



*Inspiring young
minds*

Marsden Preschool

Girls and boys
aged 3 to 5



**SAMUEL
MARSDEN**
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL





Marsden Preschool offered exactly what our daughter needed: a small, warm community where she could grow in confidence, develop her curiosity and find her voice. The structured programme built strong foundations in literacy and numeracy, balanced with outdoor play and creativity. The teachers are highly professional, deeply caring and truly invested in every child.”

The Hing Family



Welcome to Marsden Preschool

Marsden Preschool is a warm and nurturing environment where children develop confidence, curiosity and a

love of learning. As part of the wider Marsden community, our tamariki benefit from exceptional facilities, specialist teachers and strong connections with the Primary School — helping them feel capable, connected and ready for the next stage of their education.

Tamariki are encouraged to celebrate their success and strengths, share their ideas, and express themselves in many ways.

We support both girls and boys to develop independence, self-confidence and a sense of belonging. Children learn by doing: asking questions, interacting with others and discovering how things work. Through these experiences they begin school as confident and capable learners, curious about the world around them.

We are proud to provide the very best start to your child's education, and I look forward to welcoming you and your family to Marsden Preschool.

Helen McConnell
Head of Preschool



The Marsden Difference

Being part of Marsden makes a real difference for our Preschool tamariki. From their earliest years, they are welcomed into a community that

values curiosity, kindness and confidence.

At Marsden Preschool, our youngest learners experience an age-appropriate introduction to our school values of Hiranga (Excellence), Manahau (Resilience), Auahatanga (Creativity), Oha (Service) and Whanaungatanga (Respectful Relationships). Through play, discovery and strong connections with their teachers and peers, children begin developing the confidence and independence that will support them throughout their education.

By the time they move into Primary School, our Preschool children are already well on their way, ready to learn, eager to contribute and excited about the journey ahead.

Paula Wells
Principal

At Marsden Preschool, we provide the foundations for confident learners and curious minds.

In our well-structured, warm and nurturing environment, tamariki develop early literacy and numeracy skills, build friendships and learn to be part of a team.



We believe children learn best when they are having fun and forming friendships.

Climb trees, explore nature, garden together, build volcanoes in the sandpit and take turns being a leader for the day.



Wellbeing and belonging nurtured through consistent, warm relationships.

Tamariki develop connections across the Marsden community, including with the Primary School.



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

Professional early childhood educators

Marsden Preschool teachers are highly qualified and experienced early childhood educators. They provide a rich programme that challenges and engages tamariki, inspiring a love of learning and developing independent, self-motivated learners.

An intentional curriculum

Through a planned and intentional curriculum that builds on children's interests, we extend and support learning in ways that are purposeful and engaging for tamariki.

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 explore an inquiry focus that builds on children's shared interests, supporting them to wonder, explore, discover, explain and reflect through both guided activities and independent exploration.

Literacy and numeracy

We create fun and engaging ways to embed literacy and numeracy concepts throughout the day,

supporting tamariki to develop early language, number sense and problem-solving skills. Using the iDeal structured literacy approach, children build confidence with literacy over time while developing an understanding of print and symbol concepts, rhyme, syllables and sounds.

Digital technology

Children explore digital technology alongside hands-on learning, developing early digital literacy through communication, creativity and collaboration.

Specialist teachers

Specialist teachers introduce children to te reo Māori and music in fun and creative ways. Our Marsden librarian runs weekly sessions that deepen children's love of stories and support early inquiry learning, while our school nurse supports children's health and wellbeing. 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

Marsden Preschool is underpinned by Christian values and welcomes children of all backgrounds. We nurture a culture of kindness, respect and empathy, encouraging children to see the best in others.

Involved families

Whānau stay closely 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 their transition to 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.

Our values:

Hiranga	Manahau	Auahatanga	Oha	Whanaungatanga
<i>Excellence</i>	<i>Resilience</i>	<i>Creativity</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Respectful Relationships</i>

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*.

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.

marsden.school.nz



Marsden Preschool
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