**Transition to school statement**

At Little Pioneers we are proud and stand strong of what we provide for our children. We are a transition to school centre in the sense that we aim to provide a quality programme that supports each individual child and their family towards their journey to school.

We are focused on teaching children strong foundations to go to school and feel ‘suitable’ to learn. We focus on relationships from early on with forming connections between child, family and their local school. We go the extra mile to try and take all our children to their school months before they begin for regular visits to form this relationship. The more their new teacher can learn about them and they can learn about their school the easier their transition will be in to school.

We work hard to plan a programme that caters for our individual children and the different needs, strengths, dispositions, learning styles, characters and abilities as no child is the same as the next. We understand the skills that children need to be equipped with to succeed at school and cater to this with realistic expectations of our children. We learn this information from our strong relationships with local schools and what they want to see.

Our teaching team understand the primary curriculum so we are confident to best use our own curriculum Te Whariki to carry on through to the primary years. We are comfortable to say what you can expect when your child goes to school, its daunting for parents as well as children at times.

Our programme caters for literacy, physical development, numeracy, social, wellbeing and independence to be nurtured and developed. We provide opportunities for children to enquire and investigate and develop their own working theories about the world. We will always believe play is the highest form of research and this is very obvious in our children’s day.

Our goal is to make it fun to learn and we learn to have fun!

So all our children are excited to learn and by the time they head to school they have a thirst for learning and are ready to take on the new concepts of school.