

Governance Policy

Poipoi – Kauawhi – Tāuteute – Pūnaha Auaha – Ārahi
Nurture - Include - Engage - Innovate - Lead

What guides us:

Living Te Tiriti o Waitangi
Ensuring ākonga are at the centre of everything we do
Delivering high-quality, future-focused teaching and learning

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

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| Date of approval | : Oct 2022 |
| Date first created/This version no. | : 2022/1 |
| Next review date (2 year cycle) | : 2 year |
| Owner | : Board of Trustees |
| Who does this policy apply to | : Everyone |

Outcome statement

The establishment of this Policy underpins our ongoing commitment to actively seek to foster Māori development, mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori within all aspects of the school. Te Kura is committed to creating a school environment and culture which:

- Embraces ngā mātāpono o Te Tiriti.
- Recognises the unique status of Māori as Tangata whenua, the indigenous people of Aotearoa, New Zealand.
- Enables ākonga Māori to achieve and succeed as Māori.
- Encourages ākonga non-Māori and kaimahi to engage with and develop an understanding of te ao Māori.

Te Kura is committed to embracing the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all our mahi. We acknowledge Te Tiriti is New Zealand's founding document and the basis of a mutually beneficial relationship between Māori and the Crown. Ākonga Māori are a priority for Te Kura and it is important we can place our mahi in the context of Te Tiriti mātāpono/principles. This will lead us to building an environment at Te Kura for ākonga Māori to achieve success as Māori. We also acknowledge our responsibility to give effect to Te Tiriti under section 127 of the Education and Training Act 2020.

Te Kura has adopted Te Tiriti mātāpono developed by the Waitangi Tribunal.¹ We endorse the Tribunal's view that these mātāpono are useful because they are derived not just from the strict terms of Te Tiriti's two texts but also from the surrounding circumstances in which Te Tiriti agreement was entered into.

Delegations

The operational monitoring and reporting to the Chief Executive.

¹ <https://www.waitangitribunal.govt.nz/treaty-of-waitangi/principles-of-the-treaty/>

Expectations and limitations

Te Kura will:

- Work in **partnership** with iwi, whānau and other Māori stakeholders, in both the way we work within Te Kura and with external partners, and genuinely involve Māori stakeholders in our mahi through consultation and decision-making processes.
- Ensure that **mutual benefit** or mutual advantage for all cultures form a cornerstone of Te Kura mahi.
- Recognise the constitutional status of Māori as the first inhabitants of New Zealand which gives rise to a Māori expectation of **equal treatment**.
- Acknowledge the principle of **reciprocity** stems from the principle of equal treatment of Māori.
- Respect Māori presence and perspective in our mahi to continue to give effect to the guarantee of tino rangatiratanga to Māori and the right to make **autonomous decisions** concerning Māori.
- Enable ākonga Māori to enjoy and achieve education success as Māori and enable them to have **equitable access** to all educational, occupational, and social opportunities via internal policies and plans.
- Ensure a relevant and genuine Māori perspective in our curriculum planning. Te Ara Pounamu, Te Kura's Big Picture approach, focuses on engaging ākonga in learning that is relevant to them within their context and prepares them to be productive, positive, and successful citizens. By putting ākonga at the centre of their learning, and recognising their passions and interests, we will provide educational **options** to our learners that promote Māori knowledge and te ao Māori.
- Contribute to the revitalisation and sustainability of tikanga via the implementation of Te Rautaki Reorua. This will enable us to **redress** historical biases and actively protect te reo Māori me ngā tikanga.
- **Actively protect** Māori knowledge, interests, values, and other tāonga. We will show commitment to knowing, respecting, and valuing where ākonga are, where they come from and building on what they bring with them.

Specifically pursuant to section 127, Te Kura will:

- Have active leadership in providing a Māori perspective in the school by the Board of Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team.
- Work to ensure our plans, policies and local curriculum reflect local tikanga Māori, ngā mana ōrite mo te mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori.
- Take all reasonable steps to make instruction available in tikanga Māori and te reo Māori me ngā tikanga.
- Achieve equitable outcomes for ākonga Māori.

Monitoring

The Board will monitor through reporting, focusing on outcomes for Māori ākonga and kaimahi.

Procedures/Supporting documentation

[Ka Hikitia – Ka Hāpaitia. The Māori education strategy](#)

[Tātaiako – Cultural competencies for teachers of Māori](#)

<https://teachingcouncil.nz/assets/Files/Code-and-Standards/Tataiako-cultural-competencies-for-teachers-of-Maori-learners.pdf>

[The Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities](#)

Legislative compliance

[Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 No 114 \(as at 17 December 2022\), Public Act – New Zealand Legislation](#)

Approved by Nicola Ngarewa, Chairperson, Te Kura Board of Trustees