



ERO Early Childhood Service Akanuku | Assurance Review

Early Childhood Service Name	Happy Hearts Riverhead Early Learning Centre
Profile Number	46819
Location	Riverhead, Auckland

ERO's Akanuku | Assurance Review reports provide information about whether a service meets and maintains regulatory standards. Further information about Akanuku | Assurance Reviews is included at the end of this report.

ERO's Judgement

Regulatory standards	ERO's judgement
Curriculum	Meeting
Premises and facilities	Meeting
Health and safety	Meeting
Governance, management and administration	Meeting

At the time of the review, ERO found the service was taking reasonable steps to meet regulatory standards.

Background

Happy Hearts Riverhead Early Learning Centre is a privately owned education and care service catering for children from infants to school age. The service has been under new ownership since March 2019.

Summary of Review Findings

A philosophy statement guides the service and expresses beliefs and values about early childhood care and education. The curriculum is informed by assessment, planning, and evaluation that demonstrates an understanding of children's learning, interests, whānau and life contexts. It is consistent with *Te Whāriki*, the early childhood curriculum. Indoor and outdoor areas are well resourced to support children's learning through play.

Next ERO Review

The next ERO review is likely to be an Akarangi | Quality Evaluation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Cowie', written in a cursive style.

Phil Cowie
Acting Director Review and Improvement Services (Northern)
Northern Region | Te Tai Raki

16 August 2021

Information About the Service

Service type	Education and care service
Number licensed for	82 children, including up to 12 aged under 2.
Percentage of qualified teachers	80-99%
Service roll	100
Ethnic composition	Māori 4%, NZ European/Pākehā 78%, Chinese 4%, South African 4%, other ethnic groups 10%
Review team on site	July 2021
Date of this report	16 August 2021
Most recent ERO report(s) These are available at www.ero.govt.nz	Education Review, March 2018.

General Information about Assurance Reviews

All services are licensed under the *Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008*. The legal requirements for early childhood services also include the *Licensing Criteria for Education and Care Services 2008*.

Services must meet the standards in the regulations and the requirements of the licensing criteria to gain and maintain a licence to operate.

ERO undertakes an Akanuku | Assurance Review process in any centre-based service:

- having its first ERO review – including if it is part of a governing organisation
- previously identified as ‘not well placed’ or ‘requiring further development’
- that has moved from a provisional to a full licence
- that have been re-licensed due to a change of ownership
- where an Akanuku | Assurance Review process is determined to be appropriate.

Management Assurance on Legal Requirements

All early childhood services are required to promote children’s health and safety and to regularly review their compliance with legal requirements. Before the review, the staff and management of a service completed an ERO Centre Assurance Statement and Self-Audit Checklist. In these documents they attested that they have taken all reasonable steps to meet their legal obligations related to:

- curriculum
- premises and facilities
- health and safety practices
- governance, management and administration.

As part of an Akanuku | Assurance Review ERO assesses whether the regulated standards are being met. In particular, ERO looks at a service’s systems for managing the following areas that have a potentially high impact on children's wellbeing:

- emotional safety (including positive guidance and child protection)
- physical safety (including supervision; sleep procedures; accidents; medication; hygiene; excursion policies and procedures)
- suitable staffing (including qualification levels; police vetting; teacher certification; ratios)
- evacuation procedures and practices for fire and earthquake.

As part of an Akanuku | Assurance Review ERO also gathers and records evidence through:

- discussions with those involved in the service
- consideration of relevant documentation, including the implementation of health and safety systems
- observations of the environment/premises, curriculum implementation and teaching practice.