



ERO Early Childhood Service Assurance Review

Early Childhood Service Name	Li'l Champs Early Learning Centre
Profile Number	10096
Location	Mount Wellington, Auckland

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

ERO's judgement

Regulatory standards	
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

Li'l Champs Early learning Centre operates in an adapted residential building near Sylvia Park shopping centre. This is the first ERO review of the centre after several changes of ownership since ERO's 2016 review.

Since taking ownership in March 2019, the owner has taken steps to update policies, procedures and practices to comply with requirements. She and the manager work with a teaching team that includes a head teacher and two other qualified teachers. The centre's community, families and staff are culturally diverse.

Summary of review findings

The curriculum is informed by assessment, planning and evaluation. Adults engage in meaningful, positive interactions with children. The centre provides a language-rich environment that supports children's learning. Children have opportunities to develop knowledge and an understanding of the cultural heritages of both parties to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Parents are advised about accessing information concerning their children and have opportunities to contribute to the review of the service's operational documents. The design and layout of the premises support the provision of different types of indoor and outdoor experiences. An annual plan guides the service's operation.

Next ERO Review

The next ERO review is likely to be an Education Review.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Tanner'.

Steve Tanner
Director Review and Improvement Services Northern
Northern Region
23 May 2019

Information about the service

Service type	Education and care service	
Number licensed for	40 children, including up to 8 aged under 2	
Percentage of qualified teachers	80% +	
Reported ratios of staff to children	Under 2	1:4 - Better than regulatory standards
	Over 2	1:10 - Meets regulatory standards
Service roll	32	
Gender composition	Boys 17 Girls 15	
Ethnic composition	Māori 9 NZ European/Pākehā 6 Samoan 6 Tongan 5 other ethnic groups 6	
Review team on site	April 2019	
Date of this report	23 May 2019	
Most recent ERO report(s) These are available at www.ero.govt.nz	This is the first review of the service under new ownership	

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](#)
- the [Licensing Criteria for Home-based Education and Care Services 2008](#)
- the [Licensing Criteria for Hospital-based 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 Assurance Review process in any 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 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 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 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.