

Excursions Policy

Version 1 | Mahi Tuatahi Effective Date | Whakamana tahito: Kohitātea 2023 | January 2023 Next Review | ā houanga arotake: Kohitātea 2025 | January 2025 Policy Owner | Rangatira Kaupapa Māhere: Chief Executive Officer Key Accountabilities | Ngā Takonga Tuatahi: Chief Operating Officer, Senior Teachers, Etu Ao Visiting Teacher Lead

Introduction | Tīmatanga Kōrero

The purpose of this policy is to:

• To ensure effective procedures exist to provide for the safety of children on excursions from kindergarten or home-based service.

Applies To | Ko Wai Whakahāngaitia

This policy applies to all children attending a He Whānau Manaaki o Tararua Free Kindergarten Association (Whānau Manaaki) Kindergarten or Home-Based Service.

Definitions | Tautuhi

"Excursion" is defined in the Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Education & Care Centres 2008 and Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education & Care Centres 2008 as "being outside the licensed premises while receiving education and care from the service but does not include an excursion for the purposes of emergency evacuations, drills or the receipt of urgent medical attention".

"Regular excursions" is defined in the Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Education & Care Centres 2008 and Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education & Care Centres 2008 as an "excursion that parents have agreed to at the time of their child's enrolment, that are part of an ongoing planned and consistent routine of education and care". Whānau Manaaki further defines this as "taking place either by public or private transport or walking that are part of the ongoing curriculum e.g. weekly visits to library, supermarket, local park, beach or bush/forest kindergartens, spontaneous walk around the block to see roadworks".

"Special excursions" defined in the Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Education & Care Centres 2008 and Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education & Care Centres 2008 as an "excursion that parents have agreed to prior to the excursion taking place, that is not a regular excursion". Whānau Manaaki further defines this as an excursion that "has been planned in advance and have links to the programme. Special excursions may or may not involve the use of public or private transport. E.g., visit on bus to Museum.".

General Principles | Mātāpono Whānui

- 1. Excursions are part of the kindergarten programme and provide opportunities for experiencing curriculum outside of the kindergarten, therefore excursions are free for whānau.
- 2. The annual budget includes provision for excursions under "Activities and Entertainments including Excursions".
- 3. Fundraising activities may be undertaken to support excursions.
- 4. The Head Teacher, Senior Head Teacher, or person responsible will ensure that parental permission has been received from the parents or caregiver for all children for the two types of excursions. As follows:



Type of Excursion	Details	Relevant Form to be completed for authorisation	Additional Requirements for Kindergartens	Additional Requirements for Etu Ao (Home Based Education)
Regular Excursion	Ongoing basis in the Kindergarten or Home-based educations local area.	Enrolment Form	Parents will <i>sight</i> the Excursion Risk Analysis form for these regular excursions.	Parents will sign the Excursion Risk Analysis form for these regular excursions.
Special Excursion	Excursion that is not ongoing and not a regular excursion.	Special Excursion Permission Form		Parents will sign the Excursion Analysis form

- 5. The Head Teacher, Senior Head Teacher and Visiting Teacher are responsible for ensuring that all requirements for excursions have been met including the completion of the Enrolment Form or Special Excursions Permission Form and Excursion Risk Analysis form.
- 6. All excursions will observe the following ratios:
 - one adult to four children over 2-years of age (including children attending who are not on the kindergarten roll); and
 - one adult to two children under 2-years of age; and
 - one adult to two children for all children if near water
 - one adult to one child if the children will be in the water or in a boat or similar vessel.
- 7. The Head Teacher or Senior Head Teacher will ensure that if some children remain at the kindergarten, that the adult: child ratio at the kindergarten remains correct, and there must be a first aid qualified staff member at the kindergarten.
- 8. Whilst in the care of the kindergarten, including outside of session hours, children shall have two adults present at all times.
- 9. Whānau Manaaki is committed to supporting kindergartens located on school grounds to develop partnerships with the school. This support includes allowing some flexibility around adult: child ratios for regular excursions to events or activities on the grounds of the co-located school.
- 10. There is no place for smoking, vaping, alcohol, or other illegal drugs on any excursion.

