

Referral

Referrals to the groups are made by your CDS therapist(s) (OT/PT/SLT). There are discussed once a term.

The Tuesday group runs from 10am during school terms. Groups usually follow the school terms.

The speech language therapist(s) running the group will confirm the start dates and times.



For more information contact:

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Music Groups



Ratoka Whakawhanake
Tamariki Child Development
Service
Vera Hayward Centre

Background

The Vera Hayward Centre Music Groups began in 2005 and are based on the work of Julie Wylie, a music specialist at the Champion Centre.

The Tuesday Music Group is held during school terms.

Each group has a speech language therapist and an occupational therapist or physiotherapist.

A prerequisite to this group is that tamariki are generally walking and are able to imitate movements. All songs involve some form of physical movement (either large or small). Signing and visual supports are utilised within this group.

A second group is sometimes held for tamariki who are non-mobile. These tamariki may need more assistance with movements. This group utilises similar songs with modifications to movements. Signing, visual supports, low-tech communication devices and aided language are utilised within this group.

Aims

Concept development: e.g. with use of objects which help tamariki visualise concepts such as 'up' and 'down'.

Vocabulary: tamariki are exposed to a set vocabulary weekly over the course of the group. As with concept development, objects help develop meaning.

Interacting with others: tamariki have the opportunity to interact with peers in a small group situation.

Networking: provides an opportunity to meet other whānau and share knowledge and their experiences.

Listening and concentration: tamariki use a variety of senses, e.g. looking and listening to help develop these skills.

Participation and enjoyment of activities: for development to happen learning opportunities need to be fun!

Turn taking: within the group tamariki learn to wait and take turns choosing objects.

Whānau involvement: whānau are encouraged to take part at whichever level they feel comfortable, and also model for their tamaiti.

Provide ideas for whānau: the activities within the group provide ideas for whānau about how they can work with their tamaiti at home.

Following routines and building familiarity with a set of songs: there is a set routine within the group which the tamariki learn.

Motor planning and sequencing: tamariki follow movements within the group, e.g. rolling ribbons, jumping, crouching.

Playing the same songs weekly and attending as much as possible provided tamariki the opportunity to practise these movements.

Body awareness: tamariki develop an understanding of where different parts of their body are located.