



Transition to School Procedure

The Staff and Management of Kidiwise Early Learning Centre believe in working with parents/caregivers and whānau to *support* the smooth transition from childcare to school for each child and their whānau.

Purpose:

1. To provide a procedure to meet each individual child's needs and those of his/her parents/caregivers and whānau (to be described as 'whānau' hereafter).
2. To improve the effectiveness of a smooth transition to school for both child and whānau.
3. To establish a liaison with primary schools in our community whenever practicable.

Procedures:

1. As a child approaches the age of five, staff will discuss the transition to school with whānau, and find out how Kidiwise can best support this.
2. If it is the wish of the whānau, this may involve assisting whānau in obtaining information regarding schools in our community; providing support with the enrolment process; a Kidiwise teacher accompanying the child on school visit(s); liaising with new entrant teachers of the selected school; discussing skills the child needs for school.
3. Staff will display a commitment to maintaining and strengthening links between the Centre and new-entrant teachers within the community. This may involve Kidiwise staff visiting the school and/or new-entrant teachers visiting Kidiwise.
4. Staff will display a non-judgemental attitude towards the whānau's school of choice.

5. In accordance with our philosophy, staff foster in *all* children self-care skills, emotional and social competence, and learning dispositions, in readiness, not only for school, but for life in general.
6. Academic skills regarding literacy and numeracy are woven through our emergent curriculum, and may be emphasised during our mat time for older children.
7. Whānau are asked to provide their four year olds with a packed lunch one day a week, to mirror the situation at school.

Centre Management will ensure adequate resourcing to facilitate smooth transitions to school. These may include:

- Staff time to liaise with new entrant teachers, gather information and set up procedures with schools.
- Attendance of workshops by staff as deemed necessary with relevance to transition to school procedures.