Use of Transport for Excursions

- 11. Travel by public transport is preferred but where private motor vehicles are used the Head Teacher shall ensure that:
 - the requirements of Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008 and the Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Centres & Care Services 2008 OR Licensing Criteria for Homebased Education & Care Services 2008 depending on the service
 - all vehicles have current registration and warrant of fitness;
 - each driver holds a current Driver licence for the class of vehicle used;
 - appropriate child restraints are used at all times for all children and ensure children travelling in taxis or shuttles are restrained as if they were in a private car or van.
 - two adults per car unless the parent is only taking their own child.
 - Etu Ao Transporting Children Policy is adhered to for all excursions from a Home-based service.

Record Keeping



- 12. Full records of both regular and special excursions should be kept for the current year plus one additional year. A record of excursions includes:
 - a. the names of adults and children involved;
 - b. the time and date of the excursion;
 - c. the location and method of travel;
 - d. assessment and management of risk;
 - e. adult: child ratios;
 - f. evidence of parental permission and approval of adult: child ratios for regular excursions;
 - g. evidence of parental permission and approval of adult: child ratios for special excursions; and
 - h. the signature of the Person Responsible giving approval for the excursion to take place.
- 13. Kindergartens will send through paperwork of excursions including Risk Analysis to their Senior Teacher at least 2 weeks prior to any special excursion's planned date, and termly for all regular excursions.

Etu Ao Home Based Education

- 14. Excursions will be arranged by the TONI Educator in consultation with the Visiting Teacher.
- 15. An Excursion Risk Analysis form must be completed by the TONI Educator for all outings and excursions from the licensed premises (the TONI Educators home).
- 16. The Visiting Teacher will support the writing of the Excursion Risk Analysis form for any excursion.
- 17. The Visiting Teacher is responsible for ensuring that all requirements for excursions have been met including the completion of the Enrolment Form or Special Excursions Permission Form and Whānau Manaaki Excursion Risk Analysis form.
- 18. TONI Educators will review the Excursion Risk Analysis form for regular excursions in conjunction with their Visiting Teacher bi-annually. However, if the Excursion Risk Analysis form needs to be changed earlier if it will be updated at the time.
- 19. Parents or caregivers will sign an Excursion Risk Analysis form for a Special Excursion at the time of the TONI educator planning for the event if they consent to their child participating in the special excursion.
- 20. TONI Educators must inform the Hub Coordinator of any excursion at the time of leaving their home and when they return. The Hub Coordinator will communicate this to the appropriate Visiting Teacher. If the Visiting Teacher has any concerns, they will contact the TONI educator immediately.
- 21. TONI Educators must take a bag containing a first aid kit, nappies, wipes, cell phone etc. on all excursions.
- 22. A supervision plan is included within each Excursion Risk Analysis form, specifically referencing the following:
 - if another adult is required,
 - appropriate ratio,
 - supervision requirements for the setting,
 - transitions to and from the vehicle and location
 - frequency of head counts/roll checks.

Special Excursions

Teachers will develop procedures for special excursions that include:

- How parents will be informed about special excursions. Information to include:
- The type of transport to be used



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- Destination of the excursion
- Length of the excursion e.g. 3 hours
- If parent help is required and how many parents are needed to assist
- Any health or safety requirements for children and adults e.g. type of clothing, food requirements, medication
- How written approval/agreement will be obtained from parents for:
- Their child to take part in the excursion
- The adult/child ratios to be used
- The risk assessment and risk management plan for the excursion
- For children to travel in private vehicles (if these are to be used)
- Minimum requirements for the use of private motor vehicles and how these will be checked.
- Minimum requirements must include:
- Full, current Driver licence for the car driver
- Current warrant of fitness for car
- Current registration for car
- Correctly fitted restraints suitable for the age and weight of the children who will use them
- Number of adults in each vehicle
- Agreement (signature) from driver attesting that they understand the requirements and the information they have provided is valid.
- Teachers will develop procedures for regular excursions that include:
- Sending in Excursion form and Risk Analysis termly to cover any and all regular excursions that may occur during that term.

