

Whānau say

We involve our tamariki in our whānau kōrero. It's always good to hear their ideas and thoughts.

A while back we started thinking about kura for our tamaiti. We recently visited kura in our area with the kōhanga. We've now made an appointment to enrol our tamaiti, so the kura can get ready for us.

Our tamariki are really interested in real life events. Pregnancy, birth, illness and death have all come into our kōrero lately. When their koro's dog died they were involved in the burial. Their cousins came over and we had karakia. They could see family pets are loved too.

Sometimes the stories they tell us seem a bit over the top. Their imagination is so active, and they stretch their stories. We can't always be sure how much is tika and how much is imagination. To us the most important thing is that whatever they say won't hurt anyone.



We continue to check how much time we all spend on our devices. We also monitor that what they're watching is okay for them.

We try to find phone or computer apps that encourage them to interact or be creative, rather than just watching the screen all the time.

We let our tamaiti take photos or videos with our phones sometimes. We look at them together again later to make our own stories to share with whānau. Some apps even help us make stories using our photos and voices.

We stick to our routines as much as we can and if we need to make changes we talk with them so they know what's happening too. Being prepared can help them deal with changes more easily.

Our tamaiti is asking "Why?" to many of our instructions – shoes off, don't sit on the table, no running around when koro is doing a whaikōrero! We try to answer all the why-questions clearly.

