



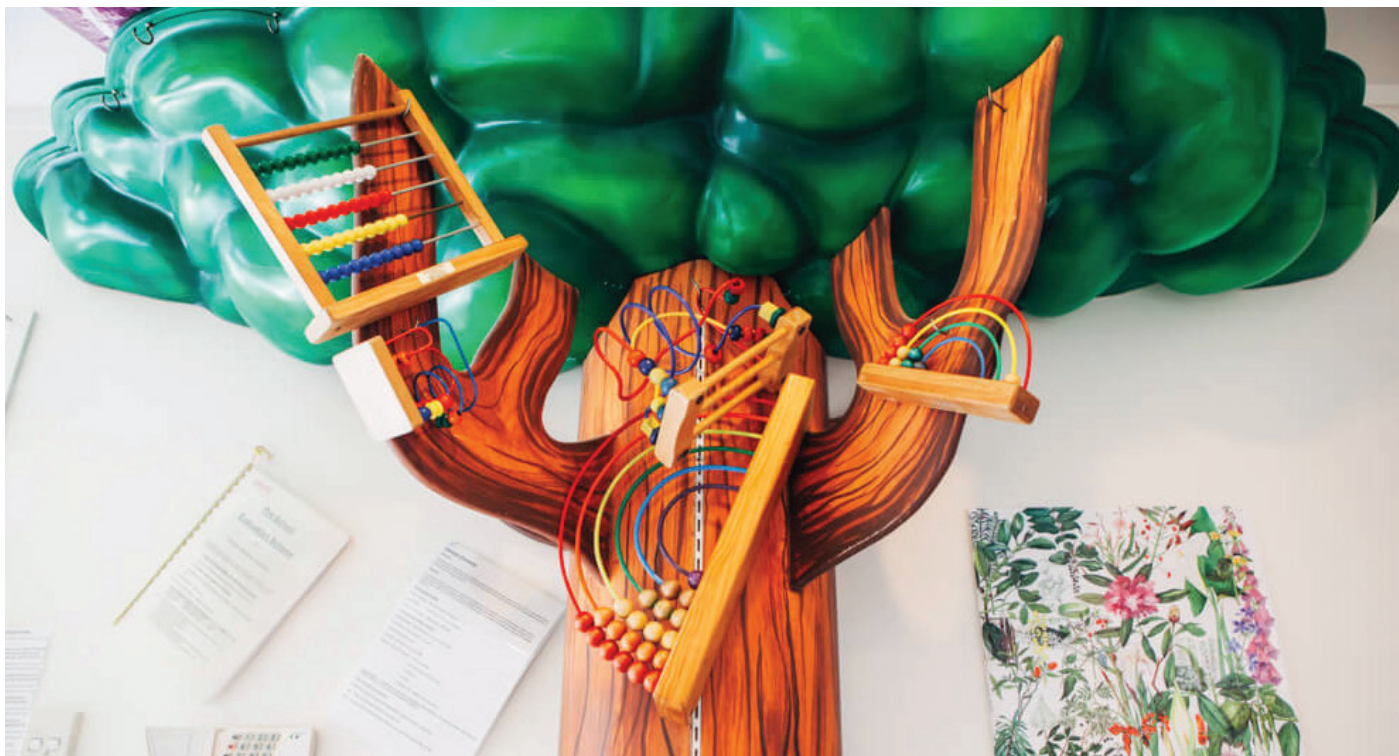
Horizons Montessori Preschool

09 827 2525

www.horizonsmontessoripreschool.co.nz

horizonsmontessoripreschool@xtra.co.nz

1 Arahoe Rd, New Lynn, Auckland 0600



HORIZONS MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL

We welcome you and your family to Horizons Montessori Preschool, a special place full of fun, joy, friendships, learning and discovery. We look forward to helping your child explore their learning opportunities supported by knowledgeable, caring teachers who will work in partnership with you. The Montessori equipment, additional games and supplementary equipment are instrumental in supporting children's learning through incremental developmental steps.



HORIZONS MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Horizons Montessori Preschool operates on the philosophies and equipment of the educational philosophies of Maria Montessori, but has also evolved the curriculum to enhance children's learning through use of the Te Whāriki Early Childhood Curriculum. Our service is distinctive, as we offer a balance of structured and free play periods throughout each session. This defines us as different from other early childhood services. We strive to achieve this by creating a fun, nurturing, learning environment for preschool children which contains a strong educational base.

