

# BFCI & Treaty of Waitangi Compliance

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*“In its New Zealand Health Strategy, New Zealand Disability Strategy and Maori Health Strategy, the Royal Commission on Social Policy has identified three principles derived from the Treaty and relevant to Maori health. The Principles are Partnership (working with Maori communities at all levels to develop strategies for the community’s health care), Participation (involving Maori at all levels of the planning and delivery of healthcare services, and Protection (working to ensure that Maori have at least the same level of health as non-Maori, and safe guarding Maori cultural concepts, values and practices)” (Medical Council of New Zealand, 2006).*

The Treaty of Waitangi principles of protection, participation and partnership are an integral part of BFHI in Aotearoa New Zealand therefore all community services working towards BFCI accreditation must demonstrate standards of practice that indicate compliance to these principles.



## Kia U Ki Te Pai

*As a mother's milk provides nourishment  
Let us embrace all that is good*

### The Treaty of Waitangi

The New Zealand Breastfeeding Authority is committed to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and will work with the principles through:

**Partnership**, by working with whanau, hapu and iwi to develop appropriate policies and procedures that will improve breastfeeding rates and services in New Zealand

**Participation**, by involving Maori in decision making, planning, development and implementation of the Baby Friendly Community Initiative

**Protection**, by working in a manner that will protect and preserve Maori traditional breastfeeding practices.

NZBA  
PO Box 20454  
Bishopdale  
Christchurch

Tel: (03) 3572072  
Fax: (03) 3572074  
Email: [info@nzba.co.nz](mailto:info@nzba.co.nz)  
[www.babyfriendly.org.nz](http://www.babyfriendly.org.nz)



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## Key Requirements for BFCI & Treaty of Waitangi Compliance

1. The Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi or protection, partnership and participation are included in the Breastfeeding Policy and are clearly identifiable.
2. Education records indicate that **80%** of all **Level 3 workers** have completed Breastfeeding for Maori Women, which incorporates the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
3. Maori representation is recognized on advisory / consultation groups of the service.
4. Relationships exist between the service and relevant community based Maori Health Providers and community organisations, e.g. Maori Womens Welfare League.
5. Processes are in place for Maori to participate in the service review, development and evaluation
6. Whanau are recognised as an integral part of the care of pregnant and breastfeeding mothers within the service.
7. Access to Kaumatua support, a Maori Health worker or other culturally appropriate support is available, if required.
8. The Breastfeeding Policy or an abridged version is available in Maori.
9. A Maori translation of the Policy is on display.
10. As part of the education program, staff are able to report an understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi and the considerations they need to be aware of when caring for Maori women and their whanau.
11. The service fosters an environment that is both culturally appropriate and supportive.