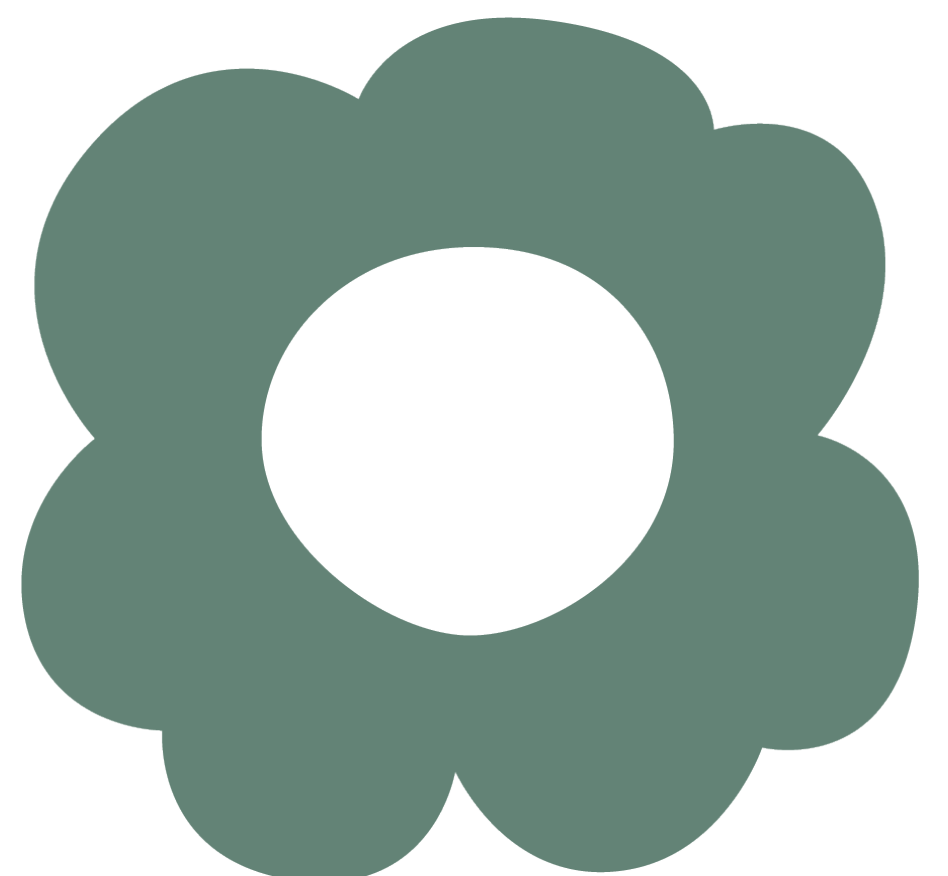
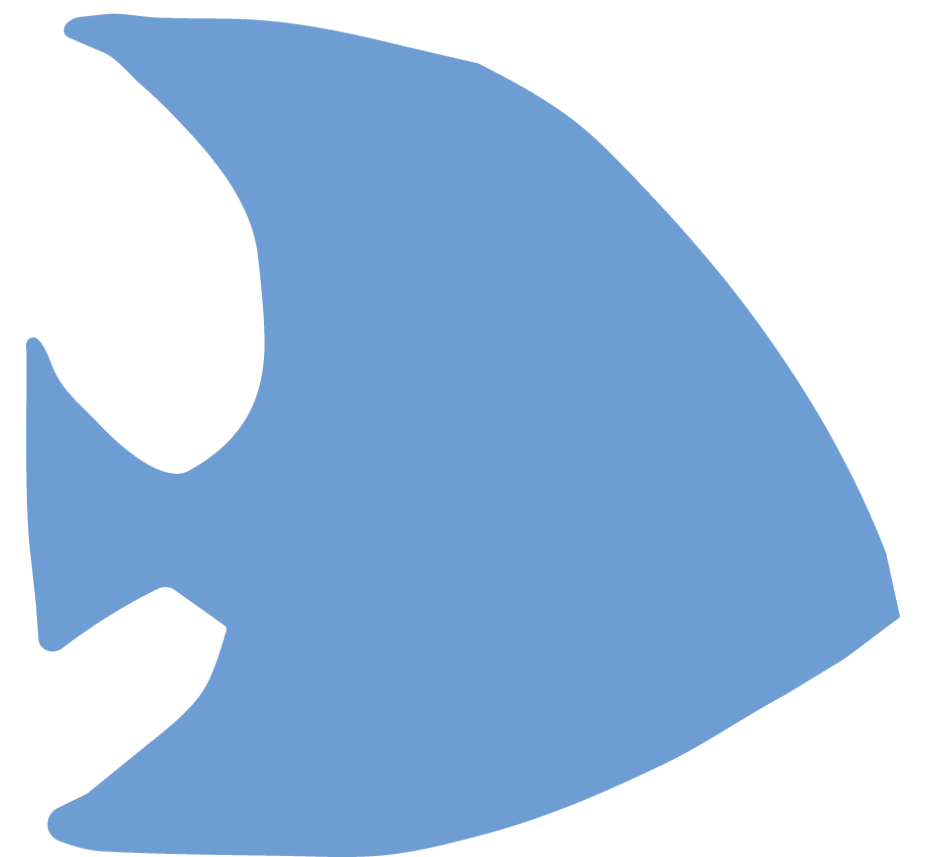
