

Nau mai haere mai Rebecca

Rebecca it is so nice to meet you, your mum Danielle and your little brother Joseph. Mum has decided she would like to you come to kindergarten. You will be joining us four days a week. Rebecca here at Fordlands we believe that the 'Relationship is All'. During your time here Rebecca I will be your 'kaiawhina'. This means that I will be spending time with you and your whanau getting to know you and building our relationship. In the mornings I will greet you and we will spend time together. I will support you through all of your care moments like, nappy changing, changing your clothes when you might get wet from any water play, sitting at the kai table and all of those emotional moments where you need someone to listen and give you a hug.



It is important for you to be in an environment where we value respectful, nurturing environments. 'Sensitivity grows Relationships'. When you become familiar with the known, which is myself your kaiawhina you then feel emotionally safe to move out into the unknown. This is because you have a strong relationship with your one person your kaiawhina.

"Children experience an environment where their emotional well-being is nurtured"

Rebecca in Te Whaariki which is our Early Childhood Curriculum it states that " time and opportunity are provided for you and your kaiawhina to build a trusting and loving relationship together"



Rebecca the first morning you arrived you stayed close to your mum. You were whakama and not saying anything. Mum was happy to stay for awhile so we could walk around and have look at the kindergarten together. There was a time when mum was having a korero with one of the other teachers so I asked "would you like to hang your bag up". You did not say anything but you let me take your hand and we walked together to the locker bay. We made a name for your locker and hung your bag. Then we walked to the kai area and put your lunch box on the shelf. We walked back to mum. I could see she was quietly surprised and happy to see, that you felt emotionally safe enough to walk with me.

It was time for mum to leave. We were in the sandpit together. She gave you a kiss, told you she will be back to pick you up later. I could not tell how you were feeling because you didn't cry or smile or become distressed in any way. You watched Mum and Joseph walk to the gate, and down the path. You looked at me and carried on playing with the sand. The morning went on and we played for quite along period of time in the sandpit. You were very quiet and did not say anything. You watched the children around you and would stop playing when ever they got a bit close. I could see that you were whakama and I needed to respect your quiet disposition. Through out the day we stayed together, sitting at the kai table together, reading a story and we also played with the lego and trucks and cars.

Rebecca during your time here we will be documenting your learning journey by writing learning stories. These are written descriptions, transcriptions of children's voices and photos. These go into your 'portfolio' for you to keep forever. Stories will also be on 'storypark' for you and your whanau to view. Rebecca we look forward to getting to know you and your whanau.

"Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. Childhood is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace which is right for each individual child"

Story date: 30 Oct 2015. Added by: Denise Durbin.