

# TE MATA KINDERGARTEN



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## Session Days & Times

### MORNING :

Monday Tuesday Thursday

8.30am - 11.30am

Wednesday & Friday

8.30 - 12.30pm

### AFTERNOON :

Monday Tuesday Thursday

12.30pm - 3.00pm



# Welcome to Te Mata Kindergarten

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Te Mata Kindergarten is a place for children and their families. Parents are welcome at Kindergarten any time, please feel free to ask if you need to know anything or if you have any concerns or queries.

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**THE EARLY YEARS  
OF A CHILD'S LIFE  
ARE A CRITICAL  
INFLUENCE ON A  
CHILD'S LIFELONG  
LEARNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT**



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### *9. Birthdays*

We celebrate 5th Birthdays at Kindergarten unless asked not to. This involves a special mat time for the birthday child.

### *10. Kindergarten Programme*

Our Kindergarten environment invites children to explore, make choices and have a wide variety of experiences. Children's play is valued as meaningful and is the catalyst for programme planning which is developed through observations, parent feedback, stories from home, learning stories and interviews with the children.

### *11. Kindergarten Committee*

The committee is made up of interested parents who are responsible for managing the finances, equipment, minor maintenance, liaising with teachers and ensuring the kindergarten is safe and well equipped. Parents are welcome to join throughout the year and are invited to all monthly meetings.

### *12. Food*

Children are asked to contribute 2 pieces of fruit a week to the fruit bowl in the kitchen. Fruit is cut up and available for children throughout the entire session on the fruit table. There is a drinking fountain outside for water.



## 7. Our Philosophy

***“ Children, Teacher’s and the wider community engage in learning together. Sharing and Caring.”***

Our Kindergarten philosophy is that children learn through play and active exploration. The children are given maximum opportunities to experience a full range of experiences. We value each child as an individual. The Kindergarten programme is based on observations of the children and designed according to their needs. We encourage parents to share information about their child and contribute to the programme.

The structure of each session is available for parents to read on the Noticeboard.

## Family Corner

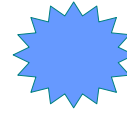
Parents are invited to enjoy the family corner. Have a seat on the couch, watch the slide show and videos on the TV screen and enjoy reading your child’s folders.

## 8. Fees

Families are able to claim the Government subsidy of 20 Free hours Early Childhood Education.

If you do not wish to access this free subsidy then the fee is \$1.50 per hour.

Please let us know if your hours change so that our records can be updated.



# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## 1. Our Curriculum

The Curriculum at Te Mata Kindergarten is based upon the official Early Childhood Curriculum of New Zealand - **Te Whaariki**. The curriculum is the sum total of the experiences, activities, and events whether direct or indirect, which occur within an environment designed to foster children’s learning and development. The objective of Te Mata Kindergarten is for children to grow as competent and confident learners and communicators, secure in their sense of belonging and in the knowledge that they make a valued contribution to society.

Teacher’s observe, interact, plan, implement, engage review and evaluate the programme using their knowledge and understanding of learning and development of children. Children and their families are involved in the programme.

Our Policies and Practices are found in the Parent Library.



## 2. Clothing

Please ensure that children are wearing suitable play clothes. A great deal of enthusiasm and many valuable learning opportunities may be lost if the children are concerned about their clothes.

Please name clothing and bags, especially shoes and hats. Lost Property is in a box by the front door.

## 3. Attendance

If your child is absent for more than a day or two, please telephone kindergarten and fill in an absentee form upon return.

Please let staff know if your child develops a contagious illness.

## 4. Learning Board

Some of the events which happen during the session are on display on the fruit table and in clear files for each term. Remember to look at these to see what learning has been happening. The children's profiles are kept next to the kitchen for children and parents to read whenever they wish. Boys are on the left bookshelf, girls on the right. These are filed alphabetically. The TV screen above the children's folders shows slide shows of children's play and learning during the session.

There are also forms for parents to fill in called **“Stories from Home”**. It is very valuable to hear what the children have been involved in with their families. Please let us know if you have completed a story from home. These may also be e-mailed to us : [temata@hfka.co.nz](mailto:temata@hfka.co.nz)  
Copies of the children's “Contract” are available for parents to take home.



## 5. Legend of Te Mata o Rongokako Book

In 2011 the Committee published a children's book about the legend of Te Mata o Rongokako. Copies of this book are available at Kindergarten for \$20.00. This special book tells the story of the Maori legend which our Kindergarten is named after.



## 6. Parent Help

We welcome your involvement at Kindergarten, all children enjoy you coming and it is very valuable for your child. The assistance parents give to the Kindergarten is very much appreciated. There are parent help rosters for both sessions which parents are invited to write their names on. However parents are also welcome to stay at Kindergarten or visit at any time. If you are unsure how to help ask a teacher. There are also washing and sweeping rosters on the noticeboard if you feel you can help in this way.