Regular Excursions

How approval from parents will be gained at enrolment for their child to take part in regular excursions. Includes details of adult/child ratios to be used These procedures will be shared at the time of admission into kindergarten.

- so parents can make an informed decision about giving approval for their child to take part in such excursions.
- Evidence that the excursion has been approved by the Head Teacher (Person Responsible)
- How parents will be informed that a regular excursion has taken place.eg notice on whiteboard.

Bush or Forest Kindergarten Excursion

Team meets with the Senior Teacher of kindergarten to discuss the proposal for a bush/forest kindergarten and visit the site together to ensure both parties have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks the site offers.

Team to develop a plan that specifically addresses:

- Teacher/adult/child ratios and which teacher/s will participate
- How ratios will be maintained at the kindergarten
- Clothing and other equipment what the kindergarten will supply and what is expected of parents.
- Team to develop a Risk Analysis Form on the template as attached which includes:
- How everyone will get to the site and back
- How ratios will be maintained at the bush/forest site
- How resources/equipment will be got to and from the site
- Toileting for children
- Food and refreshment arrangements for children and adults



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- Medication and a process for recording that it has been administered and that the dosage has been checked by another adult this means copies of the medication form will need to be taken.
- Environmental factors including sun, wind and rain
- How children will be kept away from any water
- Develop communication strategy for parents to understand the scope and purpose of Bush/Forest Kindergarten Programmes.
- Seek approval from appropriate authorities to:
- use the area in question
- identify their expectations of how you will use it; and
- identify your responsibilities
- Teams have developed a plan that includes:
- How you will get there
- Teacher/adult/child ratios and which teacher/s will participate
- How you ensure ratios at kindergarten are correct
- Clothing and other equipment what the kindergarten will supply and what is expected of parents
- How you will get equipment/resources to the site
- Toileting
- Food and refreshments
- Comprehensive Risk Assessment
- Hazard Management Plan
- Evaluation process.
- As part of hazard management process each time the site is visited, regular and ongoing evaluation of the risks are to be considered, e.g. has weather effected site, are there are new roadworks on the route etc. This can be done in team hui and decisions captured in team meetings minutes and then communicated to whanau through Storypark Community Posts, e.g. we have seen that there are new roadworks on our normal walk to Beach Programme so we are now walking via this streetetc.
- Develop communication strategy for parents to understand the scope and purpose of the Bush/Forest programmes.
- A plan for the Bush/Forest programmes and a Risk Analysis are to be submitted to the Senior Teacher for the kindergarten for approval prior to participating in this programme and then approvals will be given on an annual basis when at the beginning of each calendar year an updated plan and risk analysis will need to be provided by the head teacher.

Beach Kindergarten Excursion

Team meet with the Senior Teacher of kindergarten to discuss the proposal for a beach kindergarten and visit the site together to ensure both parties have a shared understanding of the opportunities and risks the site offers.

In consultation with the Senior Teacher a decision will be made about the teacher / child ratio. There will always be 3 adults for any group of 10 or less children or for groups bigger than 10 - 1 adult to 3 children. If next to water there will be a ratio of 1 to 2 children. If the children are in the water there will be a ratio of 1 adult to 1 child.

Team to develop a plan that specifically addresses:

- Teacher/adult/child ratios and which teacher/s will participate
- How ratios will be maintained at the kindergarten
- Clothing and other equipment what the kindergarten will supply and what is expected of parents.



