

Who Is Your Co-op?

- You have complete freedom to choose who you and your kids spend time with.
- You can find the people who you resonate with/have similar values to you.
- Important to go in with intent or you can end up with quite a bit of discord.
- Before inviting in new members of your co-op, ask yourself the big, sometimes hard questions that we rarely take time to ask ourselves:
 - ❖ Who are you?
 - ❖ What do you want for your children?
 - ❖ What / how do you want your children to learn?
 - ❖ What are your family values? What's important to you?
 - ❖ Who are my people?
 - ❖ What are my "non-negotiables"?
 - ❖ What triggers us that we tend not to look at?
 - ❖ What is really important to me around the philosophy/aims of my child's education?
- Without a general consensus / agreement on a majority of questions, it can really pull a co-op apart in different directions.
- Write down the values/aims for the co-op.
- When sharing these with the community / doing a call out for co-op members, do so unapologetically. "This is who we are. This is what

we're creating." There is no point bringing in a lot of families if they're not the families whose values align with the values of the co-op.

- It's ok to say no to possible new families if it sounds like they're not looking for the same thing as you or you feel friction or discomfort straight away.
- If starting the co-op with a group of friends, have the No BS Conversation, talk about the hard stuff, the things you foresee as being a challenge.
- The human experience is that we will attract people who annoy us and people we annoy. That's normal and ok.
- Every person in the co-op will be a mirror to you and you can learn from them.
- Go in open, understanding and ready to learn from each other, as best we can.

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EMPOWERING HOMELearning FAMILIES