



# Childcare

**BALCLUTHA**



## Enrolment Pack

# VISION & VALUES

## BELIEVE

We are passionate and dedicated to imparting our biblical beliefs and values into the next generation. We believe your child is a miracle; full of innate creativity, dreams, gifting's and potential and it is our privilege to be able to provide love, education and care for your child.

## BELONG

At City Impact Church Childcare, we value family and relationships, providing a place where you and your child can feel welcomed, at home and be part of our family. We believe that you as parents and caregivers know your children the best; therefore, from the very start of your child's journey with us we want to work in partnership with you. With us your children will feel safe, loved and have a sense of belonging.

## BECOME

With a confidence in knowing their place, your child will naturally want to explore, build relationships and develop a love for learning. Our program is specially designed to foster relationships. With an individual teacher caring for your child, extending their interests and meeting their needs. Our desire is to see children become capable learners, who are confident in their identity and grow into their full God-given potential.

## BUILD

Our team have a genuine love for children, share our Christian values and beliefs and reflect the multi-cultural nature of our community. Our teachers are hand-picked with their knowledge and skills, but most of all their character and conduct to be the best examples for your children. With our low ratios, continuity of care and vibrant program, you can rest assured that your child's needs will be met, their days full of learning and fun. Your child's early years with us will lay a strong foundation for your child to build upon in every area in their life.



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# ABOUT OUR CENTRE

Our Balclutha Childcare Centre is part of the City Impact Church building, right in the heart of Balclutha. Our centre is light, bright and spacious and caters for all different ages and stages with areas and activities that have each child in mind.

Our qualified staff ensure all children are in a safe and loving environment for each child to really flourish. Alongside excellent qualifications and expertise, our teachers bring a wholeheartedness in helping raise a new generation of children.

Our tailored curriculum is designed to create learning experiences and opportunities to enhance the development of every child, so they can develop into their unique God-given identities and be bold in who they are.



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# CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

We are a Christian Early Childhood Centre, carrying the heart of City Impact Church's vision—to make a meaningful difference in our community. Committed to providing excellence in care and education, we recognise every child as a unique individual and a capable, competent learner with their own strengths and voice. Our rich, engaging, and fun learning environment encourages children to explore, create, discover, contribute, choose, and develop a lifelong love of learning. Our teaching is intentional, reflective, and responsive to each child's learning journey.

We are passionate about nurturing future generations, sharing the love and truth of Jesus Christ with both children and their families. Our Christian faith is the foundation of our teaching, with God at the centre of all we do. Our core values—Believe, Belong, Become, and Build—serve as key pillars in shaping Biblical belief, values, and character in children.



## **A PLACE OF BELONGING**

Family is important to us, and we strive to create an inclusive and welcoming environment where every child and their family feel at home. We foster a strong sense of belonging by building meaningful, respectful relationships and embracing cultural diversity. We work alongside families, honouring their aspirations for their children while providing a safe, secure, and supportive space.

## **CURRICULUM & LEARNING APPROACH**

Our curriculum integrates Te Whāriki (New Zealand's Early Childhood Curriculum) with our Biblical Curriculum, creating a holistic approach that nurtures each child's identity, language, culture and spiritual development. Through our play-based and structured learning experiences, children develop confidence, independence and a strong foundation for lifelong learning. Through intentional teaching, thoughtful planning, and reflective practice, we ensure learning remains meaningful and responsive to each child and family.

We honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi and uphold the dual heritage of Aotearoa by weaving te reo Māori, tikanga Māori, and bicultural practice into our daily programme in alignment with our Christian beliefs and Biblical Curriculum.

## **OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

At our Balclutha Childcare Centre, relationships are at the heart of everything we do. Guided by manaakitanga (respect), aroha (love), and whanaungatanga (relationships), our passionate teaching team creates a nurturing environment where children feel secure and confident to explore.

Children are encouraged to spend time outdoors, recognising nature as part of God's creation and an important space for learning, discovery, and wellbeing. Our age-appropriate learning areas support independence and curiosity, empowering children to take an active role in their learning. Through intentional and responsive teaching, teachers scaffold and extend interests through meaningful experiences.

Celebrating each child's uniqueness and maintaining strong connections between home and centre, we create an environment where children grow in confidence, resilience, and a love of learning.



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# LOCAL CURRICULUM

At City Impact Church Childcare, we are dedicated to fostering a nurturing, developmentally appropriate environment where children can grow spiritually, emotionally, socially, and cognitively. This commitment is reflected in our Local Curriculum, a unique educational framework that integrates Biblical truth with early learning best practice, tailored to the heart and context of our community.

Central to our philosophy are Biblical beliefs, values, and character principles that deeply resonate with the families and community we serve. Our curriculum is specifically tailored to reflect the cultural, social, and spiritual context of our local setting. It incorporates stories, themes, and teachings that align with what matters most to our families—instilling faith, values, and a strong sense of identity in Christ.

## How Our Learning Priorities Reflect Our Local Curriculum:

These Learning Priorities are not just educational goals—they are deeply rooted in what matters most to our families. They form the foundation of our Local Curriculum and shape the daily life and learning within our centre.

