

# Treetops Philosophy

## Mission Statement

*Our aim is to make learning contagious, finding each child's and teachers' individual spark. We believe in building positive and open relationships with our children, their whānau and the wider community. We value communication with parents and whānau to collaborate and contribute to children's learning and the centre.*

## Guiding Pedagogy

*Our planning and assessment processes are based on the principles of The Early Childhood Curriculum, Te Whāriki, and this supports all of our practices. Our teachers are constantly engaged in professional development to ensure the best outcomes for all children.*

*We respect and honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi as the foundation document of Aotearoa by actively promoting Tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori.*

*Our teaching practices are inspired by Reggio Emilia Philosophy. This approach to teaching and learning focuses on the child being a competent learner being equipped with "A hundred languages" which they communicate and learn through. The learning environment is seen as the third teacher, which provokes curiosity and wonder, which enables the children to test out their working theories.*

*Our infant and toddler care involves Primary Caregiving adapted by the RIE philosophy, which encompasses respect as a focal point. This means that we embrace the child's ability in self-discovery and encourage them to make sense of their world in their own way, at their own time.*

## Overarching Values

*As a multi-cultural centre, we celebrate inclusion and support the many different cultures and diverse learners within our centre and these are an integral part of our practice, including the unique dual heritage of Aotearoa where we provide accessibility for whānau to contribute from anywhere in the world.*

*We are committed to respecting our children as individuals, their voice and their rights, to allow them to be active participants in their thinking and learning.*

*We believe that trust is paramount in establishing and maintaining strong relationship with children, parents and whānau. When children and whānau feel safe and secure, the best learning outcomes occur. We see this as an essential link to child's development.*

*These important relationships play a crucial role in empowering our children to be able to relate and make connections with their world – people, places and things.*

**'He ākonga tipu noa'**

**A lifelong learner, a learner who learns forever**