

Breastfeeding Welcome Here

FAQ

1. What is Breastfeeding Welcome Here?

Breastfeeding Welcome Here aims to increase support and advocacy for breastfeeding in the community by providing a tool for sites to assess if they are breastfeeding-friendly.

There are a variety of community settings including cafes, libraries, medical centres and other public places that undertake self-audits to assess whether their environments are breastfeeding friendly.

2. But can't women just breastfeed anywhere?

Yes, a breastfeeding woman is entitled to breastfeed anywhere she is legally allowed to be.

If you are treated unfairly because you are breastfeeding or expressing breast milk, it is a form of sex discrimination under the Human Rights Act. The Human Rights Act says it is illegal for someone to stop you breastfeeding at work, where you are studying, on public transport, in government departments, in public places and in restaurants and shops. The Human Rights Act lists all the areas of public life where your right to breastfeed and express milk is protected.

3. What are the criteria?

- ✓ Staff are supportive and welcoming to breastfeeding mothers.
- ✓ The site is committed to providing a smokefree environment, including outdoors.
- ✓ The site provides a safe environment for toddlers, e.g. electricity sockets covered, play area etc.
- ✓ The environment enables the woman to breastfeed discreetly.
- ✓ Comfortable and appropriate seating is provided, preferably with low arms.
- ✓ Clean
- ✓ Comfortable temperature year round.
- ✓ There is sufficient room for pushchairs. A twin pushchair is able to fit through the front door.
- ✓ Off-floor baby change area provided with hand washing facilities nearby.

4. How can I tell if somewhere is breastfeeding friendly?

Sites which have assessed themselves as being breastfeeding-friendly will display this sign:



5. I have further questions. Who do I contact?

Please contact the Taranaki DHB Public Health Unit on 06 753 7799.