

 <p>TRUST WAIKATO TE PUNA O WAIKATO</p>	<h1>Early Childhood Education</h1> <h2>Guidelines for Assessing Funding Applications</h2>
<p>Date</p>	<p>16 February 2009</p>

1.0 Background

Trust Waikato recently approved new guidelines for assessing donation applications from the early childhood education (ECE) sector to ensure that its donations to ECE's reach the groups with the most significant needs and are aligned with the Trust priorities¹ overall.

2.0 How do we assess ECE applications?

2.1 Trust Waikato will assess applications from all not-for-profit ECE's on a case-by-case basis.

2.2 Priority will be given to ECE's:

- in rural locations
- in areas of deprivation (as identified in the Trust 2008 Donation Policy)
- who offer culturally specific services – Kohanga Reo, Pasifika
- who are at a disadvantage with the introduction of the 20 free hours scheme, for example, Playcentres.

2.3 The Trust is already clear about the way it funds public sector organisations. This extract is taken from the 2008 Donation Policy:

The Trust does fund projects and organisations in partnership with the government. However, the Trust does not wish to take over areas that are clearly the responsibility of central or local government. The following question will be considered when deliberating on such applications:

Would a reasonable person expect the government to fund this project?

For the ECE sector, this policy means the Trust **does not** fund core educational functions, such as books, computers, basic educational resources, teachers' salaries and operational expenses.

¹ The Trust's funding priorities are contained in the Trust Waikato 2008-2010 Strategic Plan and 2009 Donation Policy, both available from the web site www.trustwaikato.co.nz, or by calling 0800 436 628

2.4 Assessment of applications will take in to consideration the Trust ECE priority areas as outlined in point 2 above. The following projects will be considered for funding:

- Sunshades
- Playgrounds
- Outdoor sports or play equipment
- Heating
- Necessary building alterations
- Staff development

While this list is specific, it is not exhaustive; each application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis with 'need' of the community being the paramount criteria.

3.0 Further Information

A reminder that, from 2009, the Trust has reduced its donation budget² as a result of poorer than expected returns on its investments. The Trust will be tightening up on its priorities and focusing on areas and groups of people in our region with the greatest need. We will continue to work hard to ensure that our donations meet as many needs as possible, and we welcome enquiries.

As an early childhood education provider, if you would like to discuss your (possible) funding application to Trust Waikato, please contact one of our Donations Advisors:



Rongo Kirkwood
Pouhere Putea
Donation Advisor

Phone 0 7 838 2660 or 0800 436 628



Sandra Larsen
Donation Advisor

Phone 0 7 838 2660 or 0800 436 628

² See Puawai, Issue 7, January 2009 – available from our website www.trustwaikato.co.nz