Orchard Buds Early Learning Centre
706 Albert Street, Parkvale, Hastings
hello@orchardbuds.co.nz

Qualified Teacher | Full-Time

About Orchard Buds

Orchard Buds is a brand-new, locally owned early learning centre which officially opened 9 November 2026 in Parkvale, Hastings. Licensed for 50 tamariki (including up to 20 under-twos), we provide quality care and education for children aged 0–6 years across three purpose-designed rooms — Seedlings, Sprouts, and Saplings.

Our philosophy is grounded in play-based, child-led learning aligned with Te Whāriki. We combine nurturing care with intentional teaching, a strong connection to the natural environment, and genuine partnership with whānau. Our outdoor space gives tamariki rich, hands-on opportunities to explore, take considered risks, and develop a sense of kaitiakitanga.

The Opportunity

We're looking for a qualified ECE teacher who is passionate about making a difference in the lives of young tamariki. Whether you're drawn to working with toddlers, or preschoolers, this position initially covers both age groups as we are operating combined indoor space with the opportunity to pick between the two rooms as our role grows and we separate the two groups.

You'll work closely with your Head Teacher and teaching team to deliver a warm, responsive programme that supports each child's individual learning journey.

What You'll Be Doing

- Building genuine, caring relationships with tamariki that foster a strong sense of belonging and security
- Planning and implementing a learner-centred programme guided by Te Whāriki, following children's interests and extending their learning through meaningful play
- Observing, documenting, and assessing children's learning and sharing these insights with whānau through Storypark learning platform
- Creating engaging indoor and outdoor learning environments that encourage exploration, creativity, and age-appropriate risk-taking
- Working collaboratively with your teaching team, contributing ideas, and supporting one another
- Developing meaningful partnerships with whānau, ensuring they feel welcome, informed, and connected to their child's experience at the centre

- Supporting children's transitions between rooms and, for older tamariki, building school-readiness skills in a natural and supportive way
- Upholding health, safety, and licensing standards at all times
- Contributing to a bicultural curriculum that reflects and celebrates the diverse cultures within our centre community

About You

- A qualified and registered ECE teacher (full practising certificate with the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand)
- A genuine passion for play-based, child-led learning and a sound understanding of Te Whāriki
- Warm, patient, and responsive in your interactions with tamariki
- A team player who thrives in a collaborative environment
- An authentic commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and culturally responsive practice
- Strong communication skills and a desire to build positive relationships with whānau
- Reliable, professional, and committed to continuous learning and growth
- Experience with or enthusiasm for nature-based learning and outdoor play is a bonus
- Newly qualified teachers who are eager to learn and grow are welcome to apply

What We Offer

- The chance to be part of a brand-new centre from the very beginning
- A supportive, locally owned environment where you are valued as a professional
- Beautiful, purpose-built spaces designed to inspire both tamariki and kaiako
- A genuine focus on staff wellbeing and professional development

How to Apply

Send your cover letter and CV to hello@orchardbuds.co.nz with the subject line "Qualified Teacher Application."

Let us know which age group you're most passionate about working with and what draws you to Orchard Buds.