

Briefing Note: BestStart Manukau 1

To:	Hon Jo Luxton, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Date:	06 July 2023	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1313723
Drafter:	Tracy Ip	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Roshyn Lyons	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Briefing Note

The purpose of this paper is to support your visit to BestStart Manukau 1 in Auckland on 13 July 2023. This is an opportunity to see how the centre works and talk to the team about what is and is not working for them in the sector.

This Briefing Note identifies key people, outlines the visit itinerary, and gives further information about the service.

BestStart Manukau 1

Contact Name: Jane Burke, Regional Professional Practice Leader
9(2)(a)

Mamta Singh, Centre Manager
9(2)(a)

Address: 561 Great South Road, Manukau, Auckland

Key People

Ministry Officials: Deidre Alderson, Director of Education, Tāmaki Herenga Waka

9(2)(a)

Profile Information

Authority	Charitable Trust
School Type	Education & Care Service
School Gender	N/A
Education Medium	Centre-based
Equity Index Rating	3
Electorate	Manurewa
Te Mahau Region	Tāmaki Herenga Waka

Background

- 1 The service is part of the BestStart Charitable Trust. BestStart has more than 260 early learning and care centres from Whangarei to Invercargill. They operate nurseries, preschools, kindergartens, Montessori, and childcare services.
- 2 BestStart Manukau 1 is a teacher-led service licensed for a maximum of 100 children with 15 under 2-year-old. It operates Monday to Friday 7:00am to 6:00pm, with 75% English, 11% Asian, 10% Māori, 4% Pacific language speakers.

Education Review Office

- 3 On 8 May 2020 ERO (Education Review Office) assessed the service as a well-placed centre in promoting positive learning outcomes for children.
- 4 The review findings suggested that teachers know the children well as learners. They engage children in respectful and responsive conversations to help them connect to their centre experience. Teachers celebrate children's cultures. They respond to children's interests, strengths, and abilities. Teachers use waiata, karakia and te reo Māori with children during the programme. Visual displays reflect and enhance the bicultural curriculum. The centre values children's cultures through cultural performances, sharing food and celebrations as important aspects of the centre life. Teachers and centre staff play an important part in these celebrations. Parents/whānau are actively involved in cultural events.

Learning Support

- 5 The service is receiving learning support for 7 children and 5 children are on the waitlist for support.

Impact of COVID-19

- 6 The service received Urgent Response Fund and utilised the learning packs for all children during COVID-19.

Other known risks or issues


- 7 The service had a complaint in 2020 by a parent. The service notified the Ministry at the same time and provided information for the investigation. We assessed the complaint as being inconsequential.

- 8 The service notified the Ministry of an incident in 2022 relating to an injury. The service had responded proactively to the incident.

Proactive Release

1. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

Agree


Deidre Alderson
**Director of Education Tāmaki Herenga Waka
Auckland South and Southwest
Te Mahau | Te Tai Raro**

06/07/2023


Hon Jo Luxton
**Associate Minister of
Education**

10 17 23

Annex 1: Run Sheet

Time	Activity	Other details
2.00 – 2.05	Meet and greet	Fiona Hughes - Deputy CEO of BestStart Ritesh Bansal - Area manager of BestStart
2.05- 2.10	Health & Safety Induction	Mamta Singh – Centre Manager
2.10 – 2.20	Welcome	Children and teachers will do a welcome ceremony - Waiata and address
2.20 to 2.50	Centre tour	Meet and greet children, teachers, and families. visiting all rooms and talking to teachers
2.50 to 3.00	Kai	Sharing our story afternoon tea