- Team to develop a Risk Analysis Form on the template as attached which includes:
- How everyone will get to the site and back
- How ratios will be maintained at the beach
- How resources/equipment will be got to and from the site
- Toileting for children
- Food and refreshment arrangements for children and adults
- Medication and a process for recording that it has been administered and that the dosage has been checked by another adult this means copies of the medication form will need to be taken.
- Environmental factors including sun, wind, rain and tides.
- How children will be kept away from the water, if a 1:1 ratio cannot be observed.
- As part of hazard management process each time the site is visited regular and ongoing evaluation of the risks are to be considered, e.g. has weather effected site, are there new roadworks on the route etc.
- Develop communication strategy for parents to understand the scope and purpose of the visits.
- A plan for the Beach programmes and a Risk Analysis are to be submitted to the Senior Teacher for the kindergarten for approval prior to participating in this programme and then approvals will be given on an annual basis when at the beginning of each calendar year an updated plan and risk analysis will need to be provided by the head teacher.

Relevant Legislation and Regulations | Whaitake Ture me Waeture

- 1. Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008
- 2. Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Centres & Care Services 2008
- 3. Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education & Care Services 2008

Related Procedures or Processes and Documents | Pākanga Tukanga me Pukapuka

Enrolment Form

Excursions Approval Form

Special Excursion Parent Whānau Consent Form Excursion Risk Analysis Form

Etu Ao Regular Excursions Forms (includes Excursion Form and Risk Assessment Form)

Etu Ao Special Excursion Forms (includes Permission Slip and Risk Assessment Form)

Policy Review Cycle | Kaupapa Arotake Hurihanga

This policy is to be reviewed every two years. Whānau Manaaki may amend or cancel this policy or introduce a new policy, as it considers it necessary within the current cycle of the policy. Any amendments will be considered by the Policy Working Group and will need to be approved by the Senior Leadership Team. The policy will continue on the same review cycle.





Prior to completing this form, we advise you to read through the Excursions Policy

Excursion Request

(This section due to privacy is not to be shared with parents/whānau)

Applications for approval of excursion should be submitted to the Association at least <u>two weeks</u> before the excursion date. Please complete all sections of this form and analysis.

Kindergarten:	Senior Teacher:

Is this request for: Special Excursion 🗌	or Regular Excursion 🗌

"Regular excursions" is defined in the Licensing Criteria for Early Childhood Education & Care Centres 2008 and Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education & Care Centres 2008 as an "excursion that parents have agreed to at the time of their child's enrolment, that are part of an ongoing planned and consistent routine of education and care". Whānau Manaaki further defines this as "taking place either by public or private transport or walking that are part of the ongoing curriculum e.g. weekly visits to library, supermarket, local park, beach or bush/forest kindergartens, spontaneous walk around the block to see roadworks".

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Date		Destination	
Planned date:		Place we are visiting:	
Alternative date:		Location/Address:	
	Duration	of Excursion	
Time Leaving Kindergarten: Time Returning to		o Kindergarten:	Length of Excursion:
	Purpose	of Excursion	
Educational value (how does this relate to the programme):			

Rat	tios
Number of Children participating:	Number of Children remaining at kindergarten:
Adult/Child ratio on Excursion:	Teacher/Child ratio left at kindergarten:

All excursions will observe the following ratios:

- one adult to four children over 2-years of age (including children attending who are not on the kindergarten roll); and
- one adult to two children under 2-years of age; and
- one adult to two children for all children if near water
- one adult to one child if the children will be in the water or in a boat or similar vessel

Whose Supervising	Contact details in case of an emergency		
Name of Teachers on Excursion:	Contact phone number on Excursion (so Association can contact you):		
Health and	Safety-Medical		
Name of children requiring medication (take medication and copy of authorisation and dosage given forms):	Consider any kaiako who may need medication:		
Parent Co	nmunications		
How will you let parents know how to contact you? (For whole Kindergarten excursions, sign for door to include: Excursion location, time of return, contact number):			
Туре о	f Transport		
Walking	 Bus Van Car 		
Contact name of transportation (e.g. bus company):	Contact number of transportation:		



Health and	Safety Briefing
(See Supporting Volunteers/Parent Help	ers section in RAM's below for suggestions)
What particular issues need to be covered in our brief	fing to supervising parents/whānau?

