Waitangi community and the uniqueness of every child and family within it. We value an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere where children and their families can feel they belong and where there are equitable opportunities for learning irrespective of ethnicity, gender, age, ability or background. We believe that families are a child's greatest resource and warmly invite whanau to contribute and participate in the daily programme.*

*We place a high expectation on children to be respectful of themselves, others and the environment, empowering children to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. The structure evident in our routines and boundaries of acceptable behaviour promotes a safe emotional and physical place to be.*

*As a Bronze accredited EnviroSchool Kindergarten we value the kaupapa of creating a healthy, peaceful, respectful and sustainable world through people teaching and learning together. We value sustainability and promote this practice within our daily programme. We ground ourselves in the Guiding Principles/Ngā Mātāpono to enable a clear understanding of what EnviroSchools is all about: Empower Students, Sustainable Communities, Māori Perspectives, Learning for Sustainability and Respect for Diversity of People and Culture.*

*Me mahi tahi tatou mo te oranga o te tamariki*  
*We must work together as one for the welfare of the children*

*Arohanui ♡ Your Waitangi Kindergarten Team*

