

Section E (NAG 5) SAFE, PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Policy: **Inclusive Education**

Date of Review: **December 2022**

Reviewers: **Michelle Chrustowski (School Nurse), Olivia Fugmann (Associate Principal), Staff Health & Safety Committee**

GOAL

At Waitākere College, we value inclusive education and aim to provide our students with an environment and education that respects their dignity and individuality, and that challenges them to achieve personal standards and reach their full potential.

As required by the Education and Training Act 2020, the school is inclusive of, and caters for, students with differing needs (section 127). In keeping with the national education and learning priorities (section 5), we aim to instill in our students an appreciation of:

- the importance of the inclusion of different groups and persons with different personal characteristics
- diversity, cultural knowledge, identity, and the different official languages
- te Tiriti o Waitangi and te reo Māori and tikanga Māori

Promoting Inclusion

At Waitākere College we:

- model and promote inclusive behaviour, language, concepts, and values at school
- work to confront and eliminate racism, discrimination, and stigma in education
- do not tolerate any bullying or harassment
- acknowledge and celebrate the diversity of our students, staff and avoid cultural bias
- support staff seeking professional development with a focus on inclusion and diversity.

Meeting Diverse Needs

At Waitākere College we:

- provide programmes and services, where possible, to meet the diverse needs of our students
- engage with our students and their families/whanau and endeavor that their voices are heard, and our school environment and programmes reflect their identities and are safe and accessible for them. This may include:
 - ensuring that students and their families are informed about the educational options available to them

- identifying any support required, and any practical concerns
- discussing any concerns about the student's wellbeing and safety
- discussing the student's privacy preferred level of information sharing, and obtaining consent before publishing student information
- using the student's preferred name and pronouns.

Subject to any formal change of name, the student's name on official documents will remain their legal name.

Meeting Learning Needs

At Waitākere College we:

- analyse barriers to learning and achievement
- identify students, and groups of students, who:
 - are not achieving, or are at risk of not achieving
 - have learning support needs (including gifted learners)
- develop strategies to meet the needs of individuals and groups.

Legislation

- Human Rights Act 1993
- Education and Training Act 2020

Resources

- TKI: Inclusive Education guidelines
- Ministry of Education: Success for All – Every School, Every Child and Inclusive practice in secondary schools
- Ministry of Education: Learning Support Action Plan
- Office for Disability Issues: Disability Action Plan 2019–2023 Rainbow Youth
- Human Rights Commission: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Sex Characteristics

Chairperson

Principal

Date