



FAME  
Mangawhai  
Information Pack



## Welcome!

Thank you for considering joining us at Fame Preschool.

We look forward to getting to know your family, and sharing your little one's preschool journey.

We are here to provide exceptional, loving care and education for our Fame Family, and we will develop confidence and creativity in your child through our exciting creative arts programme.

Fame is a family owned and managed group of two centres. The original Fame opened in Stanmore Bay in 2002, and we opened our second centre here in Mangawhai, in May 2022.

## At Fame we offer you:

- Care for children from birth to 6 year olds
- A mixed age environment where children can grow as a family
- Younger infants and toddlers have a home room, set up for their needs
- Daily creative opportunities including dance, drama, music, visual arts, science and cooking
- Fantastic productions and exhibitions to share children's learning with our community
- Teacher to child ratios well exceeding government standards
- Daily learning groups, including an excellent 'ready for school' programme
- Social events for our community to have fun together and get to know each other



## Who Are We?

Leading our Fame Family are our Owner Lana, and our Operations Manager Cathy.

Lana is a qualified teacher who started Fame nearly 20 years ago, and both her boys were 'Fame kids' when they were younger. Her highest priority is to ensure children feel loved in a safe and stable environment, so that they can be happy and able to grow and learn with confidence.

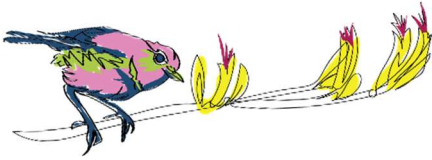
Lana has a long and strong connection with Mangawhai, her family lives here and she has been aware of the need for more high quality ECE care in the area for some years now.

Our new centre is the result of more than 4 years of work to become part of the community and provide another care option for little ones.

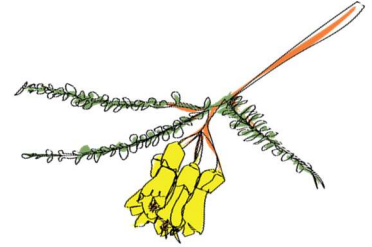
Cathy started with Fame as a parent over 10 years ago, and has worked with Lana since 2013, supporting families and our team with the daily operations of our business. She is proud to be part of making a big difference for our families, just like Fame did for her daughters.

Choosing the right people to care for your special little one is a huge decision, and as parents ourselves, we fully appreciate the importance of our responsibility to you.

At Fame, we'll do everything we can to give your child an amazing preschool journey!



Creativity | Family | Wellbeing | Inclusion | Confidence



## Parent and Whanau Participation

We really appreciate that you are entrusting us to partner with you in your child's journey, and a strong relationship between us sends a positive message to your little one that they are loved by us all, and they belong here at Fame.

Great communication is key to this success, and we welcome your involvement and input.

We're always interested to hear your wishes and aspirations for your child, and also any way that you would like to contribute to our curriculum. This could be sending in resources, or arranging with our team to come and share your special skills or simply support your child by participating in our centre celebrations.

You'll hear from us frequently through conversations at drop-off and pick-up times, StoryPark messages (more on those next), emails, newsletters and notices posted in the centre.

## Parent and Whanau Connections

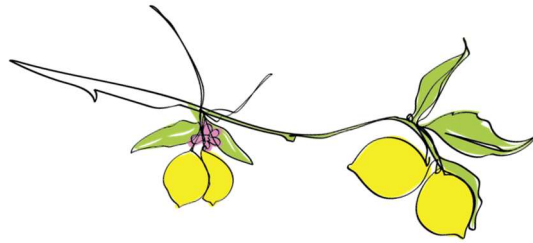
We use StoryPark which is a wonderful online communication tool where we can share photos, videos and stories about exciting things your child will get up to at Fame.

We also use StoryPark to send you exciting updates about things that are happening in the whole centre and in their individual groups, and for our younger children we track their routines too (sleeps, changes and feeds) so you can easily see what's happening while they are with us.

On enrolment, if you already use StoryPark we can continue with your existing account, or we'll send you a link to your new free account which is private to you, and you can choose who you want to share it with in your own family.

You'll be able to add your own photos or videos, and comment on posts that we add as well. All of this will build a beautiful story of the time your child is with us at Fame.

We will also keep a lot of this progress in a physical folder for you and your child to enjoy looking through their fun and learning together. This will become a beautiful keepsake when they head off to school.



## Our Programme

Each of our age groups have dedicated teachers looking after their care and development. Your child will belong to a group with others of a similar age, and enjoy a happy balance of free-choice activities and routines which are appropriate for their stage and development.

We are inspired by best teaching practices from around the world, including Reggio Emilia, Gardner (especially his theory of multiple intelligences), Magda Gerber's RIE, and Carl Orff's child-centred approach to music.

We follow the New Zealand Early Childhood Curriculum, Te Whāriki to guide our planning based on the five strands: Wellbeing, Belonging, Contribution, Communication and Exploration.

## A Mix of Ages Together

For most of the day, your child will be free to explore and connect with older and younger children, and enjoy activities together, while supported by their teachers.

