



E.I.A.A.N.Z.

**Early Intervention Association of Aotearoa New Zealand
Code of Ethics**

**In Relation to Children
I will:**

- 1** View each child firstly as a child and value their unique abilities.
- 2** Respect that each child is part of a family and whānau and incorporate this understanding in all my interactions with children and their families.
- 3** Acknowledge the major role of play in development and be sensitive to children's rights to play, their needs for stimulation, enjoyment, choice and preference.
- 4** Interact with children in ways which enhance their development and value their achievements.
- 5** Identify, value and build upon the abilities and strengths of each child.
- 6** Promote safe, healthy and stimulating environments that optimise children's well-being and development.
- 7** Work to ensure that children are not discriminated against on the basis of ability, diagnosis, label, gender, religion, language, culture or national origin.
- 8** Acknowledge the cultural and linguistic diversity of children and families and adapt practices accordingly (eg. cultural consultation/interpreters).



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- 9 Engage in practices that are respectful of and ensure the safety (emotional, physical and cultural) of children and in no way degrade, endanger, exploit, intimidate or harm them.
- 10 Act on behalf of children to protect their physical and emotional well-being in accordance with the Vulnerable Children's Act of 2014.
- 11 Uphold appropriate privacy and confidentiality (as per Privacy Act and Health Information Code).
- 12 Acknowledge and encourage the right of Maori children to access kaupapa Maori education and intervention services.
- 13 Uphold the principles of partnership, participation and protection.

**In Relation to Colleagues
I will:**

- 1 Work to communicate effectively, act with integrity and build professional trust, respect and openness.
- 2 Value the personal and professional strengths that my colleagues bring to the team.
- 3 Support Early Interventionists having access to high quality professional support and development.
- 4 Respect the perspectives that different disciplines bring to the understanding of the needs of each child, family/whānau, service and community.



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- 5 Maintain appropriate confidentiality.
- 6 Actively support a working environment that is spiritually, physically, culturally, emotionally and professionally safe.
- 7 Respect the right of tangata whenua to learn, interact and participate in tikanga Maori, attendance at hui Maori, tangihanga.
- 8 Support tangata whenua having access to high quality early intervention/special education training and professional support and development in a kaupapa Maori context.

**In Relation to
Myself as a Professional
I will:**

- 1 Engage in ongoing professional development and keep up-to-date with new developments in early intervention.
- 2 Consistently reflect on my practice and ensure I engage in peer review and appropriate supervision.
- 3 Work within the boundaries of my profession and qualifications.
- 4 Be an advocate for children, early intervention and the services/agencies that support the children and their families and whānau.
- 5 Enhance the community's perception of my profession.



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- 6 Ensure my practices are culturally appropriate and actively promote anti-racist attitudes.
- 7 Demonstrate in my behaviour and language that children are not discriminated against.
- 8 Ensure that I maintain professional standards in all documentation.
- 9 Ensure that I maintain personal integrity, truthfulness and honesty in all professional activities.
- 10 Commit to upholding the standards, values and practices expressed in the Code of Ethics.

**In Relation to
Families/ Whānau/Caregivers
I will:**

- 1 Uphold the principles of partnership, participation and protection.
- 2 Respect each family and whānau's perspective and priorities for their child and make this the starting point for intervention.
- 3 Develop collaborative partnerships with families and whānau respecting carer and family expertise about the children and share my professional knowledge and understanding sensitively/respectfully.
- 4 Work to develop positive relationships with families and whānau that are based on shared decision-making, mutual trust and open



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communication.

- 5 Acknowledge and respect the uniqueness of each family and whānau, and the significance of its culture, customs, language, beliefs and the community context in which it operates.
- 6 Work to ensure that families have access to cultural support services, including interpreters.
- 7 Assist each family and whānau to develop a sense of trust and connection to the services in which their children participate.
- 8 Maintain confidentiality and respect each family and whānau's right to privacy.
- 9 Provide full and accurate information to families and whānau in language that is clear and understood to enable them to make informed decisions.
- 10 Provide information to both parents unless precluded by legal considerations.
- 11 Acknowledge, respect and support families in the context of whānau, hapu and iwi.

**In Relation to
Community and Society
I will:**

- 1 Support the development and implementation of policies and laws that promote the well-being of children and families.



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- 2 Promote co-operation among all agencies and professions working in the best interests of children and families.
- 3 Promote children's best interests through community education and advocacy.
- 4 Support continuous service evaluation and accountability to clients and the community.
- 5 Acknowledge whānau, hapu and iwi as the community context for tangata whenua.
- 6 Recognise the unique nature of whānau hapu and iwi eg. dialectal, tikanga, and kawa differences.

I agree to abide by the Code of Ethics set out by the Early Intervention of Aotearoa New Zealand to the best of my ability

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____