Maori as Tangata Whenua

We acknowledge and respect the unique place of Maori as tangata whenua in Aotearoa/New Zealand. We encourage awareness, knowledge and understanding of the bi-cultural heritages of both parties to Te Tiriti o Waitangi (English & Maori). We support the Treaty of Waitangi and the use of Te Reo Maori as a living language.

Te Whariki:
Belonging: Goal 1: Children and their families experience an environment where connecting links with the family and the wider world are affirmed and extended.
Belonging Goal 2: Where they know that they have a place.
Communication Goal 3: Where they experience the stories and symbols of their own and other cultures.

Procedures
- The centre environment, activities & policies are based on both English and Maori concepts of Te Whariki’s key goals.
- We respect the right of each child to be confident in their own culture & encourage children to understand and respect other cultures.
- We respect & support the aspirations held by parents and whanau for their children.
- Teachers are encouraged to use both Te Reo Maori & English words & phrases, and incorporate Te Reo into all areas of the curriculum.
- Teachers discuss and inform others of appropriate practice with regard to tikanga Maori to increase awareness of the partnership inherent with Te Tiriti O Waitangi.
- Visual aids and language prompts are displayed throughout the centre encouraging teachers to extend their knowledge & use of Te Reo Maori.
- Professional development opportunities are provided for teachers to extend on their Tikanga and Te Reo knowledge & other cultural issues.