

Glendowie
CHRISTIAN
KINDERGARTEN

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Welcome to Glendowie Christian Kindergarten GCK!



Providing quality care and education for your child in the context of Christian principles.

The GCK learning environment honours the unique bicultural heritage of New Zealand. GCK respects and acknowledges Te Tiriti o Waitangi. At GCK, we value 'Te Whariki', our early childhood curriculum, and we incorporate this throughout the GCK environment.

We deliver a program of learning through play, designed to encourage your child to take their first steps towards independence, whilst learning about friendship and companionship with others in a fun, safe, warm and caring environment. All our teachers are fully trained and registered. We have 4 teachers each day and operate a teacher/child ratio of 1:7.5.



Your child can begin at GCK from 2 years of age (subject to availability of places), and we can accept children in nappies. Children can remain with us until they begin primary school and we offer a specially designed 'Focus Fun Club' mat-time program for children over 4.

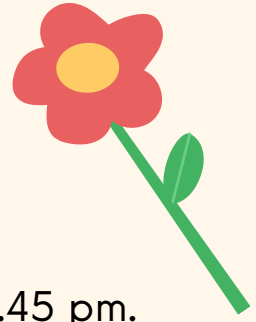
We work with whanau and have an open-door policy - we understand each child settles at their own rate and parents who wish to spend time settling their children are always welcome. We appreciate parent helpers whenever they are available, and we plan family get-togethers on a termly basis as part of our social activities. Each term we also run a parent morning tea and a parent prayer meeting.

Parents can also be part of the program by offering ideas, sharing a special resource, or giving feedback about what is happening at home - including their child's culture, language, interests, challenges and goals. Parents are encouraged to share their aspirations for their child on the All About Me form which is used as part of the centre planning. Parents are asked to complete an annual feedback form and can give feedback through discussion with the teachers at any time. We appreciate feedback on our current policies which we review often and parents can volunteer to help out with their particular skills at any time.



Your child will have a portfolio - both a hardcopy and on our online Storypark platform. This is a collection of documentation of your child's learning at GCK. Please feel free to read, share and comment on it online. We share a daily communication with families on Storypark as to what is happening that day and we also post termly newsletters on the Storypark platform.

Your feedback is always appreciated. Your enquiries will be dealt with professionally and confidentially. We look forward to a long and happy relationship with you and your child.



General Information

Kindergarten Hours: Mon - Fri: 8.45 am - 2.45 pm.
school terms only

Please allocate morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea in separate containers, labeled with your child's name. We are a nut free kindergarten. Each child requires a labeled bag, drink bottle, sunhat, spare clothes and a wetbag. Children will need to arrive with sunscreen on and in terms 1 & 4 we reapply sunscreen each day at lunchtime. See termly newsletter for our sunscreen brand, so you can let us know if any allergies.

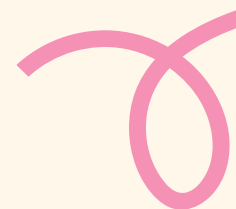


Focus Fun Club

This is our 4 Year old program runs on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. It's dedicated mat times with specific interest based and age appropriate activities/projects designed for preparing children for life and school.



Fee and Donation Schedule



Enrolment Fee	\$130.00 to be paid on acceptance of a place
Under 3 year olds	\$6.10 per hour
Over 3 year olds	\$6.10 per hour in excess of 20 ECE hours per week.
Focus Fun Club	\$26.00 (for mon-wed over 4yr olds, one time charge)
Late pick up fee	\$15.00 for first 15minutes after 3pm \$30.00 for every 15minutes after 3.15pm

(above prices inclusive of GST)

Donation (all children) \$2.50 per hour (no GST)

- 1/3 of the amount can be claimed as a tax credit through IRD

Initial Familiarisation

Your child will settle best if the transition from home to Kindergarten is gradual. We suggest that you take the time to visit the Kindergarten for an hour or two with your child before their first official day. Talk to them in an excited and positive way about the Kindergarten experience they are going to have. It can be a little daunting for them and if your child finds it hard to settle, trust the staff to suggest ideas so we can work together to settle your child. If they continue to be distraught after you have left, we will contact you if you wish and ask you to return. Please talk to staff about any anxieties you may have - we are here to help and work together.

Social competence



Children are encouraged to be caring towards each other and the environment. Staff model caring and positive interactions. Should behavior require addressing, staff will adopt a gentle and positive approach of redirection. Please see our policy for more details.



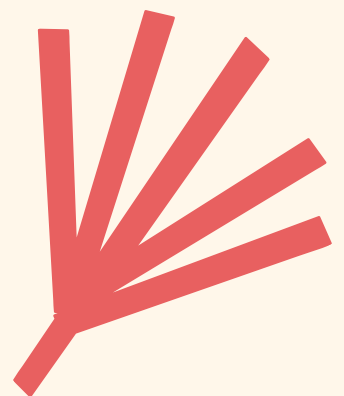
Health & Safety

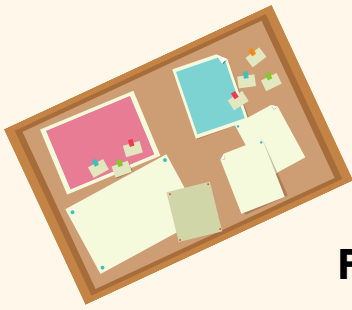
All GCK teachers are trained in First Aid. In the event of an accident, appropriate steps will be taken, including calling an ambulance if required. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible. Children who are sick with any infectious or contagious illness, including such illnesses as conjunctivitis, diarrhoea and vomiting or a heavy cold (green nose, chesty cough) should not attend Kindergarten. Parents are asked to contact us before 9am if possible to advise us of any absence. Children on antibiotics should spend at least one day at home before returning.



Medication

This must not be left in children's bags but should be given to staff with clear instructions for its use and parents must sign an authority for staff to administer it. Staff will sign a record to indicate when medication has been given. Parents will also sign to acknowledge medication was given.





Philosophy, policies and procedures:

Our Parent Handbook which is situated in the parent library contains our philosophy, policies and procedures. Please make yourself acquainted with its contents. On the parents' notice board we also display the philosophy, fee structure, complaints procedure, education (early childhood services) regulations, latest ERO report, staff profile and registration status as well as our Certificate of Licence. As we review our policies, we will inform you through newsletters for you to read and comment on. The details of expenditure of any Ministry of Education funding received is available on the Charities website.



GCK – A brief history

Glendowie Christian Kindergarten was established in 1996 by a group of visionaries in order to provide high quality early childhood education and care within a Christian environment.

Today it is a happy and busy centre where children benefit from small numbers as we are licensed for a maximum of 30 children per day. The family grouping means that age 2 to 5 year olds are altogether which promotes great dynamics and a family like environment. Our high ratios of teachers ensures maximum direct contact time with children, and minimum competition for resources. All of these factors together ensure that children attending GCK, receive a quality early childhood christian education.



Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6



Updated October 2026