



Taking Children Beyond Expectations!

Policy on: Treaty of Waitangi (Cultural Awareness)

Rationale

The Treaty of Waitangi is a founding document of our nation and is central to the maintenance of a truly bicultural society in New Zealand. The New Zealand Education Act requires us to accept responsibility for attempting to fulfil the intent of the Treaty. We therefore believe that the pupils of Matakana School should be taught to understand and accept the dual cultural heritage of New Zealand as a first step towards understanding and accepting multiculturalism.

Purpose

1. To increase knowledge of the Treaty of Waitangi amongst Board members, staff and students.
2. To continue to make the school a turangawaewae (place to belong) for all students.
3. To increase the knowledge of Maori language, culture and kawa (marae protocol) of all students and staff, and Board members, and to enable our children to understand, respect, and show sensitivity for Tikanga Maori, i.e. values, attitudes and behaviour.
4. To provide opportunities for all students to experience Maori culture and protocol.

This policy is intended to be consistent with the requirements of the Privacy Act 1993

Date Reviewed and Date of Next Review	Date Adopted	Signed – BOT Chair
5/9/2011	26/9/2011	
Sept 2014		

Related Procedures: Cultural Awareness Guidelines

1. Opportunities will be provided for students/teachers to learn Te Reo Maori, inclusive of correct pronunciation. As such, regular use of the Maori language will be part of the curriculum.
2. Classroom programmes will reflect a Maori perspective across the curriculum as appropriate. When possible, Kaumatua or other resource personnel will be invited to the school to support class programmes.
3. To reinforce learning and understanding we will include Maori values, Maori Tikanga (protocol), and Maori learning systems in the school programme, and provide opportunities to visit local marae.
4. The school will support a kapahaka group and encourage student participation
5. Staff professional development will include Te Reo Maori, Tikanga Maori, and cultural sensitivity.
6. Representatives from the Maori community should be consulted on any significant decisions affecting Maori students.
7. Staffing and/or financial provisions will be made to enable the school to meet the requirements of this policy.
8. There will be bi-annual consultation and reporting on the achievement of Maori students with the Maori Community.