

# Portobelo Kaiapoi Philosophy Statement

When it comes to teaching and learning, we believe in the importance of promoting:

- connections and positive relationships with children and whānau to ensure they feel valued and confident to participate and to contribute to centre life – Whanaungatanga. Relationships underpin everything we do.
- a place where everyone feels welcome, respected, protected and cared for – Manākitanga.
- the individuality of all learners by providing reciprocal teaching and learning experiences that foster discoverers, thinkers, risk takers, problem solvers and friendship makers as we all learn together to inspire life-long learning – Ako.
- environments and spaces that encourage all learners to care for, engage with and respect the world around them – Kaitiakitanga.
- a strong sense of belonging for all, by embracing and protecting the diverse knowledge and backgrounds that children and whānau bring to the centre, and celebrating the cultural context of Aotearoa New Zealand - Tangata Whenuatanga.
- partnership in learning, by collaborating with children, whānau and each other to ensure ongoing success for each child's learning journey – Wānanga.