



# Irongate Kindergarten

[heretaungakindergartens.co.nz](http://heretaungakindergartens.co.nz)



**Kindergartens**  
Te Matau-a-Māui



**Ā tātou tamariki,  
ā tātou taonga.  
Our children,  
our treasures.**

# Nau mai haere mai.

We invite you to come and join us at Irongate Kindergarten in our beautiful large grounds. We have a relaxed and inviting natural environment where tamariki can explore their way of being, giving them space to develop and extend their interests.

Kaiako are supportive of the individuality of each tamariki, growing and supporting them to be confident and happy people, developing a sense of wellbeing and belonging within the kindergarten setting.

Mutual respect and honor of one another and the environment is evident throughout our learning spaces.

We value our partnership with whānau with an open door for you to bring your talents and skills to enhance our tamariki learning journey.

## Our Vision

At Irongate Kindergarten our heart is community – layer upon layer – past, present and future, to embrace and grow the whole child.

**Whakapapa** – the people to whom we are connected. We are people through other people, and all that they represent in terms of knowledge and experience.

Hutia te rito o te harakeke kei whea to kōmako e kō? Kī mai ki ahau he aha te mea nui o te Ao? Maku e kī atu he tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata!	<i>If the heart of the harakeke was removed where would the bellbird sing? If I was asked what was the most important thing in the world I would be compelled to reply it is people, it is people, it is people!</i>
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## Our Philosophy

Through ngakau nui we foster whanaungatanga, manaakitanga and kotahitanga, supporting and growing children's mana and sense of wellbeing and belonging.



# Nurturing through nature.

Irongate 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.

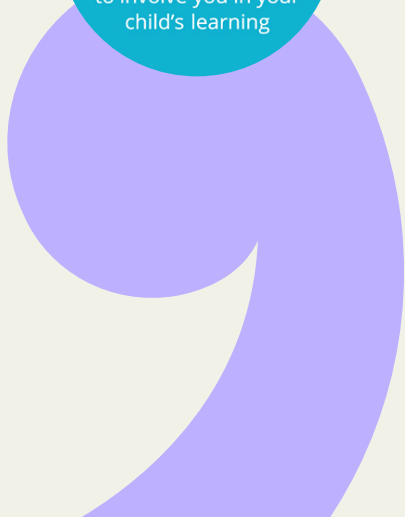




## How we communicate.

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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