

What happens within the Tui Group.....

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

The teachers responsible for the care and learning for your children are Padma, Kath, Rose and Nicola. When your child joins the Tui group one of these 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 Tui group. Nicola is the transition teacher for the Little Chicks and for the Tui children moving up to the Kiwi 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 placed in the portfolio shelf in the library area and our goal is two learning stories per month for each child. We observe, document and extend on children's interests. Photographs of current happenings are placed on the Tui planning wall which is in the dining area of the centre. We weave different areas of the curriculum as much as possible thorough out our day to foster children's learning.. We often take the Tui 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 Tui 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 Tui 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 or song.

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. Once the children have finished their meal we provide a warm flannel for washing hands and face.

Sleep times- After lunch those children who sleep are guided to the sleep room by a Tui 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 will move to the library area where they will either rest on a bed or their own personal pillow for about 20-30mins. 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.

Mat times- Around 11.30am the Tui group all come together for a mat time where we have songs, stories, music and movement, develop children' 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.

Padma, Kath, Rose and Nicola