



GCK "Fab 4s"

Welcome to our 4 year old Programme.

The GCK Fab 4's programme runs every day of the week from 12:45 pm to 2:45 pm. It is open to any four year old child, and they may have any number of sessions. Children attending the morning session may stay on for the full day when they turn 4. We have 2 trained and registered teacher on each afternoon and a maximum of 15 children in each session. Priority for spaces will be given to children on the GCK morning roll.

The programme incorporates literacy, numeracy skills, some art work and a major focus on science/technology activities. It is designed to extend the interests and abilities of the children attending, to provide them with an intellectual challenge, and to lay a foundation of skills that will be valuable for school. Local New Entrant teachers have been consulted, and their ideas incorporated into the programme.

The programme is also meant to be fun—this is Kindergarten, not yet school! Children are encouraged to experiment and explore, and their feedback is always very positive. They certainly enjoy being a "Fab 4"!

Staff.

The "Fab 4s" is taught by two members of GCK staff. All of our teachers hold Early Childhood Education qualifications, and all hold Teacher Registration.

Session Times and Fees.

The four year old programme runs every afternoon from **12:45 pm** to **2.45 pm**. Attesting parents of 4 year olds are offered 20 hours under the Government ECE programme. Fees for not attesting have been set at **\$4.60 an hour**. Normal kindy fees of **\$1.50** per hour are payable irrespective of attestation. There are no charges for public holidays, but charges will apply for an enrolled child who is absent.

What ERO says about us.

The Education Review Office (ERO) visited GCK in November 2012. They said...

The Kindergarten is a calm, welcoming environment for children. Teachers have established caring and respectful relationships with children and their families. These relationships foster a sense of wellbeing and belonging. Children are happy and enthusiastically engage in the programme. They confidently make choices about activities and resources and often work with peers in groups. Teachers work closely alongside children, fostering their initiatives with open questions and prompts to explore equipment.

Teachers are responsive to children's individual needs and initiatives and encourage them to build on their interests over time."

Practical Issues.

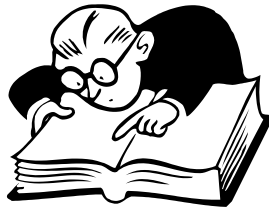
As with morning Kindergarten, we ask that you provide your child with a named set of spare clothing in case of disaster of one kind or another!

Food should not be sent—we will not be setting time aside for afternoon tea, although drinking water will be available for those who need it.

The Routines.

On arrival, children will be asked to find their name and move to the number of syllables in their name. They will then be free to choose their own activity from those offered. After a while the focus will turn to activities based on literacy and numeracy. They will be encouraged to take part, and to finish what they start. Following some further free play, the activities will focus on science or art. There is also some time outdoors to let off steam and develop some specific motor skills.

As their work will be kept to revisit during a later session, please do not expect to have items to take home each week. You are free to see it, but it will not go home until a project is complete.



Question and Answer Session.

Can I visit during the session?

Certainly. We operate an "open door" policy and any parent may visit unless there are legal reasons why they may not.

Can any child attend?

So long as they are four years old or over and properly enrolled. They do not have to be on the morning roll as well, although as the session is limited to 10 children, priority will be given to those who are.

Does my child need to bring anything?

Only a named set of spare clothes in case of mud or other accidents. Afternoon tea will not be part of the timetable, but water and crackers will be available for those who need them.

Do I need to tell you if my child cannot come one week?

We would certainly appreciate it.

**Glendowie Christian Kindergarten
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**www.gck.org.nz
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"Providing quality care and education within a context of Christian principles"



Fab4s - Parent testimonials

Benjamin loved going to Fab 4's at GCK. He enjoyed the small groups and one on one help from the teacher. He often came home and told me all the exciting things they had learnt and the work he brought home was very impressive.

I feel Fab 4's was an excellent way to prepare him for school. It gave him the confidence and tools to help him with his transition into Primary School.

- Leona Searle, Ben's Mum

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"What I really like about Fab4s and the teachers is they make the children's interests deeper. Hugo has really enjoyed the presentation of Solar system (Matariki), the teachers quickly picked his interests up and gave him opportunity to speak up in the group of children at fab4.

Hugo usually needs time to warm up speaking up (play) in the big group but the teachers know him since he was 3 year old so the timing was perfect to encourage his effort.

The teacher encourage his interests and his knowledge extended such as making all planets out of paper, drawing, writing (planets name), singing and going on trips."

- Satoko

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"All our three boys enjoyed the GCK Fab 4s programme tremendously. The small group work with high teacher-student ratio was exactly what they needed to get them ready for school. The staff set up wonderful activities to engage and extend Alex, Marcus and Lucas. It showed that fine motor skills, listening, problem solving, managing self and the like were all covered and deepened. Thank you so much."

- Sabine, mum of Alex, Marcus and Lucas

"Noah loved fab four's and he really enjoyed becoming one of the big kids at kindy. Fab four's definitely helped him prepare for school in terms of developing his concentration and learning to sit still for longer periods. He loved the indepth group work and activities and learnt to share ideas confidently in a group situation.

We think fab four's was especially beneficial for a boy in preparation for school, and were so pleased that GCK offers this to 4 year olds."

- Megan

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"GCK is the most nurturing kindergarten a parent could want for their child. I have the utmost faith in each and every one of the teachers, who look after and connect with each child as if they were their own. My son Presley started with GCK when he was just 2 and 1/2 and has just finished the Fab4 programme as he now starts school; every kindy day was greeted with exuberance and he has been allowed to learn and to grow within his own potential. I would wholeheartedly recommend GCK to other parents, not only for the warm and welcoming environment but also the facilities on offer and the sense of belonging it provides to the children and the parents; it's a home away from home."

- Ange.