



Bowen Early Childhood Education Centre Philosophy



*I konei ko ngā tamariki me ngā whānau i te tuatahi
Where children and families come first*

The foundation of our philosophy is to embrace relationships.

Whānaungatanga and **Aroha** are the heartbeat of our whare, guided by the warm, trusting and reciprocal relationships we build *with tamariki, parents and whānau*. Knowing, accepting and acknowledging the strength of working together, collaboratively and collectively within our Bowen Community.

Manaakitanga and **Kotahitanga** provide the nourishment to our whare, guiding our intentions, interactions and how we equitably participate with te ao Māori and te ao nui. We acknowledge the unique place of Māori (Te Āti Awa) as mana whenua. The mana of te reo Māori is upheld, the principles of Te Tiriti O Waitangi and tikanga are embedded in our mahi and environment.

Ūkaipōtanga encompasses our place, sense of belonging and wellbeing of our tamariki. The mana of our tamariki is protected and grown by nurturing their identity, encouraging their contribution and participation.

Kaiako continually seek to improve our connections with each other, facilitating tamariki learning through thoughtful and intentional pedagogy and recognising the importance of learning through play and where creativity and curiosity is valued.

*He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!
What is the most important thing in the world? It's the people*