Each child has an individual portfolio which is updated twice a year for children who attend part-time and three times a year for children who attend full-time. From these observations, parent /whanau input and teachers' knowledge of the children, their interests, their areas of developmental strength they are able to extend on children's knowledge in all areas of curriculum. Using the Montessori equipment and educational games teachers facilitate and encourage group skills, social, relationships and fine motor skills.

The high trained teacher /child ratios is integral to offering the children scaffolded learning through sustained interest areas such as research and enquiry, and allows us to spend extended periods of time with children while still maintaining the regular jobs that need doing in any centre environment. The Montessori equipment is instrumental in supporting children's learning through incremental developmental steps, and is supported by areas of free play also available such as free art, play dough, and puzzles. Children are free to choose their own activities with teachers' encouragement and support, to try new challenges, learn new skills and develop new interests. Older children participate in formal activities such as writing, maths, language development, scissor skills and transition to school activities at a separate table known as the extension table.

Mat-times are utilized for stories, drama, puppets, games, magnetic stories, finger plays, singing, dancing and for children to give news and present objects of interest to the group. Outside activities include free art, water, sand, gardening, slides, ball skills, dancing, music and movement, obstacle courses, running, jumping, fantasy play, musical instruments, carpentry, family play, trucks, puppets, lego/block play and clay and exploring areas of the months programme. Teachers encourage children to enjoy physical activity in response to the "Push Play" objectives while maintaining an environment that offers change and new challenges.

There are several children who require IDPs who are part of continual review and are part of on-going programmes. Unless children have immediate needs, they are part of the cyclic review. Thirteen children receive individual focus/plans each month. Using observations, impressions, interpretations, and the data collected from the parents questionnaire, and the children's voice, teachers plan for the child's developmental needs, interests and strengths. Parents aspirations for their child are integral to the planning process, and helps to develop shared goals and expectations.

Teachers invite the families of the children who have had their child's portfolio reviewed to attend a parent/teacher interview to discuss their child's progress, and to involve parents with the decision making processes with their child.

The programme is based around children's interests and is a mixture of planned and emergent activities. Whenever possible, visitors are invited to attend the preschool to further develop the children's interests. Visitors often include family members and our local community members with whom we have established relationships with over the years. The programme is evaluated each month, with input from the children about their highlights and new knowledge. This discussion with the children usually shows the direction for the next month's programme, or may be determined by exciting coming events, or areas children show an interest in investigating further. Each programme is inter-related, evaluated and has strong links to Te Whāriki, and the Montessori curriculum.

Parents and Community members actively contribute to programmes with presentations and resources. Many parents came to talk about their occupations and provide links to the wider world. Families take advantage of the social activities such as discos, photo evenings, parent evenings, and concerts to meet other families and extend on the children's relationships they have made at preschool. All the teachers have been with the centre for considerable time, offer continuity of care and have established a trusting relationship with the children and families at the centre, one of mutual respect, communication and consultation. Teachers model high expectations of moral and ethical values important to society, and our waiting list shows our programme and philosophy are highly valued.

PORTFOLIOS

At horizons preschool we use Educa to provide a web-based portfolio of your child's development and learning journey. Educa provides a secure, password protected site where teachers and parents, extended family can add learning stories, photos and videos. You will be automatically notified that a new story has been added for your child and you can easily access these through your Android, iPhone, tablet or computer.

Teachers ensure that your child receives regular learning stories which follow and support your child's interest and needs. Checklists are also used to identify what numbers, colours, shapes and letters your child recognizes and is used for planning their next steps in numeracy and literacy development. Children love to use the iPad and interactive white board at horizons Preschool view and share their portfolios.



LUNCH BOXES

At Horizons Preschool we are committed to developing competent, confident learners. Children bring their own lunch boxes and drink bottles so children can make their own meal selections based on the food you know they enjoy. Teachers utilise this opportunity to help children develop skills in opening packets and deciding what to eat at different times of the day. This has proven to greatly benefit children as they transition to school, with routines that they are comfortable and familiar with. Scaffolding and support is provided by teachers and we are happy to warm up their food in the microwave if you would like them to have a cooked lunch.



