

WAITAKERE COLLEGE

SECTION F: LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

Policy: Treaty of Waitangi

DATE OF REVIEW: September 2014

REVIEWERS: Maiti Tahere, Pearl Snowden, Ewa Marshall-Kopua, Shona Smith, Komiti Maori

GOAL:

To state how the school will put into place its commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi as an important part of its determination to significantly improve the educational success of Maori students.

Notes:

The National Education Guidelines require schools to operate consistently with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. The National Administration Guidelines places explicit requirements on schools to plan for improving the achievement of Māori students, to carry out a process of self-review, and to report to the community on this self-review and on Māori students' achievements.

Schools have legal requirements in relation to Māori under the Education Act 1989. The Act requires schools to include in their charter aims that reflect the unique position of Māori culture [s63 (a)]. Furthermore, the views and concerns of Māori communities are to be considered before a school's charter is prepared or amended [s62 (1)].

OBJECTIVES:

To ensure that the school has guidelines for the ways in which the principles of the Treaty will be applied.

The application of the principles in a school setting is outlined in the guidelines below:

1. **Partnership** - *relates to article 1 of the Treaty of Waitangi*
2. **Protection of taonga (Te Reo Me Ona Tikanga)** – *relates to article 2*
3. **Participation – the right of Maori students to participate successfully as Maori in education**
-relates to article 3

GUIDELINES:

1. Partnership

- a) The Board of Trustees recognises the status of Maori as tangata whenua, mana whenua and treaty partners and will apply this in its Charter, policies, management and operational procedures, interaction with the local community and the provision of education.
- b) The Board will ensure there is Maori representation in its membership, by co-option if necessary.
- c) The Board, Principal and Senior Managers will recognise the need for Maori staff, students and whanau to participate actively in decision-making processes, particularly those which will impact directly on Maori.

- d) The Board recognises the importance of establishing a whare ako as a tangible demonstration of its commitment to partnership.

2. Protection of taonga (Te Reo Me Ona Tikanga)

- a) The school recognises the importance of Te Reo Maori as a taonga intrinsically linked with tikanga and that this needs to be affirmed as fundamental to Maori students enjoying success as Maori.
- b) Te Reo Maori will be offered as a subject at all levels.
- c) Te Reo me ona tikanga will be implemented through school events and processes such as welcoming and farewelling manuhiri, opening and closing meetings, recognising Maori responses to life crises and celebrating achievement.
- d) The school will ensure that teachers receive on-going professional learning to enable them to grow in their knowledge and confidence concerning te reo me ono tikanga and their ability to build this into their classroom practice.

3. Participation – the right of Maori students to participate successfully as Maori in education

- a) Board, Principal and Senior Managers will ensure there is a school-wide focus on raising the achievement of Maori students and recognising their cultural identity.
- b) The school will gather and monitor data about Maori student achievement and respond to trends revealed through the data.
- c) The Principal and Senior Managers will ensure the on-going development of classroom and school-wide practices which promote good teaching and culturally responsive pedagogy.
- d) The school will continue to explore new ways of building a partnership with Maori students' whanau, focused on working together to raise Maori student achievement.

Chairperson

Principal

Date