



What happens within the Tūi Group.....



Welcome to the Tūi group. We are passionate about building secure and respectful relationships with our children based on a foundation of love and care.

When your child joins the Tūi group one of our Tūi teachers will support your child's transition into this group. This means that they will be there to provide emotional support, comfort, security to ease your child into the Over 2s environment.

We work closely alongside the children transitioning from the Little Chicks room and those new children entering the centre who have turned 2 and come directly into the Tūi group. Once children have developed a secure and trusting relationship, they will have the confidence to explore their surroundings, knowing that their teachers are always there if needed.

The children are free to explore and play indoors and outdoors, with teachers nearby ready to provide support and supervision as needed. Your child's portfolio will be kept on the portfolio shelf in our 'Tūi Room'. We observe, document and extend on children's interests. Photographs of current happenings are placed on the Tūi planning wall which is in our room. We weave different areas of the curriculum as much as possible thorough out our day to foster children's learning. We often take the Tūi children over to the Pukekohe High School fields and the orchard where they have the opportunity to experience freedom and wide open spaces. The back of the centre is another place where we take our Tūi group out to play on their own, and in a more peaceful and less hurried setting.

A large part of our day revolves around caregiving rituals where we encourage children to be active participants. We inform children about each part of their day so that they know what is going to happen next. During these times there is flexibility depending on how each child is feeling.

Morning transition into the centre from home - One of the Tūi teachers will always be available in the mornings to ease your child's transition into the centre (don't hesitate to see one of us if you are ready to leave). To ease this transition we ensure there is predictability and consistency in the resources available, as this provides a sense of security.

Meal times- Morning/Afternoon tea and lunch: Meal times are nourishment times where children come together, starting their meal with a karakia.

During these times we sit alongside the children helping and guiding them as necessary to eat their kai (food). We engage in conversations with the children and encourage them to eat their healthy options.

Sleep times- After lunch those children who sleep are guided to the sleep room by a Tūi teacher, where their bed and any comfort toys are ready for them. Curtains closed, soft music playing, temperature controlled and diffuser on (using DoTerra Essential Oils) all provide the perfect setting where children can have a peaceful and restful sleep ready for the next part of their day. Often when children wake, they have a cuddle and a story before heading down to the bathroom to get freshened

up before they head off to play. Once a child no longer sleeps on a regular basis they have the option to rest in the Tūi room just outside the sleep room. We believe that the children need this time to rest and recharge their bodies.

Nappy Changes/Independent Toileting - During these times we engage in 1:1 interactions/conversations with the children encouraging them to actively participate during this time. Once a child has shown signs of readiness to begin independent toileting we will work closely with parents to support children with this process (please speak to one of us around this before they start this process at the centre).

Mat times- Around 11.30am, the Tūi group all come together for a mat time where we have songs, stories, music and movement, develop childrens' knowledge about colours, numbers, name recognition and social skills. These mat times help children become familiar with and learn about what is expected when they move up to the Kiwi mat time.

Please feel free to come and talk to us about any questions or concerns you have at any time. We look forward to getting to know you and your child/children during your time here with us at PHSCC.

From the Tūi Teachers