



Ellen Stevenson Kindergarten


heretaungakindergartens.co.nz



Kindergartens
Te Matau-a-Māui



**Right from the
start, we teach
from the heart.**



Nau mai haere mai.

Here at Ellen Stevenson Kindergarten our practice is embedded in the foundation of our philosophy and understanding of 'E alofagia oe – You are loved! With this foundation tamariki and their whānau are better able to gain a sense of belonging where their wellbeing is met, a place where they feel safe and secure to then be able to unlock all other potential learning opportunities.

Ellen Stevenson Kindergarten is a homely and peaceful environment where whānaungatanga and Manaakitanga are nurtured. Where we support tamariki to develop their social-emotional competencies, ability to communicate effectively with others and further explore discovering who they are as their unique and amazing selves, where they come from, their ways of being, their ways of knowing and their ways of doing. We also recognise that it is through play that ngā tamariki (all children) learn best, have freedom to explore learning through their interests, passions and areas of the curriculum they are naturally drawn to.

We invite you to come into the kindergarten to see what we are all about, meet the teaching team, to feel what it is like to spend time in our environment and to kōrero (talk) on how we can meet the needs and aspirations of your tamaiti (child) and whānau (family). Relationships are at the core of what we do and we strive to work in partnership with our families to reach the best learning outcomes for all tamariki. We look forward to meeting you soon.

Our Vision

He taonga te mokopuna, kia whāngaia, kia tipu, kia rea.
A child is a treasure, to be nurtured, to grow, to flourish.



Nurturing through nature.

Ellen Stevenson Kindergarten is part of the Heretaunga Kindergarten Association which has a proud history of providing quality early learning experiences.

Our stunning environments reflect the unique character of Aotearoa New Zealand with a focus on environmental sustainability. All our kindergartens are proud members of Enviroschools, committed to a long-term sustainability journey, where tamariki connect with and explore the environment.

All our kindergartens offer a play-based localised learning programme based on the Early Childhood Curriculum, Te Whāriki. As an association we honour our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Every learning journey is unique.

Kindergarten is a place where tamariki learn through play, with and alongside others, building on the skills and knowledge they bring from their home environment.

Kaiako weave together the principles and strands of Te Whāriki in collaboration with tamariki, whānau and community to create a localised and individualised learning programme.

Every tamaiti will have their own profile book which will document their learning journey at kindergarten. Profile books belong to the tamaiti, they can take these home anytime, or you are welcome to read it at the kindergarten.





How we communicate.

To develop and maintain close and respectful relationships, we have a number of ways to keep you informed of your child's progress. That includes daily chats about learning, meetings with the kaiako, whiteboard messages, newsletters, whānau notice board, website and Facebook.

Storypark is an online user-friendly tool we use to share learning and communicate between home and kindergarten. Support is available in learning how to use Storypark. You can download the free app on your phone.



How you can be involved.

We welcome your involvement in kindergarten life and do everything we can to keep you connected.

First and foremost, we invite you to be part of the learning journey by talking with us, sharing what you know about your tamaiti and letting us know what aspirations you have for them. This supports us to develop a individualised plan. We continuously seek feedback on policy review and any significant developments for the kindergarten.

You are welcome and encouraged to spend time with us any time during our sessions, for as long as you like. We often require whānau helpers for excursions and appreciate support with this. We encourage you to share your talents or skills to support further learning for the tamariki.





In the heart of your community.

At Heretaunga Kindergartens we have 100% qualified kaiako that go the extra mile to bring out the best in your tamariki.

We're an association of 16 Kindergartens across Flaxmere, Hastings, Havelock North and Central Hawke's Bay – all with a focus on quality education, sustainability and local partnerships.

We've been here since 1928 and we're here to stay, in outstanding environments that encourage learning and play.

We're your neighbours, your friends, your whānau and we're right where you need us, in the heart of the community.

Meet our qualified kaiako and find out more.

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