

At Waituna Creek School we foster children's learning by:

- having a nurturing and positive learning environment
- meeting individual needs and encouraging success for all
- building confident, willing learners who use knowledge to make a difference.

**The New Zealand Curriculum**

The New Zealand Curriculum is the guiding document for teaching and learning in all New Zealand schools. It is the official policy relating to teaching and learning at Waituna Creek School.

The following principles, as detailed in The New Zealand Curriculum, underpin and guide our design, practice and evaluation at every stage.

- **High expectations**
Our curriculum supports and empowers all students to learn and achieve personal excellence, regardless of their individual circumstances.
- **Treaty of Waitangi**
Our curriculum acknowledges the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and the bicultural foundations of Aotearoa New Zealand. All students have the opportunity to acquire knowledge of te reo Māori me ōna tikanga.
- **Cultural diversity**
Our curriculum reflects New Zealand's cultural diversity and values the histories and traditions of all its people.
- **Inclusion**
Our curriculum is non-sexist, non-racist, and non-discriminatory; it ensures that students' identities, languages, abilities, and talents are recognised and affirmed and that their learning needs are addressed.
- **Learning to learn**
Our curriculum encourages all students to reflect on their own learning processes and to learn how to learn.
- **Community engagement**
Our curriculum has meaning for students, connects with their wider lives, and engages the support of their whānau and communities.
- **Coherence**
Our curriculum offers all students a broad education that makes links within and across learning areas, provides for coherent transitions, and opens up pathways to further learning.
- **Future focus**
Our curriculum encourages students to look to the future by exploring significant future-focused issues such as sustainability, citizenship, enterprise, and globalisation.

Every decision we make that relates to the curriculum, and every interaction that takes place, will reflect the values identified as important by our community and in the New Zealand Curriculum. The specific ways in which these values find expression at Waituna Creek School will be guided by the school and its community.

We will promote teaching approaches that are proven to have a positive impact on student learning. Evidence tells us that students learn best when teachers:

- create a supportive learning environment
- encourage reflective thought and action
- enhance the relevance of new learning
- facilitate shared learning
- make connections to prior learning and experience
- provide sufficient opportunities to learn
- inquire into the teaching–learning relationship.

Our **values**, **key competencies**, and **learning areas** will provide the basis for teaching and learning across the school.

Our school curriculum will be dynamic, regularly built-on and reviewed. It will reflect and be responsive to:

- ongoing priorities as outlined in the National Administration Guidelines and our school Charter
- current priorities identified through self review
- classroom evidence-based needs
- the teachable moment.

This policy statement is supported by the following school procedures.

- **NAG 1 curriculum procedures**
 - Student achievement and marking
 - Pathways to school
 - Learning support
 - Gifted and talented students
 - Home learning and homework
 - Recognition of cultural diversity
 - Improving education outcomes for Māori students
 - Māori achievement plan

Also see:

- NAG 5: Education outside the classroom (EOTC)

Last reviewed: March 2017	Next review date: March 2018
Signed Principal:	Signed Board of Trustees:
Date:	Date: