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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION
Be involved
Get enrolled

TE WHĀRIKI

HE WHĀRIKI MĀTAURANGA MŌ NGĀ
MOKOPUNA O AOTEAROA
EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM

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

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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New Zealand Government



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

TE WHĀRIKI

Te Whāriki includes principles and strands which together describe a holistic curriculum.



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.

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

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