

MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN MANAGEMENT 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.

Section 5 of the Education and Training Act 2020 outlines the education and learning objectives for early childhood, primary and secondary education in New Zealand. The first objective is "to help each child and young person attain their educational potential."

Section 127 of the Act outlines the Board's four primary objectives in governing its school. Each objective has equal weight. One of those four objectives is to ensure the school gives effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi in ways that include:

- working to ensure that the school's plans, policies and local curriculum reflect local tikanga Māori, mātauranga Māori, and te ao Māori
- taking all reasonable steps to make instruction available in tikanga Māori and te reo Māori
- achieving equitable outcomes for Māori students

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 2 requires each school Board, with the principal and teaching staff, to report to the school's community on the progress and achievement of students as a whole and of students and groups of students with specified needs. The reporting is to be against the Board's plans and targets outlined in its strategic plan and based on good quality assessment information; and must include the progress and achievement of Māori students.

The National Education Guideline (NEG) requires 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.

Purpose

To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi by creating a school environment and culture which -

1. recognises the unique status of Māori as Tangata whenua, the indigenous people of Aotearoa, New Zealand, and involves mana whenua
2. enables Māori students to achieve as Māori and with equitable outcomes, and
3. encourages non-Māori / tauwi 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. engage our local community to ensure our plans, policies, and local curriculum reflect local tikanga Māori, mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori
 - ii. honour Te Tiriti / The Treaty through acknowledgement and involvement of mana whenua
 - iii. 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
 - iv. encourage Māori participation in school governance
 - v. provide all Board members and staff the opportunity for professional development in te reo Māori me ona tikanga (Māori language and culture)
 - vi. provide opportunities for Māori staff to take cultural leadership roles in the school
 - vii. engage and promote positive Māori role models within the school and wider community
 - viii. 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
 - ix. include mātauranga (Māori knowledge and understanding), tikanga and te reo in learning programmes across the curriculum
 - x. integrate Māori values in school life on a daily basis, including in teacher-student relationships
 - xi. observe tikanga in formal school events, and
 - xii. develop a sustainable relationship with local Marae / Hapū.
3. Michael Park School will plan, monitor and review progress against the above guidelines annually.

Policy type:	Management Policy	NZSBA Governance Framework:
Date reviewed:	21/07/2025	Signed for MPS Board: 