Susan

Waikato

Gingerbread Cottage
Home Based Childcare



Experience

I am a married mum of 2 aged 25 years and 22 years old. I have been a Home Based Educator for 21 years. I am a qualified Nanny and hold the NZ Certificate in ECE - Level 4. Our home is a smoke/vape free environment for children.

Home Environment

My Home Based environment is warm, kind, caring and inviting. I offer routine based programme as predictability leads to stability. Our play led learning approach means children get to choose their activities and enjoy their time. I have lots of resources to match most interests of children. I offer blocks, books puzzles animals, sensory toys vehicles plus more. I have a range of toys for outside alongside swings waterway etc and open space to run move jump. The physical space is clean and has an inviting atmosphere.

Childcare Philosophy

I believe children learn by playing guided by the Educator like myself. I am a safety first person and thrive on routine and believe children do as well. I use communication well and communicate daily with my families to help their child to be the best they can be surrounded by a group of people like minded friends.

Community Involvement

Operating Hours

Monday — 7.00am – 5.30pm
Tuesday — 7.00am – 5.30pm
Wednesday — 7.00am – 5.00pm
Thursday — 7.00am – 5.30pm
Friday — 7.00am – 5.30pm

Contact us
Enquire Online

Call us
0508 338 2273

I attend a mainly music group weekly I attend a gym group run by Edubase weekly I visit a library fortnightly. I use the community play grounds and parks regularly for social interaction and physical endurance.

Testimonials

> Susan has been an incredibly important person in both my son’s life and mine. As a solo parent working full time, Susan cared for my son from five months old through to five years old, as well as providing before and after-school care when required. During this time, Susan played a significant role in his early development, teaching him everything from counting and writing to toilet training, walking and essential life skills. Susan became much more than a caregiver, she became part of our family. My son is now nine years old and continues to have a strong and loving relationship with Susan and her whānau. Susan is a caring, trustworthy and thoughtful person with a heart of gold, and I would have no hesitation in recommending her to any family seeking someone they can trust to care for and nurture their children.
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> *— Child: Manuel Hikairo - April2018 to January2023*

> Susan has been a vital part of our family’s journey for many years. She did a superb job caring for my nephew for 5 years so when I discovered I was pregnant with my son Devin, I contacted her to see if she had room for him when he was ready. For the last 3 years she’s helped our family in Devin’s development. Walking, talking, and encouraging his quirky personality. In the last year we discovered Devin was struggling with Autism and GDD, and Susan was crucial in helping us

navigate the pathways we needed to ensure he had access to the best possible learning outcomes. Her communication is always very respectful and transparent on how we can work together to make sure my son has all his needs and learning objectives met. She indicates any concerns promptly and gives us excellent highlights about the great days. She has helped him develop into such a happy and outgoing boy despite his challenges, with her warmth and patience. Our overall experience has been a 10/10, and we look forward to our next 2 years with Susan.

— Demi-Lee Hikairo

So glad we found Susan to be our daughters pre-school educator. Best decision ever, Susan has always genuinely taken the best care and provided quality learning, fun and exciting activities that enabled our daughter to grow with confidence in a safe and nurturing environment.

— Liz Sandoval

I a pleased to write this letter of recommendation and acknowledgement for Susan as a Home Based Educator. Over the past 3 years, my son, Ngakenui has been attending home based with Susan, she has consistently provided a nurturing environment for my son to engage in creativity, art, play, stories etc. This has evolved my child's development and learning capacity. Also, Susan has provided a safe learning space for my child to engage with other children. This consist of taking part in activities that involve music, gym and the library. Myself and my family support Susan as a Home Based Educator and recommend her love for children and work ethic to others who with the

same for their child. My child is due to start school in 2 weeks and he has established a small family with Susan's Home Based space. We thank and appreciate Susan for all she has provided for my child as this has prepared home for the next stage in learning.

We have been a fan of home-based care for many years. My eldest was in home-based care. However, her carer unfortunately stopped offering care. So we had to find an alternative. I am fussy. I interviewed over five carers and Susan was just perfect; from the moment I read her bio I knew she was going to be the one. My darling Becca has club feet and needed a little extra attention and care, and someone that would be confident and capable for fitting her boots every day. We have been with Susan for 18 months and it has been the best decision ever. She is flexible, understanding and really is like family to us; I know she would do anything for both of my children. I know Susan has years of experience and anything your child will ever need from those baby toys through to the obstacle course gymnasium in her backyard for flips and all sorts. Rebecca has grown so much and I know she has so much still to experience. We are so grateful for Susan and Terry (Husband) and any family to secure a space with her is very lucky.

— Fleur B