

Thursday 30 April 2020
Press Release

Kindergartens Are Open

In our area, small but happy groups of children had a smooth transition back to kindergarten says Charmaine Hakaraia General Manager of Hutt City Kindergartens. First day numbers were smaller than anticipated representing around 3 to 4% of whānau; but these figures are expected to grow over the next few weeks.

Our teachers and I were delighted with how well the first day had gone for the children.

Charmaine said she wanted to reassure whānau that the health, safety and happiness of the children returning were absolute priorities. "We continue to get great advice from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health, and we are following that advice. The children were really well versed in things like regular hand washing and teachers talked to them about their kindergarten bubble".

Teachers received positive responses from parents, grateful that their children were going to be active and well cared for. While some teachers actively worked with small groups of children, other teachers continued to engage and work on-line with children at home. We really want to support our communities as we know how tough it's been for parents and whānau trying to juggle work and home-life. That goes to the heart of what community kindergartens are all about.

It was great to see how quickly the children settled in and enjoyed their familiar surroundings. The teachers loved seeing the children as well. While there are some activities which we can't provide, there are many new things for children to take part in like reading and art.

ENDS

For more information please contact Charmaine Hakaraia on 021 566 338