

Statement of Environmental Effects

Re: 20 Earlwood Ave, Earlwood 2206

We are applying to increase our service approval capacity from 29 places to 39 places.

Currently we can see that the demand for care exceeds our occupancy and we have an extensive waitlist for internal and external families needing immediate care for their children.

Several of our existing families are not able to work all the days that they are required as we do not have the space to accommodate their children and unfortunately, they do not have alternative care arrangements available. We are feeling pressured to allocate positions to these families and we have even asked families that we know have family support, if they would be willing to reduce their days so that we can give these positions to families who are in desperate need of care. We have also had to write letters to employers to confirm that children are on our waitlist for care.

All families that have multiple children want their kids to attend the one service together, however in many instances we are not able to accommodate all siblings at our service. This leaves families looking for alternative care for the siblings or withdrawing all together.

We feel that we have an ideal opportunity with the additional space available to provide a more holistic educational experience for our preschoolers which will give these children a greater advantage in their year before they start school. Currently we are not able to separate our children in our service which can be very difficult and distracting, especially for our preschoolers. We are often not able to challenge our preschoolers to their full potential as their play and experiences are disrupted by younger children in the environment. The resources in our current environment must also be age appropriate for infants, which holds back our preschoolers in their learning.

Your support of our application to increase our capacity will definitely benefit our children, families and our community.