
20 October 2004

To the Parents and Community of Trinity Early Childhood Centre

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on **Trinity Early Childhood Centre**.

Trinity Early Childhood Centre was established in 2000 in buildings owned by the Trinity Methodist Church. The centre caters for children from two to five years of age. The programme operates within a Christian context and church members are represented on the Howick and Pakuranga Early Childhood Trust that governs the centre. The centre manager and her staff have maintained and extended the sound management and planning systems that were apparent at the time of the 2001 ERO review.

Children are settled and secure in the centre environment. They are confident in their relationships with their peers and with adults and able to sustain conversations about their play. Children are familiar with teachers' expectations for learning and behaviour and make constructive choices about their play. These attributes provide a sound foundation for the extension of children's learning into areas of challenge and growth.

Teachers record children's interests and areas for development. Together with information provided by families these records provide the basis for teachers' informed conversations with children about their lives. Teachers have established a sound basis for children's further independent learning and investigation. Staff now need to look critically at what they provide for children in order to extend their experiences and understanding through appropriate challenges in the various areas of the programme.

The centre manager has established positive relationships with families and has made opportunities, including a recent survey, for them to make their wishes known. Parents are pleased to be involved in their children's learning and records show their positive responses to the information that they receive. The centre manager has established a sound basis for productive dialogue with families about their children's learning.

Since the 2001 ERO report the centre manager has initiated a documented process of internal self review. This process has the potential to lead staff to reflect critically on their practice in order to modify it to extend children's learning more consistently. This report identifies a number of areas for staff to review more actively in order to enhance the programme that they provide.

This review focuses on the quality of the programme provided for children, including the quality of the learning environment and interactions between children and with adults. Compliance with health and safety obligations and the readiness of the centre to meet qualification requirements in 2005 are also reported upon. There is sound provision in each of these areas.

Future Action

ERO is confident that the service is being managed in the interests of the children. Therefore ERO will review the service again as part of the regular review cycle.

When ERO has reviewed an early childhood centre we encourage management to inform their community of any follow up action they plan to take. You should talk to the management or licensee if you have any questions about this evaluation, the full ERO report or their future intentions.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact the school or see the ERO website by clicking on the link below.

[http://www.ero.govt.nz/publish/reppub.ns4/Institution/3A35E4818AD5402ECC256F42006F06A7/\\$File/10177.htm?OpenElement](http://www.ero.govt.nz/publish/reppub.ns4/Institution/3A35E4818AD5402ECC256F42006F06A7/$File/10177.htm?OpenElement)