

# OUR CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

## United by our differences

We recognise that every child is unique. We believe in promoting an environment where all cultures of our tamariki (children) and whanau (families) are valued and respected. We create a holistic environment where te reo Māori (Māori language) and tikanga Māori (Māori customs and beliefs) are promoted and protected. We celebrate diversity and promote an inclusive centre where each child develops a sense of belonging.

## Nestled in a play-based environment

We believe children learn through doing what they do best - PLAYING. At the AGGS ChildCare Centre, children will develop language skills, social skills, self-help skills, gross and fine motor skills through play. We embrace the beauty and intimacy of the natural world. There is no such thing as bad weather and we support as much outdoor play as we can. We believe that children make sense of their world in an unhurried and peaceful environment. This nourishes and empowers the mind and body by giving tamariki the opportunities to take risks and challenge their abilities. Children will be able to learn and express themselves in an environment that is safe and secure and more importantly when they are happy and having fun.

## Anchored through our relationships

Our tamariki, parents, whanau and teachers are an integral and valued part of our centre. Our relationships are based on respect, kindness and caring for others. We empower our tamariki to learn through establishing strong, positive and respectful relationships from the day they join Playworks. We work collaboratively as a team to create a flexible, relaxed and fun environment.

## Attuned to our competent and confident tamariki

We view children as capable, competent, life-long learners. Our learning philosophy encourages children to make their own learning choices, problem solve, observe and explore at their own pace, with support from teachers, parents, wider whānau and their peers. We value the importance of child initiated, play based experiences!

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