

## Briefing Note: Visit to Weston Playcentre

|   |  |                     |         |
|---|--|---------------------|---------|
| <b>To:</b>                                    | Hon Jo Luxton, Associate Minister of Education |                     |         |
| <b>Cc:</b>                                    | Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education         |                     |         |
| <b>Date:</b>                                  | 3/08/2023                                      | <b>Priority:</b>    | Medium  |
| <b>Security Level:</b>                        | In Confidence                                  | <b>METIS No:</b>    | 1315209 |
| <b>Drafter:</b>                               | Aimee Te Tau                                   | <b>DDI:</b>         | 9(2)(a) |
| <b>Key Contact:</b>                           | Julie Anderson                                 | <b>DDI:</b>         |         |
| <b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b> | No   | <b>Round Robin:</b> | No      |

### Purpose of Briefing Note

The purpose of this paper is to support your visit to Weston Playcentre in Oamaru on 8 August 2023.

A run sheet for the visit is attached. Annex 1 refers.

### Proactive Release

1. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you and the visit on 8 August 2023 has been completed.

Agree / Disagree

Nancy Bell  
Hautū | Deputy Secretary  
Te Mahau | Te Tai Runga

3/8/23

Jo Luxton  
Associate Minister of Education

5/8/23

## Weston Playcentre (81046)

Contact Name: Judy Hinton  
(At institution) 9(2)(a)

Address: 2 Airedale Road  
Weston

### Key People

Service Provider Contact: Judy Hinton  
9(2)(a)

Centre Adviser: Nicole Rutledge  
9(2)(a)

Ministry Officials: Lisa Seuseu, Lead Advisor Early Childhood Education  
9(2)(a)  
Ernie Mather, Senior Education Advisor  
9(2)(a)

### Profile Information

|                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Institution type    | Playcentre                     |
| License class       | Sessional                      |
| Provision type      | Parent led                     |
| Education Medium    | English                        |
| Equity Index Rating | EQI 5+                         |
| Electorate          | Waitaki                        |
| Te Mahau   Region   | Te Tai Runga   Otago Southland |

The July 2022 breakdown of roll information by ethnicity is shown below:

| July 2022 Roll  | Number    | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|
| European/Pākehā | 15        | 75%            |
| Asian           | 2         | 10%            |
| Other ethnicity | 2         | 10%            |
| Māori           | 1         | 5%             |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>20</b> | <b>100%</b>    |

### Weston Playcentre Context

- 1 Weston Playcentre is a semi-rural playcentre, licensed for 25 children including 10 children under 2 years. It provides four morning sessions each week for children aged from birth up to school age.

- 2 Families attend from nearby Oamaru or surrounding farming communities. The sessions are led by a supervision team with playcentre qualifications.
- 3 Weston is a small town situated 5 km inland from Oamaru. While rural, with a predominately agricultural base, it has grown in the last few years with additional subdivisions planned for the area.

#### Education Review Office

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- 4 Weston Playcentre was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in 2017. ERO found that Weston Playcentre was well placed to promote positive learning outcomes for children.
- 5 It was reported that children and adults had a strong sense of belonging to the Playcentre community, children experienced enriched bicultural programmes and practices, and the diverse cultures within the Playcentre were acknowledged and valued. Intentional learning occurred through a varied programme based on the principles and strands of Te Whāriki.
- 6 Next steps recommended for Playcentre supervision and parent, with the support of the Otago Playcentre Association (now part of Playcentre Aotearoa) were:
  - a. review the playcentre philosophy
  - b. strengthen individual and group planning
  - c. further develop their use of effective internal evaluation.
  - d. continue to develop and embed the appraisal system (for Playcentre Aotearoa)

#### Impact of COVID-19

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- 7 We are not specifically aware of challenges during COVID-19 for Weston Playcentre. In general, Playcentre Aotearoa was impacted through COVID-19 when persons responsible were unwell, or for some in relation to the vaccination mandate, as there was insufficient cover to ensure a person responsible was available in all areas.

#### Other known risks or issues

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- 8 There are no specific risks identified in relation to visiting Weston Playcentre.
- 9 Judy Hinton is the Service Provider contact for Playcentres across Otago and Southland. She may raise challenges that affect Playcentres across the region more generally, including the issue of ensuring there is a sufficient number of persons responsible across the region, and the viability of services in isolated and remote areas. Playcentres are often the only provision available in some small and isolated areas.

#### Property

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- 10 The Playcentre is next door to Weston School and has a Property Occupancy Agreement with the Ministry of Education.

## Proactive Release

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- 11 It is recommended that this briefing note is proactively released, with any information needing to be withheld done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

## Annexes

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The following are annexed to this paper:

Annex 1: Run Sheet

Proactively Released

## Annex 1: Run Sheet

| Time  | Activity  | Other details   |
|-------|---|---|
| 11.15 | The Associate Minister arrives and will be met by Service Provider Contact, Judy Hinton and Te Mahau staff, Lisa Seuseu and Ernie Mather  | Other attendees include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whānau and tamariki of Weston Playcentre</li> <li>• Nicole Rutledge (Centre Advisor)</li> </ul>             |
| 11.25 | The Associate Minister will be offered refreshments and will informally talk with tamariki and whānau. Judy will take the Associate Minister on a tour through the service and discuss aspects of the curriculum. | There will be opportunities for the Associate Minister to observe and ask questions if she wishes<br><br>We have confirmed with the Service Provider that photos can be taken |
| 12.05 | Farewells   |   |
| 12.15 | Depart Weston Playcentre  |   |