



SPACE NZ Trust

STRATEGIC PLAN – 2011- 2013

Preamble

This plan has been developed by the SPACE NZ Trust to provide a strategic roadmap for the 2011-2013 period.

SPACE (Supporting Parents alongside their children education) is a programme mainly for first time parents. Sessions run weekly for 3-4 terms extending through the first year of the child's life. The sessions are held in a relaxed and baby friendly environment and include:

- Opportunities for parents to meet and get to know one another
- Discussion and information sharing on relevant child development and parenting topics
- An introduction to music, rhymes and books for infants
- Opportunities for babies to interact and explore play through a range of experiences

The SPACE programme was originally designed, developed and delivered within the Hutt Playcentre Association in 2003. Following the successful establishment of the programme in the Hutt Valley, the programme was launched to Playcentre Associations and other community organisations nationwide. Training in the SPACE programme curriculum is now provided to a range of facilitators who then deliver the programme in community settings.

The SPACE NZ Trust was formed in October 2010 to act as the governing body of SPACE. SPACE NZ Trust is a not-for-profit organisation and is registered with the Charities Commission.

The SPACE NZ Trust has appointed Trustees with a range of skills. The role of the Trustees is to:

- Be responsible for the strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation of the Trust.
- Ensure effective management of the Trust resources, especially it's people and funding.
- Be responsible for financial accountability, and the preparation of policies and annual reports.
- Fulfill all legal obligations and ethical standards set by the Trust.

Visions and Purpose

Our Vision:

 He wāhi i ngā wāhi katoa - SPACE in every place

Our Purpose:

 To provide communities across Aotearoa/New Zealand with access to SPACE.

 To strengthen families/ whānau through the provision of quality parenting support and early childhood experiences for babies.

We aim to:

 Support families and communities so that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

 Promote the family as being central to a community's well-being.

 Have SPACE programmes accessible to all New Zealanders through collaborative partnerships with national and local organisations.

Our Principles:

At the SPACE NZ Trust we:

- Value family/whānau, parents and babies as the heart of a strong, healthy community
- Strive to improve the connectedness between babies and their family/ whānau, families and their communities, and families and community organisations
- Place importance on being inclusive and value the contributions and views of others

We will demonstrate these principles by being:

- Aware that parents are the most important carers
- Receptive to diverse contributions and learning from different viewpoints
- Responsive to the needs of families/ whānau and communities
- Connected to individuals and organisations, and working collaboratively with them
- Trustworthy and respectful to all partners and families/ whānau who are participating in the programmes

The SPACE Objectives:

Improve the wellbeing of children through:

- Increasing the participation of children in early childhood services.
- Enhancing children's holistic learning and development.
- Valuing children and giving them an opportunity to thrive.

Enhance support for parents through:

- Design and develop high quality and responsive curriculum to support the transition to parenthood.

- Training appropriate facilitators to deliver the SPACE programme as group parenting sessions that are respectful of diversity.
- Empowering parents and whānau by recognising and acknowledging their existing skills, abilities and acknowledging them as the most important carers for their children.
- Providing an opportunity to connect with other parents and children and encouraging them to develop communities of support.
- Providing an opportunity for family/whānau to seek or request referrals to appropriate services.

Contribute to building stronger communities through:

- Strengthening the current growing movement that recognises and promotes the role of family as central to the community's well being.
- Creating links, fostering relationships with other families, and enhancing the connectedness between families and community organisations.
- Providing a high quality parenting and child support programme to local communities.

Priorities and Strategic Goals for Year 2011-2012

- Promote collaborative relationships through actively pooling the resources, capabilities, and strength of community organisations and partnering organisations.
- Deliver a responsive and high quality curriculum that is respectful of diversity.
- Support the transition to parenthood, and recognise parents as the most important carers.
- Promote the role of the family as central to the community's well-being.
- Increase the participation of children in early childhood services.



SPACE in every place
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and early childhood education for infants