If you would like more information about Te Whāriki and how you can be involved in the curriculum at your child’s service, talk to the teachers or educators. You can also see the updated Te Whāriki (and its companion, Te Whāriki a te Kōhanga Reo) here: www.parents.education.govt.nz

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It’s easy to find out more about early childhood education

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi engari he toa takitini.

I come not with my own strengths but bring with me the gifts, talents and strengths of my family, tribe and ancestors.
Children learn a huge amount in the first years of their lives. Participating in quality early childhood education strengthens this early learning and lays a strong foundation for later success.

All early childhood education services are required to deliver a curriculum that empowers young children to be confident and competent learners. The framework for this curriculum is set out in *Te Whāriki*, which has recently been updated.

Each service weaves a local curriculum (or whāriki) based on the principles, strands, goals and learning outcomes found in *Te Whāriki*. When deciding which areas to focus on, teachers and educators take into account the interests, strengths and needs of the children and the aspirations of parents, whānau and community.

*Te Whāriki* supports every child to be strong in his or her identity, language and culture.

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**PRINCIPLES**

**EMPOWERMENT WHAKAMANA**

Early childhood curriculum empowers the child to learn and grow

**HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT KOTAHITANGA**

Early childhood curriculum reflects the holistic way that children learn and grow

**FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WHĀNAU TANGATA**

The wider world of family and community is an integral part of early childhood curriculum

**RELATIONSHIPS NGĀ HONONGA**

Children learn through responsive and reciprocal relationships with people, places and things

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**STRANDS**

**WELLBEING MANA ATUA**

The health and wellbeing of the child are protected and nurtured

**BELONGING MANA WHENUA**

Children and their families feel a sense of belonging

**CONTRIBUTION MANA TANGATA**

Opportunities for learning are equitable, and each child’s contribution is valued

**COMMUNICATION MANA REO**

The languages and symbols of children’s own and other cultures are promoted and protected

**EXPLORATION MANA AOTŪROA**

The child learns through active exploration of the environment