CLOTHING

We recommend that you bring your child in clothes that you don't mind getting messy as early childhood is all about exploring. Children often take off clothing such as jackets and we recommend that you name all clothes and shoes to keep the lost property low. Please keep a change of clothes in your child's bag so we can change them quickly if they become wet.

NAPPIES

If your child is in nappies or pull-ups please bring some in your child's bag.





OUR TEACHERS

All the teachers are highly knowledgeable and deeply committed to their professional roles. The team share a vision towards quality care and education which equated to improved learning outcomes for children. The teachers have all been with the centre for a considerable length of time, offering continuity of care. It has also allowed a trusting relationship between teachers and families to develop. Teachers model high expectations of moral and ethical values important to society.

Professional development and a shared vision towards on-going improvements is a high priority to the teaching team. We utilise inquiry and research in our self-review processes to initiate improvements. We develop and trial new strategies and use professional development to gain new skills. Each teacher uses relevant reading material and reflective writing processes to develop pedagogical knowledge and information from the sector. As a team we are open to exploring new challenges and approaches.

HOLIDAYS

The centre closes for 4 weeks during Christmas and during this time parents do not pay fees. Holidays taken at other times during the year require the payment of fees to secure your child's place. Parents are responsible for the payment of an enrolled day even if unable to attend including sick days and statutory holidays.



OPENING HOURS AND FEES

We are open from 8:00 to 4:00 each day and we offer 4 hour sessions from 8:00 to 12:00 and 12:00 to 4:00. We also have full days and full-time positions available. Fees are due weekly and are paid directly into the centres bank account with your child's name as a reference.

The account number is: 02 0152 0080660 00

Children aged between 2-3 years are charged:

\$33.50 per session

\$67.00 per day

\$280.00 full-time

A quality charge applies to children aged over 3 years accessing the 20 Hours ECE subsidy. This quality charge supports the added qualified teachers above the regulatory requirement.

The quality charge is:

\$20.25 per session

\$40.50 per day

\$258.50 full-time including the 20 Hours ECE subsidy

DAILY PROGRAMME



8:00am – 9:45am

Preschool opens – Educators prepare the environment and activities for the day. Children arrive, hang up bags, put lunch boxes and drink bottles on the shelf.

Children are free to choose work inside from:

Practical life exercises: Spooning, scooping, pouring, plant care, threading, personal care and independence.

Sensorial exercises: Colours, shapes, sound, puzzles, dimensions, blocks, discrimination.

Mathematical exercises: Introduction of recognition of quantities developing into the decimal system, addition and subtraction.

Language: Development of hand/eye co-ordination, pencil skills, phonics and letter recognition.

Environment Studies: Biology, geography, history and science.

Cultural Subjects: Art, craft, literature, music and movement.

9:45 – 10:00am Tidy up and Mat-time

10:00 – 10:25am Morning Tea

10:25- 11:45am Outdoor activities and games.

11:45- 11:55am Mat-time

Half day children prepare to go home Full-day children prepare for lunch.

11:55am – 12:20pm Lunch

12:20-1:15pm Outdoor activities and games

1:15-1:30pm Mat-time

1:30 – 2:45pm Children are free to choose work inside as above

2:45pm Mat-time

3:00-3:15pm Afternoon Tea

3:15-3:40pm Outside Activities and Games

3:40pm Mat-time

Children prepare to go home

4:00pm PRESCHOOL CLOSES



HORIZONS MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL

PRESCHOOL WAITING LIST APPLICATION

(Parents will need to complete the full enrolment form prior to starting as details often change while waiting for a space to become available.)

Child Name Surname (for accounts)
Ethnic Origin Iwi
Date of Birth Male / Female
Preferred Start Date

Days of Attendance: Please write **8:00 to 12:00** or **12:00 to 4:00** or **8:00 to 4:00** in the appropriate box.

| Day | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|
| Time | | | | | |

Mothers Name Fathers Name
Occupation Occupation
Address Address
.....
Phones Phones
Home Home
Business Business
Mobile Mobile
Email Email
Date Date
Signed Signed