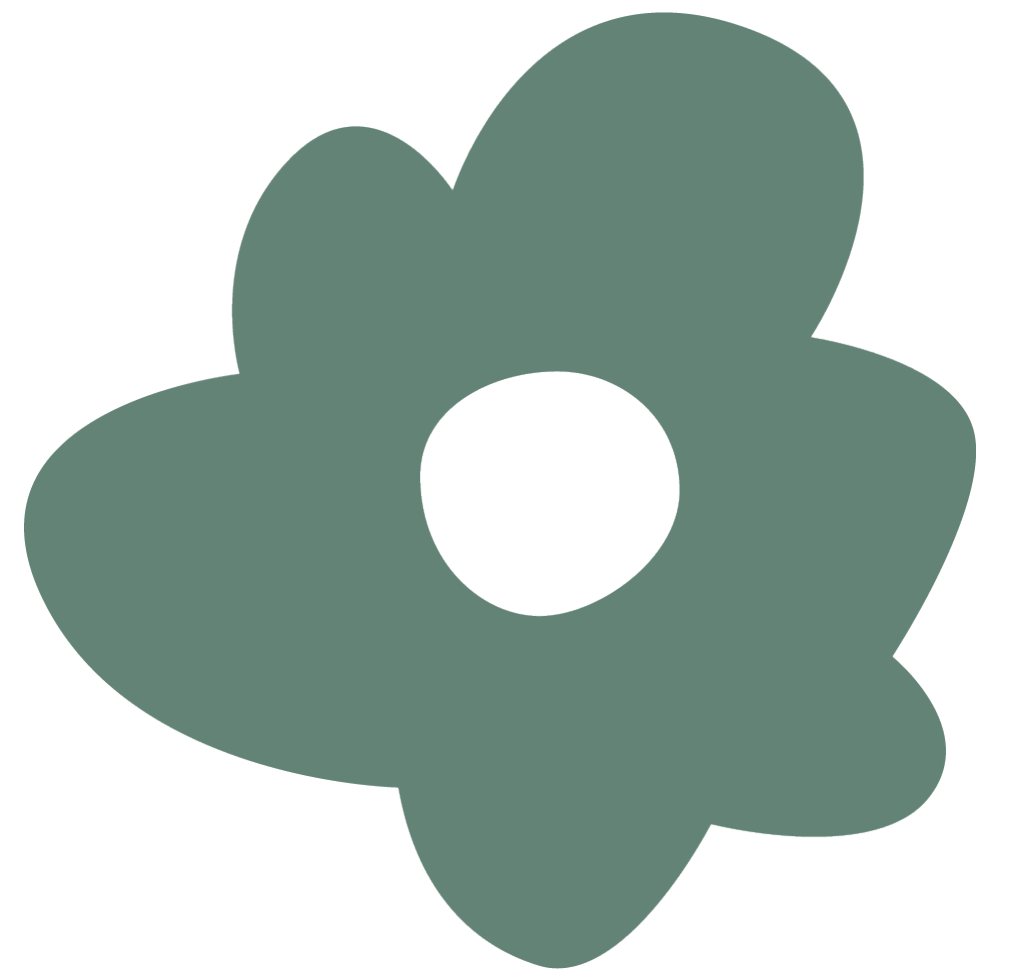


