

Strategic Discussion: Holistically Healthy Children

Statement: Our view of holistically healthy children goes beyond the physical health needs of children. We recognise that holistically healthy children are nurtured by good parenting, supported to make wise decisions, empowered by quality education and are seen in the wider context of their place in the world where their family, culture, values and beliefs are respected.

Area	Ensure:	Further Initiatives to be explored
Health & Well being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergartens are culturally sensitive, inclusive & respectful • Wide range of learning experiences & activities available • Children's experiences at kindergarten prepare them to engage in the world around them, to be self aware & respect diversity • Kindergarten is seen as a safe place to be • Positive strategies in place to reinforce good behaviour, good choices & conflict resolution • Children's physical needs at kindergarten are met • Healthy & nutritious eating choices are promoted • Hygienic practices are promoted • Physical activity is promoted • Appropriate health checks accessible through various agencies • Support for special & high needs children 	Explore the feasibility of setting up a distribution centre in conjunction with other organisations for free supermarket produce
Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well maintained premises & grounds • Noise reduction – autex installation • Licensing requirements met • Education for sustainability – support initiatives & training • Hazardous materials secured • Cleaning standards maintained • Suitable provision of areas for confidential discussions with parents • Children's need for privacy while toileting & changing clothing is respected in our environment 	
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% trained registered teachers • Recognise the importance of teachers in the early identification of issues affecting the health & well being of children • Professional development to maintain knowledge of current issues affecting health & wellbeing & effective strategies • Police checks undertaken • Professional support available when needed for reporting suspected abuse • First Aid training • Ratio's are met • Have adequate non contact time (as per KTCA) available to liaise with families & agencies, build up trusting relationships 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> with families • Delivery of Te Whaariki curriculum • Teachers empowered & supported to explore initiatives to address issues within their kindergarten community • Staff are caring & committed to the health & wellbeing of children • Staff role model good practices • Advocates for children • EEO policies & program embrace diversity • Non discriminatory 	
Parents & caregivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of & support for the importance of good parenting • Recognition of the issues faced by parents • Committee role • Networking opportunities with other parents • Respectful, non judgemental interactions with families evident • Encouraged to support children transitioning into kindergarten & school • Parents aspirations for their children are valued & respected • Recognition & support for PAFT programme 	
Policies & monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H & S policies & procedures in place & reviewed regularly • H & S checks undertaken & reported on • Emergency safety drills undertaken 	
Finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate kindergarten operational funding levels are set • Funds tagged for kindergarten maintenance & upgrades • Fees kept to a minimum, which promotes accessibility • Equitability across kindergartens – all kindergartens share same access to resources 	<p>Access to additional funding if needed for kindergartens to be able to provide additional food for children</p> <p>Feasibility of providing transport to kindergartens where needed</p>
Board engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of the issues affecting families & children in our kgtn communities • Setting of vision for holistically healthy children • Provide opportunities for consultation with staff & parents • Celebrate successes at AGM • Support for PD of staff 	Board annual thank you to committee members

Notes from strategic discussion on holistically healthy children:

4 Nov 2011

Group one	Group two	Group three
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect for privacy: toileting, changing • Contact organisations to deliver food from different sources (Pak n Save) – Assn lead food provider for distribution to kindergartens • Why? Busy parents, tired – are we heading towards being daycares? • No discrimination with children in nappies • Expectations of teachers changed? • Outside social issues/stresses • Support families/can't solve problems, shouldn't judge families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher led- they know • Budgets adequate & flexible – real cost • Current issues – special education, behavioural issues • Parent education – strengthen • Linking to programs outside of kgtn • Enviro schools promotes healthy eating • Good teacher education (removal of choc muffin) – moveable set of knowledge, different cultures, different values • “lets not become too authoritative” • Outdoor access!! • Celebrating diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport to kgtn? Pros: attendance, access Cons: safety, cost, reliability – parent at home when child dropped off? • Food – access to/funding of, quality of food, education about food • Teachers are our cornerstone for identifying issues & providing appropriate advice/guidance/support • Board commitment to PD • Peer support – family networking, sharing • Kgtn committees – induction, annual thank you from the Board? • Bi culture/ multi cultural – use & recognition of language