

## Discovery Programme Preparation for School Programme

Te Whāriki Strands	Learning Dispositions	NZ Curriculum Key Competencies	Discovery Programme Sample Activities
<b>Exploration Mana aotūroa</b>	<b>Perseverance and persistence with difficulty and uncertainty</b>	<b>Thinking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Creative and long term projects - individual and collaborative</li> <li>★ Learning to reflect - what did I like, what did I learn, how do I feel, what is my goal?</li> <li>★ Problem solving activities - use of trial and error, prior experience and alternative strategies</li> <li>★ Exploration of social concepts and rules</li> <li>★ Spatial knowledge - putting things together and apart, seeing different perspectives</li> <li>★ Physical challenges - skipping, bats and balls, balancing</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Mana reo</b>	<b>Confidence to express ideas, feelings and a point of view</b>	<b>Using language, symbols and texts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Telling stories, humour, jokes and word play</li> <li>★ Practising New Zealand Sign Language and other languages of our Preschool community</li> <li>★ Counting, number recognition, comparing lengths and volume, classifying, making patterns</li> <li>★ Recognition of letters and practising to write the child's own name</li> <li>★ Dancing, keeping the beat, making music and musical instruments</li> <li>★ Waiata, karakia, greetings, legends and tikanga Māori</li> </ul>
<b>Well-being Mana atua</b>	<b>Being involved, trust and playfulness</b>	<b>Managing self</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Strategies for calming our bodies - yoga, breathing, relaxation techniques</li> <li>★ Being safe - crossing roads, dogs, sun</li> <li>★ Self-help skills - caring for belongings, carrying bag, dressing, shoes, zips/buttons/laces</li> <li>★ Self-care skills - confidently toilet, blowing noses, washing hands, water and healthy food</li> <li>★ Emotional and Social role plays - ask for help, self-regulation, deal with change, resilience</li> <li>★ Care and sustainability - gardens, resources, environment, animals and community</li> </ul>
<b>Contribution Mana tangata</b>	<b>Responsibility for justice and fairness</b>	<b>Relating to others</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Respect for routines - taking turns, when to share, waiting for things, perseverance</li> <li>★ Social problem-solving skills - physical, imaginative and cooperative games</li> <li>★ Developing empathy - learning to listen to others feelings, recognise and name emotions</li> <li>★ Collaborative music, art, dance, construction projects</li> <li>★ Responsibility for group decisions and creating 4 year old treaty of expectations</li> </ul>
<b>Belonging Mana whenua</b>	<b>Courage and curiosity, taking an interest</b>	<b>Participating and contributing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Making connections with the community and wider world - trips, walks, visitors</li> <li>★ Share ideas, news from home and points of view</li> <li>★ Discussions about rights, fairness, expectations and justice</li> <li>★ Decision making about the day, different roles and responsibilities</li> <li>★ Take care of our environment - tidying, cleaning, fixing, growing and preparing food</li> </ul>

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Children in Aotearoa have to have started school, or start education at home by the time they are six. School readiness is not about being able to read or write, know colours or count. These skills will be taught at school so they are not a priority for starting school. Readiness is about emotional and social competence, and learning dispositions. **Learning dispositions are characteristics or attitudes to learning that are life skills.**

At Child's Wonder we have a daily Discovery Programme for our four year old tamariki. After your child's fourth birthday and as spaces become available your child is invited to join us. Our focus is to help tamariki develop dispositions for life-long learning - be confident within their bodies, be curious and creative thinkers, who are able to express themselves and try their best. We ensure tamariki have time and space to explore and practice at their own pace with teachers who understand each child's individual learning. The Child's Wonder Values of **ako, manaakitanga** and **whanaungatanga** guide our Discovery programme. We strive for children going to school to have an enthusiasm for learning and to find joy in every day. Examples of activity and learning opportunities are in the following table.

### Useful Websites for Parents

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/early-learning/your-child-at-ece/moving-on-to-school/>

<https://oece.nz/public/information/childcare-choices/ready-for-school/>

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/your-child-at-school/enrolling-and-starting-your-child-at-school/>

The Education Review Office (ERO) found that the most effective practices supporting children as they approach transition to school included, *“Relationships with parents and whānau, and other important adults, focused on learning and supporting the child (including their language, culture and identity)”*. (p 27, Continuity of Learning: Transitions from early childhood services to schools. 2015).

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