

## Meal Times

Parents provide lunch for their child, and we provide a balanced snack for morning and afternoon tea – crackers, cheese, fruit and bread. Meal times are an important occasion for the children. It is here that they learn appropriate table manners, and good communication skills.



## Portfolio

Children are observed on an ongoing and regular cycle. Learning stories are written which reflect their interest, strengths and development. Each child has a portfolio where this information is recorded. These portfolios go home for parents to review and comment on.

## Curriculum

We are committed to implementing the principles and strands of Te Whaariki-the early childhood curriculum set by the Minister of Education. This document holds the aspiration for children “to grow up as competent and confident learners and communicators, healthy in mind, body and spirit, secure in the sense of belonging and in the knowledge that they can make a valuable contribution to society”

## Communication

At Bright Minds Childcare, we have an open door policy. We value the input from parents about their children, our centre and our staff. We encourage daily verbal communication between teachers and parents to up date parents on their child's day. We also send out a monthly news letter.



## INFANT AREA

For our under two's area, we recognise that in order for the infant to thrive and learn, they must establish an intimate responsive and trusting relationship with at least one other person. For them to develop a sense of their own identity, as well as a sense of self-worth, they must experience physical and emotional security with at least one person in the centre. Feeding, changing, dressing, sleeping and affection from the staff are valuable opportunities for the infant to develop and grow. The one on one interaction builds positive trusting relationships between the infant and the teacher. Age appropriate toys and activities are also an important part of their development.

## YOUR BRIGHT MINDS TEAM

**Owner - Noel Byrn**

**Centre Manager- Lynn Abraham**

**Teachers – Vanitha, Santosh and Jacquie**

**In the office and relief teacher – Dianne**

**50 Strong Street, St Johns, Auckland**

**Telephone: 528 7629**

[info@brightminds.co.nz](mailto:info@brightminds.co.nz) – [www.brightminds.co.nz](http://www.brightminds.co.nz)

# PROSPECTUS

---

## BRIGHT MINDS CHILDCARE

*Family Friendly Environment*



## About Us

Bright Minds Childcare is an intimate family oriented centre established over 15 years ago. We cater for children from five months to five years old. We hold a full day license for a total of 26 children – up to 8 babies and 18 over two's.

We have a current charter which is our contract with the Ministry of Education. We are assessed by the Education Review Office on a regular basis to ensure our practices and policies meet the high standards set by the Ministry of Education.



## Statement of Philosophy

Bright Minds Childcare is dedicated to the well-being and positive growth of each child attending the centre. Both management and teachers at Bright Minds believe in quality education. In order to provide this, we develop our programmes around Te Wharriki and the Dops, the Ministry of Education's early childhood curriculum guidelines.

Our centre is a nurturing environment, warm, accepting and respectful of all its children and their families. We encourage open communication between the centre and parents.

We value parent contribution, and welcome any input regarding their children's progress.

We believe in the rights of all children regardless of their gender, cultural identity, family background or religious beliefs.



## Our Programme

The programme at Bright Minds Childcare is based on self-directed play, with a variety of activities to promote creativity and to develop new skills. These activities can be familiar or new. Emerging interests within the group are promoted and extended. We recognise that all children learn at their own individual pace, and have their own interests. As facilitators, the teachers provide a range of activities to stimulate and capture the child's interest.

We value the children's play as an opportunity for them to learn a variety of skills and knowledge. These include skills such as sharing, co-operation, caring and respect for others, turn taking, positive conflict resolution, listening skills, problem solving, critical thinking and increasing independence.

## Our Aims

At Bright Minds Childcare, we as teachers aim to provide your child with experiences, activities and events to:-

- \* encourage and increase independence
- \* learn constructive strategies for coping with change
- \* develop concentration and focussing skills
- \* encourage and increase self confidence
- \* learn self help and self care skills for eating, drinking and toileting
- \* develop a sense of personal worth
- \* grasp a range of strategies for solving conflict
- \* learn respect for others
- \* experience creative art, music and drama
- \* gain an understanding of basic math skills
- \* develop basic reading and writing skills

## School Transition Programme

We run a transition to school programme for the four year olds. This is an important opportunity for the older children to concentrate on more challenging activities such as literacy, number work, science, and technology. Here the children also continue to develop their communication and social skills, build their concentration skills and learn new concepts and ideas.



## Environment

We value the fact that children learn from what is around them...they are constantly exploring their world, making sense of it, and testing the limits. We, as teachers, make a safe environment for them – safe for them to explore and discover new challenges and develop new skills.

## Mat Times

We have mat times during the day. Mat time is an important opportunity for group activities such as singing, movement and dancing, games and stories. The way in which the child participates in mat time encourages self confidence, concentration, communication skills, listening skills, rhythm and memory.