We love having a true family environment where siblings and cousins are able to be together, and tuakana-teina relationships are fostered. This is where younger children learn from older role-models, and they in turn learn valuable life skills such as caring for others, and taking leadership roles within the centre.



## Mealtimes

We provide a nutritious range of food for morning and afternoon teas, and children bring their own food from home for lunch time. All food needs to meet the Ministry of Health's regulations as stated in their publication "Reducing food-related choking for babies and young children at early learning services", and this will be provided to you on enrolment.

## Under 2 Years

Your little one will be loved and cared for by gentle and respectful teachers with fantastic ratios, in a calm, home-like environment.

You'll have a key teacher who will work with our other teachers to take you through your settling in process. They will build trusting relationships with your child, through consistent and meaningful interactions, so that they feel safe and happy with us.

We know it's a big deal to entrust the care of your child with us, so your teacher will also support you to be confident that your little one will be OK!

We'll talk with you regularly about routines and rituals that you have at home, and reflect these as much as possible here, to ensure consistency and predictability.

The Under 2s room will be their base for meal times and activities, and we have a dedicated sleep room to ensure they have a peaceful sleep time.



## 2 to 5 Years

Your preschooler will have an exciting program of fun activities at Fame, and enjoy an ideal balance between self-directed play, and learning time routines. They'll be cared for by experienced and loving teachers, who will ensure they are engaged, learning and having lots of fun during each day with us.

At certain times of the day, they will join others of a similar age for fun group times. Our teachers take this opportunity to extend their learning and develop their confidence.

Initially this will include songs, stories, rhymes and games that encourage children to join in and understand more about who they are and how they fit into the world around them.

As they grow, we will identify their interests, and develop projects with them to offer opportunities for research and to explore new ideas that excite them.

We all learn best when we are interested in something, and we find this project work to be a very effective way to incorporate all of the early literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills that they will need when they transition to school.

We also have a strong focus on dispositions for learning such as kindness, creativity, perseverance, responsibility, courage and many more – these are so important in developing your child into a life-long-learner and a wonderful person.

## Creative Arts

Our special focus on the arts will give your child many opportunities to have fun, and learn to express themselves creatively.

Each morning during term time our teachers lead groups for music, movement and drama sessions to develop their co-ordination, rhythm, musicality and confidence.

Music involves practically every part of a child's brain and creates far-reaching benefits in all areas of their cognitive development. We believe that our strong focus in this area is a key advantage children have at Fame.

Visual arts are also explored in depth through a huge range of mediums and provocations that will inspire your child to create.

At the end of each term, we host an arts celebration for our community which is alternately a performance, or an exhibition where we share some of the exciting singing, dancing and visual arts we've been working on together.





## Fees & Hours

We are open to care for children from **7.45am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday**, all year except for statutory holidays, and around 2 weeks over the Christmas period.

All children from 3-6yrs qualify for the **20hrs ECE funding** which reduces our fees as below.

Some families will be eligible for an income-tested **WINZ Subsidy**, and we are happy to help you with an application for this funding.

We are not able to claim both the ECE hours and WINZ subsidy for the same hours.

<b>Full Fees 0-6yrs</b> Including those on WINZ subsidy	School Day (6.5hrs) 9am to 3.30pm	Full Day (8.25hrs) 7.45am to 4.00pm	Long Day (9.25hrs) 7.45am to 5.00pm
5 days	\$200	\$262	\$300
4 days	\$173	\$225	\$255
3 days	\$136	\$177	\$200
2 days	\$97	\$126	\$141

<b>3 to 6 years</b> If claiming 20 hrs ECE subsidy	School Day 9am to 3.30pm	Full Day 7.45am to 4.00pm	Long Day (9.25hrs) 7.45am to 5.00pm
5 days	\$143	\$180	\$218
4 days	\$108	\$147	\$177
3 days	\$67	\$114	\$136
2 days	\$45	\$76	\$91



## Enrolment and Settling In

Initially your enquiry will join our waiting list until a space is available. The timeframe for this is hard to predict, but we'll email monthly to ensure we have up to date information.

When we have a space available for you, we'll agree together on a timetable, and then send you a link to complete the remaining details online.

We will need physical signatures on the form, so we can arrange that when we see you in person.

We will also need the following:

- Child's ID – birth certificate or passport
- Immunisation information
- Proof of your address

The next step is to start some short visits to give you and your child some time to get to know our centre and build trust and confidence with our team.

Every child is different, but settling in usually takes around 2 weeks of short sessions. We start with an hour where you can stay with us, the next visit you can pop out for a short time, and we'll gradually extend the time each visit until you are happy to start the full timetable.

This is a flexible process, and we'll work on an individual plan that suits your needs and availability, as well as your child's age and confidence.

## We're Here for Your Family

We would love to care for your little one!

We truly want the best for you and your child at Fame, and our entire team is devoted and passionate about creating a loving and nurturing environment that will equip them well, so we can send them off into the world with confidence.

We look forward to welcoming you into our Fame Family, if you haven't already, please join our waiting list by sending us an enquiry on our website today!