### Guided by Core Values: Believe, Belong, Become, Build

These four pillars shape our program planning and curriculum design, ensuring that all learning experiences reflect the character of Christ and build strong foundations in both faith and education.



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# LEARNING PRIORITIES

## TO KNOW WHO THEY ARE IN GOD

We are committed to helping every child discover and grow into their unique, God-given identity, developing the whole child – mind, body and spirit. The Bible teaches that each person is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14).

Through Bible stories, children are introduced to life lessons that foster cognitive, emotional, and social development. This holistic lens provides a meaningful and faith-aligned foundation for age-appropriate learning.

Through praise and worship, memory verses, and the learning of core values and Biblical truths, children grow in their understanding of God and in their God-given potential. This integration of faith and character development is important to our families, who desire to see their children nurtured in both spiritual maturity and personal growth.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE

Our Biblical Curriculum is rich in core values such as kindness, honesty, respect, love, and forgiveness—all of which align closely with the goals of Te Whāriki. Through engaging Bible stories and scriptures, children learn moral lessons while also developing critical thinking and the ability to make wise, God-honouring choices.

These values are seamlessly woven into our daily routines and interactions, fostering positive behaviour and a love for learning. They support children in building empathy, resilience, and strong interpersonal relationships—equipping them to navigate their emotions and social worlds with confidence and compassion.

Oral language plays a vital role in supporting social and emotional competence, as it helps children express their feelings, solve problems with peers, and understand the perspectives of others through rich conversations, storytelling, and shared experiences.

This supports children to recognise and respond to their emotions, helping them thrive socially and emotionally as they develop self-regulation, resilience, and confidence in who they are.

## SUPPORTING TRANSITIONS

We use our Biblical Curriculum to support transitions by meaningfully blending faith-based values with foundational early learning skills. It fosters a sense of belonging by creating a nurturing, faith-led environment where children feel valued and secure. The curriculum is adaptable to support each child's individual developmental stage and learning style. We help prepare both children and parents for transitions through open communication and gradual steps that guide them from home to the centre, through the centre, and on to school.

Key ways we support transitions:

- Faith-Based Belonging: Children feel secure and valued in a consistent, faith-filled setting.
- Supports Children's Individual Needs  
Our curriculum is adaptable to meet each child's developmental stage and learning style.



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- Prepares Children and Parents for Transitions

Families are supported through open communication and gradual steps that ease transitions from home to centre, through the centre, and then to school.

- Skill Development Through Play and Story: Bible stories, memory verses, and hands-on activities develop language, literacy, early math, and motor skills.
- Holistic Development: Grounding academic learning in faith helps children grow spiritually, socially, and intellectually to support confident, well-rounded transitions.

Children are prepared for each stage of their journey with confidence, capability, and a sense of God's presence with them.

## **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

We believe children flourish when their learning is supported through strong reciprocal relationships—with teachers, families and the wider community. We maintain open communication with families and encourage parent involvement in their children's learning journey.

Our Biblical Curriculum encourages:

- Active family participation in centre life and learning
- Shared traditions, cultural celebrations and collaborative events that strengthen community
- A sense of belonging and service, helping children connect with others and care for the world around them

These partnerships affirm, strengthen and build on the values children learn at home and within the centre, creating consistency and unity across their learning environments.

## **OUTDOOR EXPLORATION**

Coming from a rural, country community, our children thrive in outdoor environments, that reflect their everyday lives and love engaging in nature-based activities. Outdoor learning is a vital part of our program, encouraging children to explore, take risks, and experience God's creation first-hand.

Being outside allows children to get in touch with nature, fostering a deep sense of wonder, responsibility, and appreciation for the world God has made.

Our outdoor programme reflects what matters to our families:

- Many children come from farming, hunting, and sporting backgrounds, so we provide role play and real-life learning opportunities that reflect those experiences—such as using toy vehicles, creating farm settings, or engaging in collaborative team play.
- Children are encouraged to explore in all weather conditions, with appropriate wet weather gear, helping them build resilience and confidence as they engage with the elements.
- A love for animals and rural life is common across our community, and we reflect this in our resources, learning activities, and stories.
- Transport and vehicles are also a strong interest, often influenced by the practical realities of rural life, where families travel for work or access. We provide materials and play setups that support this interest and deepen their understanding of the world around them.



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These experiences support physical development, critical thinking, social interaction and a deeper connection to God's creation and our local environment.

## **CURRICULUM INTEGRATION AND ASSESSMENT**

Our Local Curriculum is flexible and can be adapted to meet the specific needs, culture and traditions of the families we serve, allowing for a personalized and inclusive approach to education.

It also serves as a framework for assessing learning outcomes. It guides us in creating, implementing, and evaluating meaningful, developmentally appropriate experiences for each child.