Welcome to the Whānau

Your guide to the ins and outs of
Riverside Educare



Riverside
EDUCARE

Riverside is a
community
for families,
of families,
where tamariki
come first.

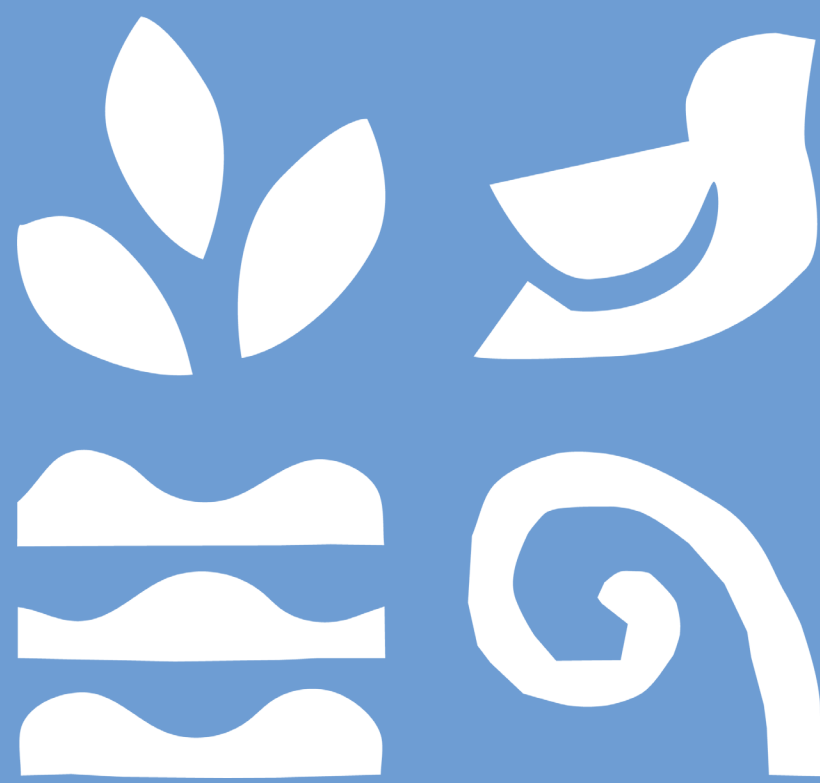


Hours of Operation

Riverside Educare is open from
7.30am - 5.30pm Monday - Friday.

We are open every week day of
the year except Public Holidays.

We cater for children aged 3
months to 6 years old.



All of our policies are available
to read in folders located at the
centre.



From the smallest seeds, grow the greatest kauri..

Small steps become leaps and bounds for tamariki at Riverside. Encouraged to explore the world around them, children are empowered to discover a unique sense of self through bundles of aroha, free play, and curiosity. Our role is to nurture their hauora, their wellbeing, and empower them to grow and learn through discovery. From reading books and playing on the playground to exciting excursions, no two days at Riverside are the same—and they're designed that way to engage tamariki.

Your pēpi are cherished in a home away from home by kaiako who build connections with each and every family; discover the sense of belonging and whanaungatanga you've been searching for within the Riverside community. Tamariki are treasured as the unique spirits they are, and our team wholeheartedly believe in building a space for tamariki to thrive, grow, and succeed in.

Whakataukī: Ko te ahurei o te tamaiti ārahia ō tātou māhi

Let the uniqueness of the child guide our work.

