
KINDERGARTEN PROFILE – LONGFORD KINDERGARTEN

Roll: 30/20

Hours of Operation: 8.15am-4.15pm, Session Times 8.30am - 2.30pm, Monday to Friday

Community Statement

Longford Kindergarten is situated in the West Gore Community. We are close to West Gore School, Kids Hub and Gore Events Centre. We celebrated our 10th Birthday in March! We are situated beside Longford Intermediate. We have a fabulous indoor and outdoor area, which provides lots of space for the children to explore and discover.

Our whānau dynamics are diverse with whānau that are working (fulltime/shiftwork) or a parent at home or farming whānau. Our whānau and tamariki come from a mix of cultural backgrounds – New Zealand with Māori, Indian, Malaysian Chinese American, European, and Filipino. Tamariki who are attending are from 2.5-5 years old.

On a Wednesday morning we take 10 tamariki out to Dolamore Park for our award-winning Bush Kindy Programme.

Current Kindergarten Philosophy:

“At Longford Kindergarten play is viewed as essential learning for tamariki. Longford Kindergarten is a place where we value and nurture relationships between people, places, and things. These connections create a culture and atmosphere of ako (teaching and learning), manaakitanga (respect), kotahitanga (collaboration), whanaungatanga (relationships), kaitiakitanga (caring and nurturing) within our kindergarten whare.”

**“Ko te ahurei o te tamaiti arahia o tatou mahi”
Let the uniqueness of the child guide our work**

This whakatauki is important to us as it embraces each tamaiti self-identity and supports ako, teaching and learning together, with aroha and awhi.

Key Features and Achievements of our Kindergarten:

- November 2019 – Beginning our Enviroschools learning journey.
- November 2019 – Winner of the 2019 Gore District Community Mainland Minerals Environment Award with Elsie Street Kindergarten.
- Kaiako and tamariki have a passion for learning around Kaitiakitanga and the ngā atua. Kaitiakitanga is also how we nurture and awhi our tamaiti social and emotional learning.
- Te Ao Māori is integrated throughout the programme and assessment.
- Longford Kindergarten is a place where we value and nurture relationships between people, places, and things.
- Natural Environment with an unhurried approach for tamariki to play and learn where they are challenged, motivated to extend their learning in fun and interesting ways!
- Kaiako have a collaborative, relationship- based, proactive, inclusive teaching approach that values and respects each tamariki and what they bring to the programme.
- Bush Kindy programme out at Dolamore Park on a Wednesday morning which our kindergarten community cherish and love!
- The teaching team has an underlying foundation of kotahitanga and manaakitanga where the team has a collaborative and reflective approach to teaching and learning at Longford Kindergarten.