



Our Place Educare

Auckland

Our Place Educare is a childcare facility, located within the Botany Town shopping centre, positioned nearby to the existing food court and cinema complex, convenient for parents to drop off their children for several hours of quality early education and creative care, while they are occupied shopping, at the library or at the movies.

The client intention was to create a multicultural environment to stimulate little children up to five years of age to express their individuality and creative ideas through fun learning activities.

The entry facade has been created to evoke feelings of home, with weatherboard planks and canopies, with windows having graphics and colourful trims to introduce the playful character of the Our Place facility. Coming through large red entry

door they are stepping into a special world created just for them.

Most of the Our Place fit-out is designated to open space, which contains a number of separate feature areas to allow different activities (reading, music playing, drama performance, creative art programme etc). Also this zoning allows teachers to work with separate groups of children.

A number of features has been created, with reading alcoves, a 'magic tree' for storytelling, music playing area, main stage for playing and joint performances, where children will feel happy and free to express the best of their potential while learning and playing.

The character of the childcare centre, Our Place, and its little customers, dictated the choice of colours, with the intention to achieve a playful, fresh and stimulating

environment where children will enjoy coming, to learn and to play.

The choice of strong feature colours - **Resene Monza, Resene Trinidad, Resene Supernova, Resene Candy Floss, Resene Citron, Resene Blumine, Resene Arapawa, Resene Pizazz and Resene Pattens Blue** - has been used to provide vibrancy and positive energy feel, balanced with dark blue and white colours, combined with white wash timber stain, which has been used for timber grain-ply panels, for cabinets, shelving and cupboards.

The colours of the feature ceiling elements mimic flooring feature areas allowing definition of each specific activity learning and playing zone.

The project was constructed within a short few weeks with a concerted team effort.







Architectural specifier: MR Design Ltd

Building contractor: Doug Allen, Allen Shopfitting www.allenshopfitting.co.nz

Client: Melanie Elcock, Our Place Educare www.ourplaceeducare.co.nz

Electrical contract: Brian Scurry, Citywide Electrical www.citywideelectrical.co.nz

Graphic designer: Ruby Mok www.rubymok.co.nz

Interior designer: Melanija Radak, MR Design Ltd

Painting contractor: Andrew Craigie, Troake Group Ltd www.troake.co.nz

Photographer: Predrag Radak, MR Design Ltd

