

# Student “Principal for a day” Chloe re-imagines school playground.



Sunnyhills School's new playground ready for play.

**Sunnyhills School reinforces values through their new playground.**

By early 2020 Sunnyhills School's 25+ year old playground was in serious need of replacement. The school was frustrated with the raised bed, messy woodchip ground covering, and safety concerns were becoming apparent.

To demolish and replace the existing Sunnyhills playground would require a significant

investment, so the school set a fundraising goal as one of their 2020 strategic objectives.

Thankfully, they were able to secure a School Improvement Project (SIP's) grant through the Ministry of Education for property upgrades which would cover the cost of redeveloping the playground. This enabled the playground project to quickly get underway, and they could begin the process of bringing onboard a supplier.



Sunnyhills school had an existing relationship with Jenny Mullins from Park Supplies & Playgrounds, and they were also aware that Park Supplies & Playgrounds was a business partner of the Auckland Primary Principals' Association (APPA).

**Sunnyhills School principal Justine Driver was impressed with the APPA support.**



**The fact that Park Supplies & Playgrounds is a business partner to the APPA was a significant factor for us in choosing them as supplier for the playground. It's awesome to be able to support businesses that give back to local associations such as the APPA.**

- Justine Driver, Sunnyhills School



**When it came to the design of the new playground Sunnyhills had a unique idea.** A student named Chloe had recently won a competition to be “Principal for a day” and one of the key tasks for her short tenure was to consult with the wider student body on the elements of the new playground and put together a design. Jenny from Park Supplies & Playgrounds came in to meet with Chloe and show her all the options, together they came up with an ideas board which Chloe could take around all the classrooms.



Chloe meets Jenny Mullins from Park Supplies & Playgrounds.

The kids were extremely excited about the Orex Spinner. They loved the fact that you could get so many kids on it at once and climb up high. They chose elements such as the Mega Cube, Spiders Web and Overhead Ladder as climbing was key and it was very important that they could move from one space to another without touching the ground.



Chloe and Justine take the ideas board to classrooms.

Sunnyhill School's GEMS shining on their Mega Cube.



**Important to Justine was the ability of the playground to re-iterate the Sunnyhills School values or GEMS as they are known which stand for Growth, Empathy, Mana and Self-Belief.**

Jenny took the ideas and came back to Sunnyhills with a draft design. Justine and Chloe made some small change requests and then were presented with a final design plan. The final design included custom printing of the Sunnyhills GEMS along the side of the Mega Cube and a Shine Clubhouse sign which were unique features that really anchored the playground as part of the school.



It was great to be able to get the kids involved in deciding all the elements as they are ultimately the ones who will be using and enjoying it. It was amazing that Jenny came in and met Chloe, she was very flexible with coming in and really listened to the kids' feedback when formulating the design - says Justine Driver.



## Construction of the new playground begins.

The demolition of the existing playground commenced in the latter half of 2020 and the construction of the new playground was then ready to begin.

**Justine was highly complementary of the Park Supplies & Playgrounds staff whilst on-site.**



**The Park Supplies & Playgrounds staff were amazing when on-site! We had no problems at all during the construction process, it all moved very quickly and was completed on schedule. Even when it was pouring with rain they just got on and did it, they were super impressive.**



The structural elements of the playground were completed and then the finishing touches of new rubber matting, and a Nova Shade sail was added. The Playground was officially opened on Wednesday the 9th of December 2020 with a kapa haka performance and was blessed by a pastor to keep all who use the playground safe.



Justine Driver official lyopens Sunnyhill Schools' new playground.

**Sunnyhills School and the students are ecstatic with the finished new playground.** It has fostered imaginative play within the school and the students are constantly creating new games around the different elements and school GEMs.

Student feedback on the new playground is positive and excited,



**Our favourite is the Orex Spinner, it's so cool, so many people can play on it at once.**



**We love to make up names for the different parts of the playground, we call the spinner 'The Witches Hat'.**



The Orex Spinner was a big hit with students.

Justine enjoyed working with Jenny and the Park Supplies & Playgrounds team on the design and build of the new playground, she would happily work with them again and recommend their services to other schools.

**Justine adds,**



**The whole Park Supplies & Playgrounds team were really good to deal with throughout the process, Jenny was a great communicator, quick and responsive. I really feel that we have developed a long-term relationship with them.**





## PLANNING A NEW PLAYGROUND?

If you would like more information or assistance in planning your playground please get in touch with us on

**0800 752 947 | [www.parksupplies.co.nz](http://www.parksupplies.co.nz)**

### JENNY MULLINS

Sales Manager

021 822 676

09 527 4666

[jenny@parksupplies.co.nz](mailto:jenny@parksupplies.co.nz)



### MELISSA COWIE

Playground Consultant

021 502 220

09 527 4666

[melissa@parksupplies.co.nz](mailto:melissa@parksupplies.co.nz)



### NEW ZEALAND MADE

We manufacture our equipment right here in New Zealand. We pride ourselves on designing and manufacturing all our products in-house for NZ conditions.

### FULL PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Park Supplies & Playgrounds will work with you on your project from design through to final installation including surfacing and fencing.

### REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

We offer a comprehensive playground repairs and maintenance service.

### SAFETY

All our play equipment is designed and built in accordance with the **NZS5828:2015 Safety Standard**.

### FUNDING

Park Supplies & Playgrounds can provide advice on how to fundraise for your playground.

**PS** PARK SUPPLIES & PLAYGROUNDS

*Ignite adventure, Inspire imagination, Play!*

