



ERO Early Childhood Service Assurance Review

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| Early Childhood Service Name | Little Mascots Early Learning Centre |
| Profile Number | 47209 |
| Location | Mangere, Auckland |

ERO's Assurance Review reports provide information about whether a service meets and maintains regulatory standards. Further information about Assurance Reviews is included at the end of this report.

ERO's judgement

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|---|---------|
| Regulatory standards | |
| Curriculum | Meeting |
| Premises and facilities | Meeting |
| Health and safety | Meeting |
| Governance, management and administration | Meeting |

At the time of the review, ERO found the service was taking reasonable steps to meet regulatory standards.

Background

Little Mascots Early Learning Centre operates in a new building and was licensed in 2017. The centre serves a multicultural community, and many children have Pacific heritages. Many teachers speak children's home languages. Children are grouped in three rooms. The owner employs a centre manager, a team of qualified teachers and support staff.

Summary of review findings

The service's curriculum is informed by planning processes that demonstrate understanding of children's learning and interests. Adults engage in meaningful, positive interactions to enhance children's learning. Children are involved in decisions about their learning experiences.

The curriculum reflects the place of Māori as tangata whenua, and encourages children to understand and respect others' cultures. Parents can access information concerning their children and how they can be involved in the service. The design and layout of the premises support the provision of indoor and outdoor experiences for children. Health and safety systems are regularly reviewed.

Next ERO Review

The next ERO review is likely to be an Education Review.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Tanner'.

Steve Tanner
Director Review and Improvement Services Northern
Northern Region
9 May 2019

Information about the service

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| Service type | | Education and care service |
| Number licensed for | | 50 children over 2 years of age |
| Percentage of qualified teachers | | 80% + |
| Reported ratios of staff to children | Over 2 | 1:10 - Meets regulatory standards |
| Service roll | | 64 |
| Gender composition | | Girls 34 Boys 30 |
| Ethnic composition | | Māori 5 Samoan 18 Indian 12 Tongan 10 Cook Island Māori 7 Fijian Indian 6 other ethnic groups 6 |
| Review team on site | | April 2019 |
| Date of this report | | 9 May 2019 |
| Most recent ERO report(s) These are available at www.ero.govt.nz | | First ERO review of the service |

General Information about Assurance Reviews

All services are licensed under the [Education \(Early Childhood Services\) Regulations 2008](#). The legal requirements for early childhood services also include:

- the [Licensing Criteria for Education and Care Services 2008](#)
- the [Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education and Care Services 2008](#)
- the [Licensing Criteria for Hospital-based Education and Care Services 2008](#).

Services must meet the standards in the regulations and the requirements of the licensing criteria to gain and maintain a licence to operate.

ERO undertakes an Assurance Review process in any service:

- having its first ERO review – including if it is part of a governing organisation
- previously identified as ‘not well placed’ or ‘requiring further development’
- that has moved from a provisional to a full licence
- that have been re-licensed due to a change of ownership
- where an Assurance Review process is determined to be appropriate.

Management Assurance on Legal Requirements

All early childhood services are required to promote children’s health and safety and to regularly review their compliance with legal requirements. Before the review, the staff and management of a service completed an *ERO Centre Assurance Statement and Self-Audit Checklist*. In these documents they attested that they have taken all reasonable steps to meet their legal obligations related to:

- curriculum
- premises and facilities
- health and safety practices
- governance, management and administration.

As part of an Assurance Review ERO assesses whether the regulated standards are being met. In particular, ERO looks at a service’s systems for managing the following areas that have a potentially high impact on children's wellbeing:

- emotional safety (including positive guidance and child protection)
- physical safety (including supervision; sleep procedures; accidents; medication; hygiene; excursion policies and procedures)
- suitable staffing (including qualification levels; police vetting; teacher certification; ratios)
- evacuation procedures and practices for fire and earthquake.

As part of an Assurance Review ERO also gathers and records evidence through:

- discussions with those involved in the service
- consideration of relevant documentation, including the implementation of health and safety systems
- observations of the environment/premises, curriculum implementation and teaching practice.