

RĒHIA PĀPAIOEA! PLAY PALMY, PLAY!

Play provides opportunities to improve both individual and community wellbeing. Palmerston North City Council is making a commitment to reflect a playful, fun and flexible approach in all Council public spaces, facilities, events and activities.

NGĀ WHĀINGA O NGĀ KAUPAPAHERE POLICY OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the policy is to provide guidance for Council decision-making to achieve the following objectives:

- Everywhere in Palmerston North has places to play.
- Everyone has opportunities to play.
- Council is a play innovator and uses its expertise to inspire others.
- Play spaces enable mana whenua and the wider Māori community to play and participate in ngā taonga tākaro (traditional games and sports).
- Play spaces enable multi-cultural communities to play and participate in traditional games and recreation activities.
- Play opportunities reflect our diverse community needs, by being inclusive and accessible to all.
- People feel encouraged to use all public spaces and facilities to play, express themselves and be active without fear of judgment.
- Council works across sectors to lead and co-create play opportunities, play spaces and services.

KUPUTAKA DEFINITIONS

- Play - is activity for enjoyment and recreation that is freely chosen for fun, creativity and personal challenge.
- Play space – areas where people can play, including playgrounds, and public spaces.
- Public spaces – An outdoor area that is open to or used by the public that is under the control of the Palmerston North City Council, and including, but not limited to, reserves, parks, riverbanks, roads and verges.
- Play champion – a person who has a passion for play and recognises its contribution to wellbeing.
- Free play – unstructured and spontaneous play that has no cost.
- Pop-up Play – temporary play opportunities.
- Play street – where safe neighbourhood play is enabled by the community through temporary street closures.

ARATOHU GUIDELINES

Council will:

1. Advocate for and actively promote play.
2. Introduce fun, playful and creative elements into public space development at early project planning stages.
3. Support community play champions and initiatives to access external funding for play resources in communities that need more assistance to play and be active.
4. Work with other organisations to achieve better play outcomes.
5. Develop a decision-making process to inform the renewal and development of Council's play spaces.
6. Engage with communities and listen to their ideas for play to inform decision-making.
7. Grow a network of play champions in the community and support them to lead local play opportunities.
8. Support free play in our parks, reserves and public spaces.
9. Provide play spaces that are safe, inclusive, accessible and comply with council's health-related policies.
10. Provide play spaces that are designed to engage people of different ages, stages and needs.
11. Provide play spaces that express and provide for Rangitāne and Māori cultural needs.
12. Encourage pop-up play opportunities.
13. Provide play spaces for a wide range of play types that challenge, allow for discovery, creative expression and movement, and offer an element of surprise.
14. Formalise an approach to play streets that enables and encourages people to play in their streets and neighbourhoods.

TE AROTAKI ME TE AROTURUKI EVALUATION AND MONITORING

1. An implementation plan will be developed.
2. Progress towards implementing the Play Policy will be monitored and reported to Council annually.
3. The policy will be reviewed in 2024.

