

I'm a toddler room girl!

December 2019-March 2020

Amèlie it has been such a joy sharing your journey from the nursery to the toddler room with you and your whānau. It was clear right from the beginning that the toddler room was where you felt right at home, as this was where your most safe person (Mum) worked.

Over time I have seen your bravery and confidence blossom and on reflection, I thought it would be appropriate to choose three of our values cards as a framework to document your journey. The three cards I have chosen are love, contentment and curiosity. These are values that have shone through in your ways of being since the beginning of your pathway into the toddler room.

Love

Amèlie, you hold so much love for the special people in your life. I have observed this in both your interactions and play. Firstly, the love you have for your Mum and Dad is endless. I have been lucky to observe you sharing such calm and beautiful interactions with your Mum here at Childspace. I have often caught you sharing a nice big cuddle or having some quiet time reading books together. During the day you talk about "Daddy's work" too. Occasionally, I have noticed that you associate this with reading books. I wonder if this is because you do lots of reading with Dad at home? Sometimes we even look in your folder at the picture of Mum and Dad reading a book with you. At the beginning of March, Mum began her pathway into the Kau Kau room with her key group of tamariki.

Amèlie, learning to be without Mum must be very different, however you have coped with this change very well, we are so proud of you. Mum is still always in your heart and you often talk about how she's at work in the Kau Kau room. You have also been next door to visit a few times which you really enjoy.

Amèlie, you are beginning to build trusting and respectful relationships with your kaiako. Ali and I as your key kaiako, will work together to ensure all your needs are met by consistently communicating with you and your whānau. We will also share our love, care and kindness with you. It is awesome to see how comfortable you are with all your teachers. I can tell you appreciate spending time with Fei and Tamsin too. I have really enjoyed the continuity of sharing your sleep ritual from the nursery to the toddler room. Sleeping under the Ngaio tree was a new experience, but you adapted with ease and are right at home in the outdoor sleep environment.

I have noticed you love to be social and take part in group play. It's a pleasure to see you interacting with your friends in such a kind and gentle manner. Your verbal communication is amazing and it really helps your kaiako and friends to understand you. Ka rawe! I love your unique ways of communication Amèlie, you are so expressive. Hui time is a ritual you love and are always willing to participate in song, dance and storytime. Ka pai tō mahi!





Contentment

Amèlie, you are very content in a range of environments. I have noticed you like playing both inside and outside but recently you have been more drawn to outdoor play. Some of your favourite places are the front garden, sandpit and the slide. Waterplay has also been a big interest of yours over the summer. I wonder what creative ways we could find to set up water play in winter? You are a very keen explorer Amèlie and it is wonderful that you find joy in so many areas of play. I can't wait until we can go and explore the forest together! Perhaps we could start by going to the park more regularly when we are back at Childspace? I know you are going to love our firepit experience too Amèlie.

Nappy change and kai time rituals are very familiar to you now Amèlie. You know exactly where to go for a nappy change and where all your belongings are kept. Occasionally you are a little bit hesitant about nappy changes but, once we get talking about some of the things you enjoy about this time, we have success! Amèlie, you willingly participate in our kai time ritual and can confidently serve yourself kai and water. Ka pai, what a great role model you are!

You are becoming such an independent girl and this shines through when you are dropped off by Mum and Dad in the mornings. Amèlie, when you arrive you happily settle into your day by saying goodbye to Mum or Dad. Following this you will often find a friend to play with or seek out something you are interested in. You are learning to be very content with this rhythm of the day Amèlie.

Curiosity

"Curiosity in children is but an appetite for knowledge"—John Locke

Amèlie, curiosity just radiates from your soul. I have noticed you have an interest in how things work, live and exist in the world around you. There have been many occasions when I have watched you observe another child doing something risky before you get involved. This has often happened before you are about to get involved with climbing. Maybe you are observing their technique or seeing if you like the outcome? Nonetheless, this is an awesome strategy to use. While we cautiously watch and share your successes, you are not afraid to tell us when you would like further support.

As we know you love books Amèlie and this is where your curiosities about people, places and things is strong. At hui time you love to name all the vehicles and animals that are in the singalong books. I love watching how captivated you are as you listen to the songs and look at the illustrations. Your enthusiasm for reading and learning about new things is commendable. It's a pleasure to share your delight!

Amèlie you are so determined and always persist with any goals you have set yourself. You know what you want and this is shown through your communication and actions. Even when things don't quite go to plan you are able to recover and continue with your play.

It's been great to see all the play you have been doing at home during the rāhui. Mum mentioned the 'jumpoline' and waterplay have been popular. I have also enjoyed seeing pictures of your bear hunts and workouts with Dad. What awesome memories you are making to look back on in the future. Thank you for my video shout out too, that really made my day!



Love is an overwhelming feeling of affection. Unconditional love means we love someone without judgement and we show our love through thoughtful acts of kindness.



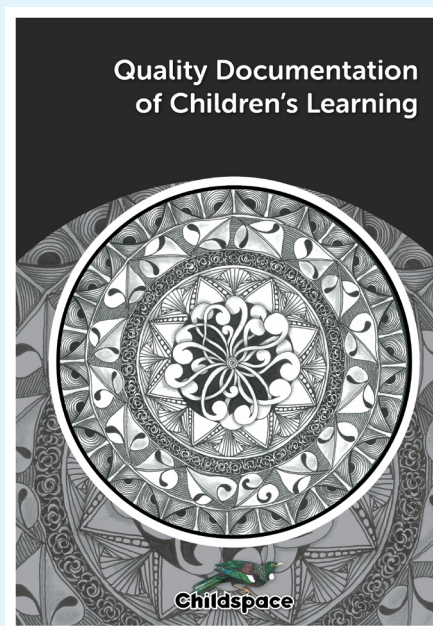
Contentment is the ability to be satisfied with what we have and who we are. When we are content we are at peace with ourselves and we are free of jealousy and greed.



Curiosity is a strong desire to know or learn something. When we are curious we follow our natural urge to learn more, know more, and understand more about the people, places, and things in our world.



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Also available as an eBook for \$20.



Amélie, you have a strong sense of the belonging in the toddler room and it's a delight to see you thriving in this learning environment. I love spending my days with you and I can't wait to go on some new adventures again soon.

Arohanui, Hanna xxx

Amélie, what a beautiful addition you have been to the toddler room. Your amazing spirit and boundless energy are a delight that we get to witness every day. Hanna is so correct in the values that she has chosen for you, as you embody each of these so well. You have a fierce love for others (especially your whānau) and showed this to us as you naturally transitioned yourself through to the toddler room early so that you could spend more time with your

Mumma. Your constant curiosity and wonder about the world is fascinating to watch and be a part of- life will always be a party when you are around! The thing I am the MOST proud of, is the way you have courageously watched as your Mum transitioned with her group over to the Kau Kau room, but you managed to keep your sense of belonging with us in the toddler room. You confidently tell us that "Mumma's at work" as you go about your day and although I can see that you miss her at times, you have found contentment in your friends and kaiako in the toddler room. We love your energy Amélie and I can't wait to see you develop and grow during your time with us.

Arohanui, Ali xxx