



PELORUS COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Maori As Tangata Whenua

Education [Early Childhood Services] Regulations 2008 (and it's Amendments): Regulation 43

Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Education and Care Centres 2008: Criterion C5, C6

Rationale

The Pelorus Community Preschool will acknowledge and respect the unique position of Maori as Tangata Whenua in Aotearoa/New Zealand. We encourage an awareness and appreciation of the bi-cultural heritage of our country and support the Treaty of Waitangi and the use of Te Reo Maori as a living language within the preschool.

- Pelorus Community Preschool will identify all the cultures of their preschool families/whanau and will make them welcome.
- Children will learn about the historical aspects of Maori celebrations (eg. Waitangi Day) and customs as celebrated by families/whanau, and be given the opportunity to develop knowledge of the cultural heritages of both parties to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Pelorus Community Preschool respects and supports the right of each child to be confident in their own culture and encourages children to understand and respect other cultures.
- Pelorus Community Preschool will provide an environment where children can experience the stories and symbols of their own and other cultures and reflect on the unique place of Maori as tangata whenua. The use of Te Reo Maori will be actively encouraged throughout the preschool and will be incorporated into all areas of the curriculum.
- Pelorus Community Preschool support the use of Te Reo Maori in

communications with parents/whanau. Staff will be open to involving parents and whanau to share their values and knowledge of Maori as tangata whenua with them.

- The Board will provide resource materials to help staff acknowledge the diverse beliefs, values and principles of the Maori culture within our Preschool.
- Pelorus Community Preschool will support training applications from staff to further develop their knowledge of Maori culture and will assist where possible in supporting initiatives that reduce barriers to participation.

Licensing Criteria

- The service curriculum acknowledges and reflects the unique place of Māori as tangata whenua. Children are given the opportunity to develop knowledge and an understanding of the cultural heritages of both parties to Te Tiriti o Waitangi (C5).
- The service curriculum respects and supports the right of each child to be confident in their own (C6).

Adopted:	September 2009
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Review Date:	September 2017

Policy In Action

If this Policy is being implemented effectively, then you should see the following happening in the Preschool:

- Visual aids and language prompts will be displayed throughout the centre encouraging teachers to extend their knowledge of Te Reo Maori.
- The use of Te Reo Maori phrases and words are encouraged.
- Children's names will be pronounced correctly.
- From time to time your children will talk about events/celebrations/local history they have been involved in learning about at Preschool and special visitors who have come to the Preschool to share about aspects from the Maori culture

- Basic vocabulary and simple waiata may be used in the preschool and may be communicated to parents via monthly newsletters.
- Staff will have access to training to improve their knowledge of Tikanga and Te Reo.
- Educators use teaching strategies which reflect Tikanga Maori including narrative, song, art and movement.
- Teachers will discuss and inform others of appropriate practice with regard to tikanga Maori to increase awareness of the partnership inherent with Te Tiriti O Wiatangi.
- Maori and natural teaching resources will be available for use in the preschool.