

Rationale

Breastfeeding helps lay the foundations of a healthy life for a baby and makes a positive contribution to the health and well-being of mothers and whānau/families. Exclusive breastfeeding is recommended by the Ministry of Health until babies are around six months old.

Goals

- This service will ensure the health promoting benefits of breastfeeding are promoted and supported for our children, their siblings and children of staff members.
- A supportive social and physical environment will be created to:
 - Encourage and support mothers to continue breastfeeding their children
 - To ensure parents feel comfortable to feed their children in this environment
 - Inform children and families about breastfeeding.

Strategies

- Whānau and staff members are aware of this policy
- Breastfeeding parents and staff members are encouraged to feed their children here
- A safe and private space is provided for breastfeeding and for expressing milk
- Facilities are provided for safe storage and heating of expressed breast milk
- Resources with information on breastfeeding are available for families in the parent library
- As part of the on-going education programme, children develop awareness of connections around breastfeeding and the wider world through activities such as books, discussions and spring time farm visits etc.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

REVIEW DATE: _____