Meet our Team at Riverside Educare

Centre Manager:

Sarah Macfie

Grad Dip Teaching (ECE)

Curriculum Leader

Kylie Lindsay (on maternity leave)

B.Ed. Teaching (Primary)

Weka Room

Aimee Cameron (Head Teacher)

Emma La Rose

Belinda King

Micaela Wall

Sarah Heath

Stephanie Botha

Dip. Teaching (ECE)

Dip. Teaching (ECE)

ECE Educator (in training)

B.Ed. Teaching (ECE)

ECE Educator (in training)

B.Ed. Teaching (Primary)

Kea Room

Barb Macandrew (Head Teacher)

Brooke O'Connor

Nikki Van-Beek

Lauren Norrish

Grad Dip Teaching (ECE)

ECE Educator (in training)

Grad Dip Teaching (ECE)

ECE Educator (in training)

Kahu Room

Joanna Horton (Head Teacher)

Suzy Pfahlert

Renee Tsang

Tash Dunn

Amanda Everingham

Janne Wilcox-Clarke

B.Ed. Teaching (ECE)

Grad Dip Teaching (Primary)

Grad Dip Teaching (Primary)

Grad Dip Teaching (ECE)

Grad Dip Teaching (ECE)

B.Ed. Teaching (Primary)

Office Administrator

Julie Pilley



“Play is the highest form of
research”
- Albert Einstein

Our Values



Whanaunga- tanga

// Kinship

Strengthening the connection between whānau, tamariki, kaiako and Wānaka hapori.

We foster an environment where tamariki and their whānau feel a sense of belonging here. Riverside is a community for families, of families. In promoting whanaungatanga we create meaningful bonds between child and child, child and teacher, and teacher and whānau.

Kaitiakitanga

// Guardianship

Engaging and protecting the future kaitiaki of Papatūānuku

Our tamariki thrive when they engage with nature, learn about the natural world, and build a respectful connection to the earth around them. Through Riverside, children expand their appreciation for the land, water and life around them. Equally we are the kaitiaki of their environment, maintaining a place that is safe for them to grow and succeed in.

Ako

// Study

As we teach, we learn. As we learn, we teach.

Teaching at Riverside is collaborative and joyful. Our kaiako, teachers, promote child lead learning, where tamariki are encouraged to explore their interests and passions with purposeful play. Our learning culture is dynamic and responsive and listens to the needs of each child, in each moment.

Manaakitanga

// Care

Nurturing each others kete..

Riverside leads with kindness and warmth within a supportive learning environment. Tamariki are encouraged to explore social skills, build self esteem, and learn to care for others in a safe and loving space. When we fall, we pick each other up again.

Our Mission

Nurturing hauora tamariki through
a co-created foundation of
exploration, aroha, curiosity, joy,
and imaginative play



Our Vision

Empowering tamariki to seek wonder, problem solve, and build relationships so they develop a steadfast sense of self.





“We don’t stop playing because we grow
old, we grow old because we stop playing”
- George Bernard Shaw

Life at Riverside



More than just a name..

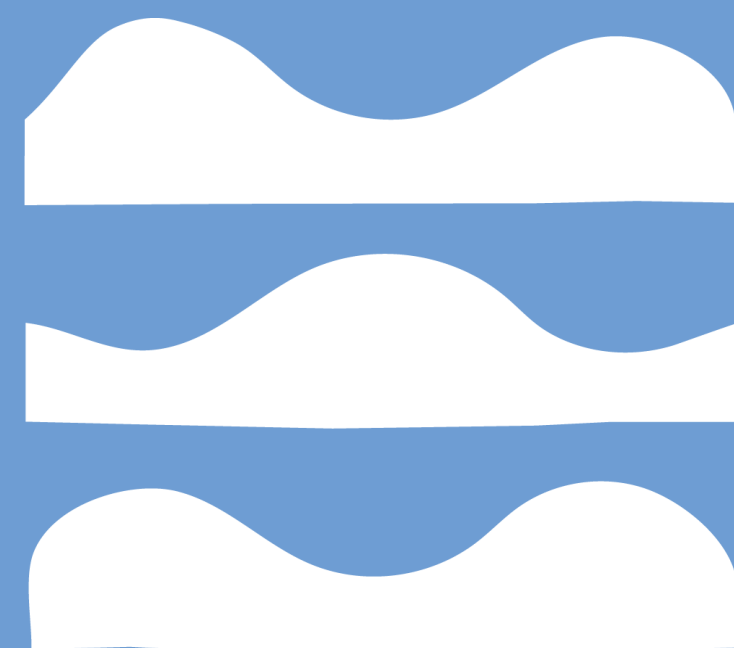
Ko te ahurei o te tamaiti arahia ō tātou māhi
“Let the uniqueness of the child, guide our
work”

