



ERO Early Childhood Service Akanuku | Assurance Review

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| Early Childhood Service Name | Fairfield Kindergarten |
| Profile Number | 5140 |
| Location | Hamilton |

ERO's Akanuku | Assurance Review reports provide information about whether a service meets and maintains regulatory standards. Further information about Akanuku | Assurance Reviews is included at the end of this report.

ERO's Judgement

| Regulatory standards | ERO's judgement |
|---|-----------------|
| Curriculum | Meeting |
| Premises and facilities | Meeting |
| Health and safety | Meeting |
| Governance, management and administration | Meeting |

At the time of the review, ERO found the service was taking reasonable steps to meet regulatory standards.

Background

Fairfield Kindergarten operates under the umbrella of the Waikato Kindergarten Association. In December 2018, ERO found the kindergarten to be requiring further development in matters relating to Health and Safety. Since the last review a new head teacher has been appointed and there have been some changes to the teaching team.

Summary of Review Findings

Children are supported to be confident and competent learners. Their preferences are respected, and they are involved in decisions about their learning experiences. Teachers providing education and care engage in meaningful and positive interactions and nurture reciprocal relationships. An ongoing process of internal evaluation helps the service maintain and improve the quality of education and care.

The curriculum has been recently reviewed and is consistent with *Te Whāriki*. A wide range of experiences and opportunities enhances children's learning and development. Suitable human resource practices are implemented.

A system is in place to ensure that equipment, premises and facilities are checked daily for hazards.

Actions for Compliance

Since the on-site visit the service has provided ERO evidence that shows it has addressed the following non-compliance:

- documentation of the current Fire Evacuation Scheme approved by the New Zealand Fire Service. (HS4)

Next ERO Review

The next ERO review is likely to be an Akarangi | Quality Evaluation.



Phil Cowie
Director Review and Improvement Services (Central)
Central Region | Te Tai Pūtahi Nui
11 September 2020

Information About the Service

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| Service type | Free Kindergarten |
| Number licensed for | 45 children, including up to 0 aged under 2. |
| Percentage of qualified teachers | 80%+ |
| Service roll | 58 |
| Gender composition | Female 29 Male 29 |
| Ethnic composition | Māori 22 NZ European/Pākehā 6 Other ethnic groups 30 |
| Review team on site | August 2020 |
| Date of this report | 11 September 2020 |
| Most recent ERO report(s) These are available at www.ero.govt.nz | Education Review, December 2018 Education Review, August 2014 |

General Information about Assurance Reviews

All services are licensed under the [Education \(Early Childhood Services\) Regulations 2008](#). The legal requirements for early childhood services also include the [Licensing Criteria for Education and Care Services 2008](#).

Services must meet the standards in the regulations and the requirements of the licensing criteria to gain and maintain a licence to operate.

ERO undertakes an [Akanuku | Assurance Review process](#) in any centre-based service:

- having its first ERO review – including if it is part of a governing organisation
- previously identified as ‘not well placed’ or ‘requiring further development’
- that has moved from a provisional to a full licence
- that have been re-licensed due to a change of ownership
- where an Akanuku | Assurance Review process is determined to be appropriate.

Management Assurance on Legal Requirements

All early childhood services are required to promote children’s health and safety and to regularly review their compliance with legal requirements. Before the review, the staff and management of a service completed an [ERO Centre Assurance Statement and Self-Audit Checklist](#). In these documents they attested that they have taken all reasonable steps to meet their legal obligations related to:

- curriculum
- premises and facilities
- health and safety practices
- governance, management and administration.

As part of an Akanuku | Assurance Review ERO assesses whether the regulated standards are being met. In particular, ERO looks at a service’s systems for managing the following areas that have a potentially high impact on children's wellbeing:

- emotional safety (including positive guidance and child protection)
- physical safety (including supervision; sleep procedures; accidents; medication; hygiene; excursion policies and procedures)
- suitable staffing (including qualification levels; police vetting; teacher certification; ratios)
- evacuation procedures and practices for fire and earthquake.

As part of an Akanuku | Assurance Review ERO also gathers and records evidence through:

- discussions with those involved in the service
- consideration of relevant documentation, including the implementation of health and safety systems
- observations of the environment/premises, curriculum implementation and teaching practice.