Any other hazard management or risk management issues to be considered?

Person's Responsible for Excursion				
Head Teacher/Senior Head Teacher/Acting Head Teacher Name and Signature:		Date:		
Risk Analysis completed be	elow:			
Please complete and inform your Ser below.	nior Teacher and To	nia Jack for approv	val, including the Risk Analysis Form	
Approval of Excursion				
Approved Declined Date:				
Senior Teacher/ Association Representative Name and Signature:				



		To share wit	:h p	oarents/whān	au	
Date: Mode of Transport:	Dest	tination:		Time leaving: Time returning:		Ratio:
		Risk Ana	lysis	Management		
Consider	Hazard What cou	uld cause a problem?		s at might happen to ariki and adults?	Strategy What wil	l you do to minimize the risk?
SUPERVISION/RATIOS		In event of ratios	not b	eing meet, the excursior	n will be p	ostponed or cancelled
scanning, engaging with tamariki could lead to the following hazards	Head count/roll call to be taken when: leaving kindergarten during the excursion (amount will be dependent on length of excursion) in event of an emergency leaving venue returning to kindergarten Familiar with the route being taken to location: (What streets/roads will be taken to get to venue) Venue has been visited and viewed for potential hazards (any specific hazards for venue not mentioned below please add to the section at bottom of form- Identified Hazards Specific to our excursion to:					
	over, or b venue or to kinder 1. Vehic drive 2. Traffie 3. Gettin 4. Unev hazar 5. Appro 6. Stand sharp 7. Aggre comn 8. Other	eles coming out of ways c- crossing roads ng on and off the bus en footpath/trip or slip rds bached/Attacked by dog/s d on broken glass or other b objects essive persons in nunity r footpath users sts/people running or ng)	Tam	red and needing tment ariki may be hurt, leave up or removed from	strategie: Regular h point in t	on/monitoring/scanning



			Monitoring/scanning environment/venue
	Tamariki mawing into ang an that	Injured bit buychists	
	Tamariki moving into spaces that are not safe for them- roads	Injurea, nit by venicle	
	Road works on route to venue	Road is blocked/holes in ground	
	Poisonous plants	Ingest plant	
	Water access 1. Stream running near walking route 2. Sea/beach access	Falling in and/or drowning	
TRANSPORT What team members would do if the following happening	Hazard What could cause a problem? Bus or other mode of transport being involved in an accident	Risks What might happen to tamariki and adults? Hurt, injured or fatality	Strategy What will you do to minimize the risk?
HEALTH & SAFETY	Hazard What could cause a problem?	Risks What might happen to tamariki and adults?	Strategy What will you do to minimize the risk?
Allergies What would team members do if there was an allergic reaction	Insect bite Allergens Medication	Reaction to insect or substance Have a reaction if medication not taken at correct time	
Medication	Medication left behind	Reaction to not having medication	
Food and Drink	Thirsty or Hungry Tamariki	Get dehydration/have behaviour changes	
Toileting	Tamariki needing to go to the toilet Or have a nappy changed Toileting accident	Toileting accident Feeling uncomfortable in different place	
Limited footwear and clothing	Inadequate footwear Inadequate clothing	Contribute to falls/trips/ability to walk required distance overheat/get sunburnt or be too cold	
Venue Equipment When visiting venues with play equipment consider tamariki capabilities	Venue equipment unsuitable for 0–5-year-olds capabilities	Hurt or injured	
WELLBEING	Hazard What could cause a problem?	Risks What might happen to tamariki and adults?	Strategy What will you do to minimize the risk?
Supporting social/emotional neurodiverse learning	 Large group/big venue Too many Tamariki on excursion for venue Capability 	 A Tamaiti might get lost Venue might be overcrowded or unsafe 	