Here at Riverside, our kaiako are all passionate advocates for your children, dedicated to providing the best possible care for every child, every day. Our teachers get to know your family, your child, and their unique quirks, personalities, and routines. We are proud to have been described as the closest thing you can have to your own family caring for your children.

Our Environment

“Children learn as they play, most importantly, in play, children learn how to learn”.

We have three separate rooms here at Riverside Educare. An infants room (the Weka room), a toddlers room (the Kea room), and a preschool room (the Kahu room). Our Weka room has their own outdoor environment, and the Kea and Kahu rooms share a large outdoor space. Both environments are designed for their age groups. These environments are large, spacious, physically safe, cognitively challenging, and emotionally nurturing.



Weka

Popoia te kākano kia puāwai
“Nurture the seed, and it will thrive”

Our Weka room is a place of peacefulness for our under 2's. Here, we are dedicated to creating a nurturing environment that fosters a strong sense of security and comfort, offering that feeling of a home away from home.

We maintain a teacher:child ratio that is above and beyond what is set by the ministry, meaning our kaiako can be truly present for every moment of care, and the emotional needs of our tamariki can be fully met. Our Weka kaiako are gentle guides who approach their teaching with real passion, having a deep understanding of each child to allow them to flourish and develop at their own unique pace.

Our Weka room is a wonderland of infant favourites. Not only to engage the senses but also foster curiosity, cognitive growth, and physical development in our youngest learners. We believe that providing these sensory-rich experiences is fundamental to laying a strong foundation for their future learning and well-being.

We employ a primary caregiving system to establish strong and nurturing bonds for each tamariki. However, all kaiako will cultivate meaningful relationships with each child, and be available for any discussions you may wish to have.

We see our role as a collaborative partnership with whānau, working hand in hand to nurture those foundational skills and celebrate each unique milestone in your child's journey of growth and discovery. We take great pride in being part of your child's early years and are committed to creating a loving, stimulating, and respectful environment where they can truly thrive.

Kea

**Tukua kia tū takitahi ngā whetū o te rangi
“Let each star in the sky shine its own light”**

Our Kea room is a space dedicated to nurturing and empowering tamariki aged 18 months - 3 years. A place where your little one begins to unfurl their wings. We've created a runway, working together with whānau, to allow tamariki to delve deeper into their interests and take those bold steps towards exploration knowing they will be safely supported by their kaiako.

One of our key strengths lies in our low teacher:child ratios, ensuring that every child receives that attention and care. We believe that building a sense of safety is paramount; it's the foundation upon which children can confidently take flight and embrace new challenges. This allows our tamariki to take risks through exploration, experimentation, and to learn through hands-on experiences.

Our dedicated team of kaiako guide with love and passion, helping each child navigate the emotional landscape of toddlerhood. The integration of sensory and social-emotional learning plays a pivotal role in our teaching. This approach creates an enriching and nurturing environment that fosters the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth of our tamariki. These essential skills not only promote immediate well-being - helping to regulate, build relationships, and effectively communicate - but also set the stage for a lifetime of positive growth and development.

In our Kea room, we celebrate the wonder of this magical phase, where curiosity knows no bounds. We hope to provide an environment where your child can spread their wings, take risks, and embark on this next journey with strength and resilience.

