



Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education)



Apply now for 2026 intakes

The **Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education)**, is an intensive, future-focused pathway for those who already hold a degree. Developed with sector leaders and grounded in research-informed practice, this programme is distinguished by its integration of contemporary pedagogy, neuroscience and the science of learning, movement as a foundation for learning, and wrap-around learner support. With a strong focus on intentional teaching and extended professional experience.

Programme highlights:

- A sector-led curriculum developed in partnership with employers, cultural leaders, and professional bodies.
- Apply Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Te Whāriki, and diverse cultural perspectives to teaching practice.
- Explore contemporary pedagogies and research in neuroscience, the science of learning, and movement, recognising that moving is learning and central to children's cognitive, social, and emotional growth.
- Apply practical, authentic assessment tasks that connect directly to teaching practice.
- Develop intentional teaching and collaborative leadership skills.
- Be supported by a registered Teacher Mentor, experienced Cavalli Lecturers, and wraparound pastoral care.
- Partnership with Moving Smart curriculum for learners.

Career opportunities:

- Apply for a provisional practising certificate with the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Work as a qualified early childhood teacher in centres across New Zealand.
- Pathway to further learning, leadership roles, and ongoing professional growth.

NZQA approved **150 credits**
1 year duration **Centre-based learning**
Multiple intakes



Entry requirements:

- Applicants must have completed a New Zealand Diploma of Teaching (Primary) level 7, **OR** a Bachelor's degree at level 7 (360 credits), **OR** a Bachelor's degree with honours at level 8 (480 credits), **OR** a Master's degree at level 9 (240 credits), **OR** an equivalent overseas qualification as assessed.
- Applicants must meet the requirements of the Children's Act 2014 and its subsequent amendments.
- Applicants with English as a second language must provide evidence of meeting English language requirements according to Rule 22 of the NZQA Programme Approval and Accreditation Rules 2025 for a level 7 programme.

Professional ECE classroom experience:

- Weekly practice in an approved early childhood centre (minimum 18 hours per week).
- Two 40-day block placements across the programme.
- Additional classroom hours per week to support international students.

This programme is pending approval from the New Zealand Qualifications Authority and the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand

Our supporters include:



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