



*Well on their way*

**Marsden Preschool**

Girls and boys,  
ages 3½ to 5 years



SAMUEL  
MARSDEN  
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL







Jessica settled in so quickly, we were struck how dedicated the teachers are, from meeting the individual needs of each child to keeping such a clean and healthy environment. For us what stands out is being part of the school: the specialist music, library and sport sessions. We love how Jessica is now able to recognise and write her name, and she delights in taking in something beginning with Letter of the Week for the Letter Tree.”

Cathleen and Matt Phillips



### Welcome to Marsden Preschool

Marsden Preschool is part of the wider Marsden School family.

Preschool tamariki are part of a positive, supportive and caring environment which is encouraged across all year levels.

We support a full holistic curriculum, which allows students to explore the learning environment. Tamariki are encouraged to celebrate their success and strengths, communicating their ideas with others; written, verbal, non-verbal and using digital technology.

We support our Preschool girls and boys to develop self-confidence and independence to ensure they begin school as confident and capable individuals, curious about the wider world. Children learn by doing, by asking questions, by interacting with others and by discovering how things work.

I invite you to visit our website [www.marsden.school.nz](http://www.marsden.school.nz), to find out more about Marsden Preschool. We provide the very best start to your daughter or son's education and I look forward to welcoming you and your family to Marsden Preschool.

**Helen McConnell**  
*Head of Preschool*



### The Marsden Difference

Being at Marsden makes a big difference for our Preschoolers. We're very clear about the ultimate goal of education: helping children and young

people develop into confident, well-adjusted adults who will do well in life.

At Marsden Preschool that means an age-appropriate focus on Marsden's core values of Excellence, Resilience, Creativity and Giving.

The children's response to the positive environment we create is extraordinary: by the time they move on to Primary school, they are already well on their way in life.

**Narelle Umbers**  
*Principal*



At Marsden Preschool you can expect the very best start to education for your children in a well-structured, warm and caring environment.

*Learn to write your name, be part of a team, encourage others.*



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**We believe in children having fun and forming friendships as they learn together.**

Play in the trees, plant and harvest your own veggies, make volcanoes in the sandpit, be a leader for the day.

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**Wellbeing and belonging through consistent, warm relationships.**

Enjoy biking, water play, carpentry, reading with the Primary School girls, and baking. Meet the science department skeleton, hop on the bus to Te Papa.



# We're not here to fill their day; we're here to *fuel their future.*

## Professional Early Childhood Educators

Marsden Preschool staff are all professional Early Childhood educators of the highest standard, providing a varied programme to challenge and excite children, inspiring a love of learning and developing independent, self-motivated learners.

## A planned curriculum

Through a planned curriculum, based on the exploration of children's interests we extend and support learning that is purposeful and that children enjoy.

Under the guiding principles of Te Whāriki, the New Zealand Early Childhood Curriculum, children's strengths and interests are woven together to create each child's early learning experience.

Each term we conduct an inquiry focus, which extends on the children's group interest. Inquiry supports children to Engage and Wonder, Explore, Discover, Explain, Share and Reflect. This investigation is conducted through focused activities and independent exploration.

## Literacy and Maths

We create fun and informative ways to embed a variety of literacy and mathematical concepts for our children throughout the day.

## Digital Technology

We provide meaningful exploration with digital technology and offline activities that encourage children to develop an understanding of early digital literacy and digital fluency. Children will focus on digital technology for communication, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking.

## Specialist teachers

Specialists teach te reo Māori and music in fun and creative ways. The Marsden librarian runs a weekly programme and the nurse supports us in looking after your child's health. We join Chapel service and other Marsden sporting, cultural and community events.

## Facilities

Marsden Preschool is a spacious, light and sunny environment, with indoor areas for art, music, reading, dramatic play, outdoor areas for climbing, bike riding, ball games, playing with sand and water, as

well as access to all of the sports and cultural facilities of Marsden's extensive and beautiful Karori campus.

## Special Character

Embracing all children, Marsden's education is underpinned by Christian values. We encourage and expect respect and tolerance: seeing the best in others and getting along.

## Involved families

Whānau stay connected with their children's learning, following their activities and progress online in their learning story e-portfolios. We encourage whānau to contribute to their child's portfolio, sharing experiences from home, comments and collaborating towards shared learning goals.

## Transition to School

Children are well-prepared for Primary school. They are familiar with routines, taking care of their belongings, can write and recognise their name and participate in group activities. We support transition to school through connections with Marsden Primary and local schools, and children are invited to share their learnings with their new teachers.









Marsden School's vision:

## Manu Rere Ao > *The bird that flies the world*

Achieving this vision involves laying the foundation for lives of meaning, accomplishment and genuine happiness.

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### Our values:

Hiranga  
*Excellence*

Manahau  
*Resilience*

Auahatanga  
*Creativity*

Oha  
*Service*

Our students are supported to make the most progress possible from their starting point. Being and doing their best is how we define excellence and what it takes to uphold our motto *Ad Summa – Aim for the Highest*.

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### Preschool philosophy

Parents, Whānau, Community, Children and Teachers together make up the Marsden Preschool Whānau. We at Marsden Preschool, together with our whānau and community, believe that children's health and wellbeing is paramount. Our learning programmes are child-centred and holistic and we are committed to honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Visit our website to see our full Preschool Philosophy.

[marsden.school.nz](https://marsden.school.nz)



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