Kahu

Hāpaitia te ara tika pūmau ai te rangatiratanga mō ngā uri whakatipu
“Foster the pathway of knowledge to strength, independence, and growth for future generations”

Our Kahu room is a place of adventure and self-discovery for our pre-school aged tamariki. Our dedicated kaiako are enthusiastic guides on this journey, committed to the encouragement of our children through a holistic approach that combines child-led learning, building social relationships, and helping tamariki to gain a profound understanding of themselves that extends to others and their surroundings

We believe in the transformative power of nature and play-based learning. We provide a rich tapestry of opportunities, each designed to prepare our learners for the next step in their journey. Our room is filled with captivating provocations that cater to every unique interest, ensuring that each child’s curiosity is encouraged and their individuality celebrated.

In our Kahu room, we foster community, environmental stewardship, and resilience in our tamariki. They connect with nature through initiatives such as backyard trapping, partnering with WAI Wanaka to protect waterways, and projects like carpentry and gardening. These experiences emphasise sustainability and teamwork, moulding our tamariki into budding environmentalists, eager to share newfound wisdom and grasp life’s interconnectedness. We wholeheartedly embrace hands-on, messy play, encouraging our tamariki to revel in the mud, sand, and puddles. These experiences nurture resilience and adaptability, revealing that growth often springs from the unexpected. This process builds their physical and emotional strength, preparing them to thrive in a dynamic world.

Above all, our Kahu room is a place where children embark on a voyage of self-discovery. Through creativity, imaginative play, and guided reflection, children develop a deep sense of self-identity, building self-esteem and confidence. We cultivate a love for learning that will stay with our tamariki throughout their lives, setting the foundation for a bright and promising future.

Our Fees



If your child is three or older:

- A minimum day booking of 6.25 hours applies.
- The first 15 minutes of each day will be \$25.20; the hourly rate of \$8.20 applies thereafter - however:
- 20 hours ECE will be offered free and no optional charge will be asked for. The \$25.20 for the first 15 minutes will apply after the free ECE hours (maximum of 6 per day and up to 20 per week) have been credited.
- A discount of 10% will be applied to your total account if your booking is for 4 or 5 days (this is instead of a weekly rate).
- All food is included in the daily rate - however there will be no refunds if your child wishes to bring their lunch box.

If your child is younger than three:

- Morning, afternoon, or full day sessions will all be available as normal
- A minimum of 3 hours per session applies with no bookings to start or finish during the lunch period (12pm - 1pm).
- Our rates are all inclusive - it includes all food, excursions, and consumables.
 - Our session rates are as follows:
 - 9am - 12pm \$27.60
 - 1pm - 4pm: \$27.60
 - 9am - 3pm: \$57.20

What do I need to pack?

“There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing”

At Riverside, we aim to be able to get outside to play in ALL weather. So, we ask that you provide your child with clothing that will be suitable for whatever may come our way!

There are so many benefits to spending time outside - and your child's physical health, immune system, cognitive skills, psychological state and well being will thank you for it!

The best types of clothing (all named please!) you could pack your child for a day at Riverside would be:

- Puddle jumpers
- Gumboots
- Rain jackets/snow jacket in winter
- Merino (or something similar) layers
- Lots of spare clothing (especially underwear for toilet trainers)
 - Hats - for summer and winter
 - Socks
- A reusable bag for wet/dirty clothes

Routines and Rituals...

Poipoia te kakano kia puawai...

...Nurture the seed and it will blossom



Routines and Rituals..

// Sleep

At Riverside, we work closely with whānau and are responsive to each child's individual needs and sleep schedules. All of our rooms are equipped with separate sleep rooms and have cots and/or beds that cater for all ages.

// Toileting

We prioritise the comfort and well-being of our young ones during toileting experiences. Each of our rooms is thoughtfully equipped with dedicated nappy changing stations and child-friendly toilets.

We believe that nappy changing and toilet training are special moments of ritual and connection for kaiako and our tamariki. We take a collaborative approach, working closely with parents and each child to make these moments positive and nurturing. Toilet training is a significant milestone in a child's development, and at Riverside, we joyfully celebrate every success along this journey.

Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai...

...Nurture the seed and it will blossom

Routines and Rituals..

