

Knowing
our early
learners

Ensuring a smooth transition to primary school
and fostering a lifelong love of learning.

Transition

Identifying their capabilities through purposeful play

R4L

Ready for
Learning



Kia ora, We are Kat Osborne and Karen Mowbray, the New Entrant/Year One teachers at Matangi School. Our aim is to ensure a smooth transition for our newest students and help foster their sense of belonging in our semi-rural school. Our programme is based around the capabilities of our learners and their readiness for learning. These transitional capabilities are the foundational skills required for our students to be effective learners. We provide play-based and structured opportunities for learning in authentic contexts, focusing on students' strengths and interests. Working in partnership with our local ECE's, parents and whanau, we are passionate about supporting all New Entrant students at Matangi School.



Matangi
Values
are embedded in all we do.

PRIOR TO SCHOOL

When your child turns four, please pre-enrol so we know you're coming.

Come for a visit. Meet Mrs Michaela Phillips, Matangi School's Principal, for a walk-around and to answer any questions you may have.

All New Entrant students are provided with a starter stationery pack. School Uniforms can be purchased through NZ Uniforms. Please speak to our Front Office for details.



Kickstart

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL



Kickstart sessions are held on Wednesday mornings from 8.55am to 10.10am.

'Kickstarters' attend approximately 4 Kickstart sessions prior to starting school.

We recognise that all students have differing needs and capabilities and, therefore, work with families and ECEs to make arrangements that best suit each child.

Student Ambassadors and New Entrant Mentors are senior Matangi School students who offer their support and help to our newest students as their 'buddies'. They will be there to greet Kickstarters and their families upon arrival.

WHAT TO BRING

- Drink Bottle
- Change of clothes (just in case)
- A hat (In terms 1 and 4)

Ready for school

Encouraging connected and confident learners with a strong sense of belonging and autonomy.

HOW WE CAN PREPARE OUR NEW ENTRANT STUDENTS:

EMOTIONS

Emotions impact our ability to learn at any given moment. Is your child happy? Have they had a good breakfast? Is there anything we need to be mindful of to help your child have a happy day?



ORAL LANGUAGE

It is important for children to be able to communicate their needs and express themselves clearly.

- Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences when having a conversation. E.g. I'm hungry. I need to go to the toilet. Can I play with the blocks, please?
- Talk to your child. Ask them about their day, their learning and their friends.

KNOWING THEIR NAME

- Encourage name recognition:
- Practice writing their name by giving them a name card to copy or trace.



PENCIL GRIP

Establishing a correct pencil grip is an essential skill for writing development. Colouring in and developing fine motor-skills greatly help in ensuring a correct grip.

ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE

- Developing independence is a skill that will ensure your child is confident and feels capable in their new surroundings. We encourage children to:
- Be responsible for packing their own bag
 - Take care of their own belongings
 - Put their Book Bag in the book box themselves.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Matangi Playgroup (Wednesday mornings)
- Mihi Whakatau - Formal welcomes
- First Day Bags for New Entrants
 - Assemblies
 - Native Area
 - Bush School
 - Buddy Reading
 - Bike Pump Track
 - Wheels Day Fridays
- Ag Day & Country Show Day
- Summer and Winter Sports
- EOTC opportunities
(Education Outside The Classroom)
 - Tennis Courts & Playing Field
 - Enviro Days: Caring for our environment
 - Whole school production & Matangi's Got Talent
 - Swimming over summer in our heated pool
 - Innovative Learning Environments and single cell classroom spaces
 - Kapahaka
 - Swimming Sports
 - Try-Athlon
 - Cross Country
 - Community Events

