

MOTU-KAUATI-ITI | CORSAIR BAY

DESIGN INTENT

Nestled within the natural amphitheatre, the playground at Corsair Bay / Motu-kauati-iti draws inspiration from the natural environment and the cultural heritage of the area. It celebrates the native wildlife and the stories of the land, creating a space that is both playful and meaningful.

At the heart of the design is the influence of the local iwi Ngāti Wheke. The name “Wheke” is Māori for octopus and symbolizes the interconnectedness of whānau wellbeing, with its many limbs. Throughout the playspace, native birds such as Pīwakawaka, Pūkeko, and Kāhu are featured along nature play trails, encouraging exploration of the landscape.

A central pathway, in red oxide tones, pays homage to the name Motu-kauati-iti—“place of small fire making”—adding a layer of storytelling to the journey through the playground.

The playground caters for toddlers through to high-school aged children providing risk and challenge, progressing up the hill. The playground has also been designed to accommodate crowds at busy weekends.

KEY FEATURES

- 1 Motu-kauati-iti—“place of small fire making” inspired red concrete pathway
- 2 Kaikōmako (*Pennantia corymbosa*) tree grove
- 3 Timber climbing frame with rail slide and overhead monkey bars
- 4 Junior slide (1.2m double slide)
- 5 Tube slide (2.7m high)
- 6 Senior tube slide (4.1m high)
- 7 3 Bay Swings (1 basket, 2 junior and 2 senior) - with accessible route to the swings
- 8 2 X Waka inspired see-saw
- 9 Existing picnic table retained
- 10 Nature play features through planting
- 11 Embankment play (hand holds, ropes etc.)
- 12 Music items and talk tubes
- 13 Signage / interpretation
- 14 Car park upgrades to improve access for pedestrians (2 car parks will be removed and accessible car park added)



MOTU-KAUATI-ITI | CORSAIR BAY



ARTISTS IMPRESSION - FROM SWINGS LOOK-
ING DOWN TOWARDS CAR PARK

MOTU-KAUATI-ITI | CORSAIR BAY



ARTISTS IMPRESSION - FROM THE PLAYGROUND ENTRANCE

MOTU-KAUATI-RAHI | CASS BAY

DESIGN INTENT

Cass Bay was named Motu-kauati-rahi by the Ngāi Tahu chief Te Rakiwhakaputa, meaning “great fire-making tree grove.” This name reflects the cultural significance of the area and its connection to the story of Mahuika, the goddess of fire. According to tradition, Mahuika’s cave is believed to be located within the surrounding landscape of Whakaraupō. The playground design draws inspiration from this heritage, incorporating red, fire-themed elements, cave inspiration and groves of kaikōmako trees—historically used to kindle fire.

Designed to cater to preschool and primary school aged children, the playground places a strong emphasis on accessibility and inclusive play. A key feature is the embankment slide, which utilizes the natural topography to provide elevated play experiences for children of varying physical abilities. Additionally, an accessible wetpour surface connects to a new basket swing and a partially accessible spinner, ensuring that children with diverse needs can engage meaningfully with the space

KEY FEATURES

- 1 Motu-kauati-rahi—“place of small fire making” inspired red concrete pathway
- 2 Waka inspired climbing structure with slides, fire-mans poles and imagination play
- 3 2m high stainless steel slide with sensory panels on deck
- 4 Embankment play (hand holds, nets and ropes etc.)
- 5 Basket swing
- 6 Small spinner relocated from Corsair Bay
- 7 Fire structure inspired with nature play feature
- 8 2 x picnic tables with umbrella for shade
- 9 Nature play elements
- 10 New path connection near toilets
- 11 New footpath connection
- 12 Signage / interpretation



MOTU-KAUATI-RAHI | CASS BAY



ARTISTS IMPRESSION - LOOKING FROM TOP
PATH DOWN TO PLAYGROUND

MOTU-KAUATI-RAHI | CASS BAY



ARTISTS IMPRESSION - FROM MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE PLAYGROUND