// Food

All the delicious meals we offer to our little ones are lovingly prepared by our onsite chef. Our specially crafted menu focuses on delighting their growing bodies and curious taste buds. For morning and afternoon snacks, children can enjoy freshly baked goods, paired with fresh, colourful fruits. Our lunches are a real treat, often featuring comforting dishes like lasagne or stir-fry. For dessert, we serve creamy natural yogurt with a side of fruit. It's a taste adventure that makes mealtime truly enjoyable for our young ones – Yummmmm!

Mealtimes at our centre are not just about eating; they're a valuable opportunity for learning and growth. During these meals, our children are encouraged to develop independence and essential life skills. They take charge of pouring their own water, enjoy their meals from ceramic plates using stainless steel forks, put away their own plates, and are encouraged to wipe their own faces when they finish eating. Our tamariki and kaiako come together to share this dining experience, fostering a sense of community and togetherness.

Storypark

- Storypark is a secure web-based portfolio system designed specifically for Early Childhood Education centres and whānau. It's how we share your child's journey with you, think of it like a digitised journal of your child's experiences with us.
- Kaiako at Riverside use Storypark to capture and organise children's learning as well as to share children's learning stories, growth, and other information with whānau.
- Whānau can use Storypark to follow their child's learning, as well as being able to provide feedback to Kaiako directly.
- Storypark allows you to access your child's learning from you home or work computer at any time. You can also share these stories with other family members you have given authorised access to.
- At the time of enrolment, you will automatically be entered onto our Storypark programme.



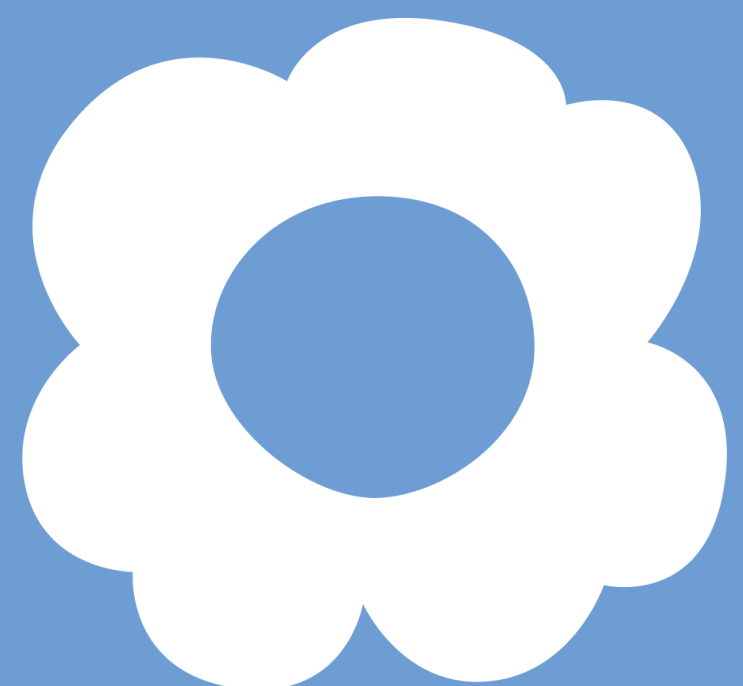
Excursions

Ma te huruhuru, Ka rere te manu - Adorn the bird with feathers, So, it may fly

At Riverside, we cherish the chance to take our tamariki on exciting excursions and delve into the wonders of our local community. Our little adventurers find immense joy in exploring the treasures our beautiful region has to offer.

Every week, our Kea and Kahu tamariki embark on nature exploration journeys as part of our Kanuka Kids program (Mini Kanuka Kids for our Kea room!). These outings provide a wonderful opportunity for our tamariki to connect with their environment, uncover local stories, and experience moments of pure wonder. Our dedicated kaiako carefully plan these excursions, tailoring them to the specific interests and needs of the children participating each week.

We're fortunate to have a centre van equipped with 8 child seats in the back and space for 2 adults in the front. This van grants us the freedom to spread our wings a little wider and explore the world beyond our centre's walls





Riverside

EDUCARE

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