

Educator Profile:

Wendi Turner,
Nelson



Hi, my name is Wendi and I live at the base of the Grampians near the hospital, with a revolving household of family members. Full time is my husband Kevin and my son, part time are my sons three children (5yrs, 3yrs and 1yr), my other grandson (10yrs) and my brother whom jumps back and forth between New Zealand and Australia. We also have an elderly Bichon dog, tropical fish and some pet frogs, and a couple of daughters, partners and other children that spend time here.

I have worked in Home Based Care and Education for the last 20+ years, after working in kindergartens in Nelson and Wellington. I have a special interest in special needs children after raising two in our family and feel it is important to advocate and be a voice for the children who slip through the cracks. I obviously have a passion for young children, but also baking, music and arts and crafts. I'm obviously no spring chicken with the numbers of grandchildren that keep appearing, but while age takes away some things, it provides others. I have patience, tolerance and knowledge, experience and acceptance, and plenty of love to share.

My personal philosophy is that all children are valuable, regardless of race, ability or background. They all deserve the opportunity to be children free from fear, harm or pressure to fit into someone's box. I believe children thrive when they are supported to be themselves, to be recognised as individuals, nurtured, guided and encouraged to reach for the stars and fly as high as they can. Not all people have equal interests or abilities, but this should be embraced as a great thing, not forced into conforming into a preconceived expectation or timeline. Mud pies are important too.

It is true it takes a village to raise a child, and I try hard to work alongside whanau supporting the best outcome for the child. Village Kids is a great local Home Based Care provider, with great staff and management. They are small enough to get to know you and your children as individuals, and to work with us, the carers, in building resilient, healthy children, with a good healthy understanding of their place in the world, their past, their future and their goals moving forward. Village Kids provide regular group outings exploring our community and supporting our growth and learning in larger group activities, as well as supporting our discovery of ourselves and our world. Please give me a call on 027 419 5774

Wendi