

# The Treaty of Waitangi

## Guidelines and Procedures

The Māori as the Tangata Whenua of Aotearoa and their language and culture are a living part of New Zealand society. All New Zealanders should therefore recognise and understand the dual cultural heritage of New Zealand.

At West Park School:

- We aim to increase students' awareness and appreciation of our dual cultural heritage.
- We aim to build/develop a close working relationship with families of children of Māori descent, and local tangata whenua.
- We ensure that the resources, facilities, physical and natural environment of the school reflects Māori and Pakeha values.
- Classroom programmes reflect a Māori perspective by incorporating specific Māori components- e.g. Social Studies - local Māori history - P.E.-haka, movement -Art -koru, weaving - as and when appropriate.
- Classroom programmes encourage and further develop the use of Māori words and phrases by staff and children.
- Learning and teaching resources are identified and provided for children who wish to learn Māori culture and language, and for children whose parents wish them to learn through the Māori language, after direct consultation with families involved.
- The local Māori community are encouraged to become actively involved in the ongoing development and implementation of this policy; as equal partners under the treaty.
- The local Māori community will be consulted on any Māori kaupapa (e.g. initiating new Maori Programmes).
- Local Māori will be approached to assist in Māori Programmes where possible.
- The School Appointment process ensures that the staff appointed to the school are culturally sensitive - particularly to our dual cultural heritage.
- The school environment reflects our commitment to bi-culturalism, by:
  - continuing to improve and develop the physical and natural environment, and
  - developing appropriate structures for meeting with and communicating to Māori and Pakeha members of the school community.

**Reviewed: SEPTEMBER 2020**