

Before the First Day



With your Child

- Prepare your child beforehand.
- Talk about Te Akonga, the activities, the new friends etc.
- Feel free to drop in with your child and visit. We recommend two pre-visits to the Centre before the child's starting date. This is an opportunity to get to know your child's teachers and for the teachers to get to know you and your child.

As a Parent

- You will be given a brief introduction to the Centre.
- It takes time before children feel secure and confident in their new environment. Our teachers will keep you informed as to your child's progress.
- Be honest with your child (even from the youngest age). Tell them that you are leaving and where you are going and tell them when you will be back.

First Day

- Bring your child into the centre and your key teacher will welcome and help you and your child get settled in.
- Make sure your child's special security blanket/toy is packed into their bag.
- Please feel free to stay and join in with our morning routines.

We will also:

- Check your enrolment form details are completed.
- Collect photocopies of your child's birth certificate/passport & immunisation certificate.

What Te Akonga provides:

- Sunscreen.
- Drink - filtered water throughout the day. A water bottle is not required.
- Individual bed linen.

What Parents need to provide: (all clearly named)

- A named schoolbag.
- A healthy lunch in a named lunchbox.
- Fruit for morning tea.
- Afternoon tea (if staying for a full day).
- Nappies & wipes.
- Formula & bottles.
- A dummy, if your child uses one.
- Up to 3 changes of clothes that are suitable for messy play.
- A favourite security blanket/toy to assist their settling in.
- A sunhat in summer, warm hat, gumboots & a jacket in winter.
- Lots of spare underwear if toilet training.

Morning Tea

Please provide a piece of fruit for a shared morning tea. This can be placed in the fruit bowl on the kitchen bench.

Lunches

At Te Akonga we aim to encourage healthy eating habits. Some suggestions are: sandwiches, fruit, raw veges, dried fruit, home baking, yoghurt & crackers.

Chips, poppa jacks, twisties, chocolate, roll ups etc should not be included in lunch boxes. **We have an egg and nut free policy as both of these items could endanger the lives of those with allergies to these foods.**

Saying Goodbye

When you feel comfortable enough to leave, give your child a big hug and kiss and tell him/her that you have to go now and that you will be back later to collect them - then go!!! Rest assured the teachers are very understanding of and sympathetic towards a new child's distress and will respond in the most appropriate way. Feel free to phone the centre during the day to find out how your child is and the teachers will tell you how he/she is coping. They will also tell you if they feel your child has had enough for the day and should be collected during their settling in phase.

Please be assured that your child will quickly become a happy, cherished member of our Te Akonga whānau.