

MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN POLICY

TREATY OF WAITANGI

Rationale

The Treaty of Waitangi is the founding document of this country and articulates the relationship between Māori as Tangata whenua and all other people in New Zealand.

Under the Education Act, 1989, the National Education Guidelines (NEGs) and National Administration Guidelines (NAGs) schools have legal requirements in relation to Māori.

The Education Act, section 61(3)c requires a school's charter to outline its aims in relation to ensuring that all reasonable steps are taken to provide instruction in tikanga Maori (Maori culture) and te reo Maori (the Maori language) for full-time students whose parents ask for it.

The NEGs require each school to operate consistently with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. NEG 9 aims to provide increased participation and success for Māori through advancement of Māori education initiatives, including education in Te Reo Māori, consistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. NEG 10 involves respect for the diverse ethnic and cultural heritage of New Zealand people, with acknowledgment of the unique place of Māori.

The NAGs require each school to consult with whānau regarding goals and targets for improving the achievement of Māori students and to report to the school's community on the achievement of Māori students against these goals and targets.

Purpose

To create a school environment and culture which:

1. Recognises the unique status of Māori as Tangata whenua, the indigenous people of Aotearoa, New Zealand
2. Enables Māori students to achieve as Māori
3. Encourages non-Māori students and teachers to engage with and develop an understanding of Māori language and culture

Guidelines

1. All students and staff at Michael Park School will have the opportunity to engage with, learn about and practise Te reo Māori me ona tikanga (Māori language and culture)
2. Michael Park School will work to:
 - i. Ensure proactive engagement of parents and whānau in making decisions about Māori education goals and targets and in the school self-review, vision, values and curriculum.
 - ii. Encourage Māori participation in school governance

- iii. Provide all trustees and staff the opportunity for professional development in te reo Māori me ona tikanga (Māori language and culture)
 - iv. Provide opportunities for Māori staff to take cultural leadership roles in the school
 - v. Engage and promote positive Māori role models within the school and wider community
 - vi. Provide all students in the school with opportunities to learn and practise te reo Māori me ona tikanga, toi Māori (Māori arts) and with the opportunity to become fluent in te reo Māori
 - vii. Include mātauranga (Māori knowledge and understanding), tikanga and the reo in learning programmes across the curriculum
 - viii. Integrate Māori values in school life on a daily basis including in teacher-student relationships
 - ix. Observe tikanga in formal school events
 - x. Develop a sustainable relationship with local Marae / Hapū
3. Michael Park School will plan, monitor and review progress against the above guidelines annually.

Ratified by Board/RSST:



Signed for BOT/RSST

Date: 21/03/2016