

## **PLAYGROUND/OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

### **RATIONALE:**

Kindergartens/centres should provide and maintain an outdoor play environment that is accessible, adaptable, stimulating and safe.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

To create and maintain an outdoor environment that is appropriate for children attending a kindergarten/centre and that provides opportunities to enhance children's physical, social and emotional development.

### **POLICY:**

1. Kindergarten/centre playgrounds shall comply with the relevant safety standards.
2. Trust expertise must be sought for advice at the beginning of the planning process.
3. Outdoor play environment development plans and alterations must be submitted using the appropriate form for Trust approval prior to commencement of any work.
4. There will be consultation with the kindergarten/centre staff, committee, parents/caregivers/whanau on any draft plans for redevelopment of the outdoor area.
5. Each kindergarten/centre shall have an ongoing maintenance plan that includes regular safety inspections.

### **REFERENCES:**

- Desirable Objectives and Practices
- Trust Forms Folder
- Early Childhood Regulations (1996)
- Occupational Safety & Health
- NZ Playground Safety Standards