

7. BROOKLANDS PLAYCENTRE

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Bruce Meder, DDI 941-5408
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The purpose of this report is to seek funds to enable the Brooklands Playcentre to add a play kitchen to their Centre.

POLICIES AFFECTED

The major policy that this project contributes to is the Early Childhood Education Policy, which states "The Christchurch City Council is committed to proactively promoting equitable access for all children and their families/whanau to quality early childhood education in Christchurch." It also contributes towards the Social Wellbeing Policy, especially the outcome of "people participat(ing) in community life and hav(ing) a sense of belonging and identity".

THE PLAYCENTRE

Although the Playcentre is located within Brooklands it is accessed by families from Spencerville and Kainga, although the majority are from within Brooklands. There are approximately 25 children who attend. Parents pay \$1.00 per session.

PLAY KITCHEN

The Playcentre Committee have determined that a play kitchen would be of benefit in the development of the children's self-identity. Through the use of dramatic or fantasy play, children learn to create new experiences and situations. They learn attitudes by observing, assessing and reflecting the attitudes of those around them, and they practice these constantly. Through the use of play preparation of food and cooking, weighing and measuring children develop eye, hand, arm and body co-ordination. It also aids in the forming of socialisation skills.

A further benefit to the Centre itself is that it provides space for storage of equipment and will keep the Centre tidier.

The Playcentre has received quotes for the supply of this equipment, which includes replica fridge/freezer, oven and sink units as well as utensils and play food as follows:

Furniture	1,451.35
Utensils, etc	250.60
Total	\$1,691.95

FUNDING

Prior to Christmas, the Playcentre ran a raffle to help fundraise for this project, which raised approximately \$200.00.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Brooklands Playcentre be allocated \$1,500 from 2003/04 Discretionary Funds towards the purchase of a play kitchen.

Chairperson's

Recommendation:

1. That the request be declined.
2. That the Brooklands Playcentre apply for funding from Pub charities. If that option is unsuccessful, that the Playcentre be advised to reapply to the Board.