

# Wā tākaro Playtime



## Challenge accepted

This year, three Thorndon School students set out on a mission to play at all 107 play areas across the city.

Over six months, they visited every playground and ranked each one, keeping a keen eye out for features like monkey bars, firefighter poles and flying foxes.

### Here are their top-rated playgrounds in the city:

#### Churchill Park

Situated by the beach in Seatoun, this playground has an epic pirate ship and easy access to the beach.

#### Karori Play Area

This community playground has been refreshed and rocks some cool equipment, like a nest swing.

#### Pirie Street Play Area

Close to the Mount Victoria tunnel, this play area has the perfect balance of green area to play in and a playground for children.

#### Warwick Street

This playground in Wilton has just had a renewal, and has heaps of exciting new additions, including an inclusive swing seat.

#### Grasslees Reserve

There's plenty to do and see in the area, with a playground, gardens, a dog exercise area, electric barbecues and Tawa Pool. There's a fun mouse wheel and spinning seat!

#### Jim Belich Play Area

This Berhampore playground focuses on accessibility which allows for children to move easily around the area. There's a great flying fox and a skate park.

#### Carrara Park

This spot in Newtown has it all: flying foxes, a fenced-off toddler area, a double-bay swing, a ferret climbing structure and monkey bars.

107  
play areas

Pārekareka is a movement to promote and advocate for children's rights to play in Pōneke. Find out more about Pārekareka at [wellington.govt.nz/play](http://wellington.govt.nz/play)

## Make your own play mission

Check out other ways you can play this summer.



### Mission: Imagine

Play can be whatever you want it to be. Conventional rules need not apply! You could:

Visit your best friend in...

Pretend to have wings and fly to...

Impersonate your favourite...

Put on a costume and act like a...

Grab some supplies and create a...

### Mission: Harbour

If you're a fan of water, Pōneke has some great spots. You could:

- Try snorkelling with Mountains to Sea.
- Kayak in a bay.
- Manu (bomb) off a wharf or pier.
- Surf in Lyall Bay.
- Visit the Marine Education Centre in Island Bay and learn about local wildlife.

### Mission: Backyard

Can't go far? Any space can be a play space! You could:

- Find the tallest and smallest place you can play.
- Find the brightest place you can play.
- Find the grassiest place you can play.
- Find the quietest or loudest place you can play.

### Mission: Coast

Pōneke has a beautiful, rugged coastline peppered with sandy and rocky beaches. Nature play galore! You could:

- Learn and practise te reo Māori kupu (words) for the animals and plants you see.
- Build the tallest/shortest/longest sandcastle.
- Make a hut big enough for your whānau to sit in.
- Explore rock pools and search for creatures.

### Mission: Bush

Take a break from the sun and wind and explore the city's beautiful bush. Head out and ask:

- How many trails can you walk?
- How many plants can you identify?
- How many birds can you hear?
- How many insects can you find?

Where are the best scroggin-stopping spots?

