

TREATY OF WAITANGI

Rationale:

The centre acknowledges and strongly agrees that the Ministry of Education requires that all early childhood Centres should accept “... the right of each and every child to be enriched in an environment which acknowledges and incorporates the dual heritage of the Treaty partners”.

Principles:

- Bright Babes Limited identifies strongly as bicultural and where possible bilingual which means the acceptance of Maori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa (and specifically Tainuitanga as our guide in protocol) and acceptance that tauiwi or those who came later, including many different cultures, customs, practices and languages are now the descendants of the original signatories.
- Selection of staff will mirror, where possible, Maori, Pakeha and the rich diversity of other cultures.

Practices:

- The centre will endeavour to provide a curriculum that embodies the culture and practices of Maori alongside generic early childhood practices.
- Te Reo Maori will be used throughout the centre on a daily basis alongside English according to teachers skill levels.
- Karakia will be said at the beginning and end of each day with himene, and karakia kai will be said before meals.
- Tapu and Noa will be observed in the separation of food and body cloths.
- Equipment, resources and activities will reflect the dual heritage.
- Staff will be encouraged to undertake professional development to assist them to meet the aims and aspirations of this policy.

*Reviewed December 2011
Review Date: If incident occurs*