	 4. Needs of tamariki 5. Tired Tamariki 6. Unfamiliar environment 7. Tamaiti might become overwhelmed or dysregulated 	 Venue/location of excursion is not suitable for all Tamariki to participate. Tamaiti need sleep or bottles Distance is too far for some tamariki to walk Tamaiti might be anxious or frightened Tamaiti might hurt themselves or others 	
ENVIRONMENTAL	Hazard What could cause a problem?	Risks What might happen to tamariki and adults?	Strategy What will you do to minimize the risk?
Weather	Change in weather	Tamaiti/adults get cold and wet (Hypothermia) or Dehydrated/heat stroke in high temperatures Tamaiti or adults injured, upset, Disruption to transport	
Civil Emergency	Venue becomes unsafe	Hurt, injured, fatality Lost tamariki/adults Not knowing where emergency assembly point is	Please name venue emergency assembly point:
COMMUNICATIONS	Hazard What could cause a problem?	Risks What might happen to tamariki and adults?	Strategy What will you do to minimize the risk?
Cellphone not working	Cell phone not adequately charged	Urgent phone calls can't be made or received	
Roll head count/call not completed	Not knowing who is present	Lost tamariki	
Signed consent forms (where are names recorded and documented)	Change in circumstance for parent Not having written permission from parent/caregiver	Parents don't want tamariki to attend	
Emergency contact list left behind	Need to contact parent/caregiver	Might not have phone numbers Not having contact details	
Sign for door (location, time of return, contact number) not displayed	Parents need to contact kindergarten	Don't know how to contact kgtn	
Parent Help See support list below for	Hazard What could cause a problem?	Risks What might happen to tamariki and adults?	Strategy What will you do to minimize the risk?
parents/volunteers	Parent help unsure/unaware of expectations or stressed	Parent help doesn't know how to respond to tamariki/feels overwhelmed	



	Supporting Volunteers/Parent Helpers
Consider these things to share at Health and Safety briefing	 As parent helpers are a key part of adult: child ratio they are critical to the success of the supervision and health and safety on an excursion. Take some time to think through what they need to know about expectations of them, and how to communicate this to them. Consider the following: Let Parent helpers know that their role is to actively supervise the children in their care. This means being close enough to keep them safe at all times. They should encourage children to stawith their group and talk with a teacher if a child is finding this difficult. Ask parents to make sure they let a teacher know before they leave their group of children for any reason eg to go to the toilet or to look after their own needs. – eg leaving the group for a coffee, popping into a shop etc. If a parent has a health condition which might compromise their ability to supervise throughout the excursion, ask them to let you know. Make sure each parent knows which children they are responsible for. Give them a list of names Make sure they are aware of the itinerary, timetable and general logistics of the excursion and what to do if they have any concerns at any time Parents are made aware that there is no place for smoking, alcohol, or other illegal drugs on any excursion. Share with parents how to positively support children's engagement in the group and encourage them to ask for help if they are at all concerned about what is happening in their group. Be clear about what is acceptable in terms of taking motographs of children on the excursion. Make sure parents know about the arrangements for toileting, food/drink, looking after children's belonging, who has the First Aid Kit, the number of the emergency cell phone and what will happen in any emergency. (i.e. adults should not take groups away from the main group unless this is planned and organised)
	Things to take
Check list	 A list of all children plus their emergency contact details in case of any accident of emergency. Include any siblings. Copy of sign in sheets/Use this to take periodic roll checks. First aid kit. Consider carrying some bags in case of travel sickness, and some portable instant icepacks. Personal medication for any of the centre's children – inhalers, epi pens etc. Also take any personal medication needed for adults and teachers. Cell phone – with numbers for the bus or transport company, numbers for the destination or venue and a contact number for someone connected with the service who is not going on the excursions. Sun protection. Rain wear if needed. Consider books or other items to entertain children if there are any delays. Drinking water for all children and adults Spare clothing



Identified Hazards Specific to our excursion to:			
Identified Hazards Specific to our excursion to:			
Identified Hazards Specific to our excursion to:			