We align our curriculum with:

- Te Whariki – ensuring national curriculum alignment
- Our Biblical foundations and Learning Priorities – grounding learning in Christian faith
- Ongoing assessment and planning – through learning stories, observations and intentional teaching

Teachers use reflective practice and intentional teaching strategies to integrate these frameworks into children's everyday experiences—making learning holistic, relevant, and rooted in both Christian values and early childhood best practice.

## **CONCLUSION:**

Through these five Learning Priorities, our Local Biblical Curriculum becomes a true reflection of our community—an expression of shared faith, values, and aspirations. It ensures that what we teach not only prepares children for school and life but also nurtures what matters most to our families: a strong foundation in Christ, godly character, and meaningful connection to others.

*“Train up a child in the way they should go; and when they are old, they will not depart from it.”*

*Proverbs 22:6*



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# SAMPLE MENU

## MORNING TEA

Wholegrain cereals with milk and seasonal fruit

## LUNCH

Beef & tomato spaghetti bolognaise

## AFTERNOON TEA

Rice cakes & hummus, seasonal fruit

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## MORNING TEA

Rice cakes with hummus, vegetable batons, seasonal fruit

## LUNCH

Roast chicken, mixed seasonal vegetables, rice and gravy

## AFTERNOON TEA

Cinnabon sheet bake, seasonal fruit

## MORNING TEA

Rice bubbles with milk and yoghurt, seasonal fruit

## LUNCH

Vege Nachos with pita wedges

## AFTERNOON TEA

Corn thins with hummus and seasonal fruit

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## MORNING TEA

Blueberry muffin sheet bake, seasonal fruit

## LUNCH

Korma chicken, seasonal vegetables and rice

## AFTERNOON TEA

Wholegrain marmite & cheese soldiers, seasonal fruit

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What age can my child start?**

We enrol children from three months to six years old at our Childcare Centres. We would encourage you to enrol your child early as spaces may be limited.

## **What are your teacher to child ratios?**

Under 2's have an average teacher to child ratio of 1:4.

Over 2's have an average teacher to child ratio of 1:8.

## **Are your teachers qualified?**

A minimum of 80% of our teachers are qualified.

## **What do I need to bring?**

It's a good idea to supply a couple of changes of clothes based upon the need of your child, a sun hat during the summer months and warm shoes/clothing/jacket during winter months. If your child has an allergy to regular sunblock please provide your preferred brand for your child. If your child requires formula, please supply this.

## **How will my child settle in?**

It is important that both you and your child are feeling settled before they have their first full day at the centre. For this reason we like a minimum of 3 transition visits before your child starts based on their individual needs. Some children settle in immediately, and others take more time, but we make sure to give them the love and support they need to make it as smooth as possible.

## **What food will my child eat?**

Our menus have been specifically designed by our onsite chef to line up with the Healthy Heart guidelines. We provide a balanced diet to meet the nutritional needs of our children.

## **My child has allergies, can you cater for this?**

Yes, we cater for children with allergies. Please talk to your Centre Manager about your child's specific needs.

## **Do the children play outside all year round?**

We believe in outside play all year round and ensure that both children and teachers are dressed appropriately to ensure we can enjoy exploring the changing seasons, while still keeping warm and dry.



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### **What happens if my child gets sick?**

It's important to have a plan for when your child is sick, as you will be asked to keep them away from the centre until they are well again. You will need to call the centre to let them know your child will be absent and let us know if they have an infectious disease e.g. Chicken Pox, conjunctivitis etc. Any absent days are still paid for in full.

*Further information is listed in our Prevention of Illness Policy.*

### **Do you have a school readiness programme?**

We use a play-based curriculum where we focus on developing, extending and enhancing children's interests in a child led environment. We focus on the dispositions that set a child up for lifelong learning e.g. problem solving, perseverance, resilience, curiosity, social and emotional intelligence.

We incorporate early literacy and numeracy and the dispositions into what the child is passionate about in a fun and engaging way. Our rooms offer all the literacy and numeracy tools for children to be successful in their learning as they head into school.

### **What is included in your fees?**

Nappies, sunscreen, nutritional morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and late snack (for Centres opening later than 5pm), and online learning e-portfolio via Storypark.

### **Do you offer the 20 hours free?**

We offer 20 hours subsidised fee's for early childhood education, which are subsidised by the Ministry of Education. Find out more at [www.education.govt.nz](http://www.education.govt.nz)

### **Do you have holidays?**

The centres only close on the statutory holidays, however two weeks' notice is required for all holidays outside of these days. Holiday fees are outlined in our Financial Policy.

### **Do you offer sessions or half days?**

All our centres offer various sessions which is mentioned in the fees section of the Financial Policy.

### **What happens if I drop off early or pick up late?**

A \$10.00 fee may occur for every 10 minutes a child is at the centre outside of their enrolled booking time.

### **Policies**

To view our policies related to enrolment, please refer to our Childcare website to find out more: <https://www.cityimpactchildcare.com/policies/>



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**For more information, or to arrange a centre visit,  
please get in touch.**

## **CONTACT US**

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**[WWW.CITYIMPACTCHURCHCHILDCARE.COM](http://WWW.CITYIMPACTCHURCHCHILDCARE.COM)**

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