



WESLEY COLLEGE SCHOOL BOARD CROSS CULTURAL AWARENESS PROCEDURE

RATIONALE

Wesley College is a multi-ethnic school that has a direct affiliation with the Methodist Church of New Zealand - Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa. The Methodist Church of New Zealand - Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa is a Treaty-based Church that expresses its governance in a bicultural, power-sharing partnership between Te Taha Maori and Tauwiwi.

Cultural diversity is one of eight principles in *The New Zealand Curriculum* that provide a foundation for schools' decision making. The principle of cultural diversity calls for schools and teachers to affirm students' different cultural identities, and incorporate their cultural contexts into teaching and learning programmes.

Cultural diversity refers to the differences between human communities based on differences in their ideologies, values, beliefs, norms, customs, meanings and ways of life. These differences are expressed and exemplified in social practices, attitudes and values, family interactions and expectations, values concerning education, ways of defining and treating health (physical and mental), business and management behaviours and practices, political practices and our interpersonal relations.

PURPOSE

To be inclusive of the cultural diversity of our students and teachers/staff.

PROCEDURE

1. To treasure our Methodist heritage and Christian learning to express it relevantly including religious observances.
2. To have openness to the future and to new insights, experiences and people.
3. To support values that respect the integrity of persons and communities.
4. To be considerate of the needs of others, especially the economically marginalized.
5. To use language and images that are inclusive and which express equality.
6. To provide safe environments in which students can learn to live and work together in harmony.
7. To provide safe environments in which teachers/staff can learn to live and work together in harmony.
8. To ensure teachers/staff are aware of students' different cultural identities
9. To ensure students' cultural contexts are incorporated into teaching and learning programmes and into the classroom environment
10. To ensure teachers/staff provide practical opportunities for all students to be proud and share their languages and cultures through cultural groups, special events, and school festivals that celebrated cultural difference
11. To ensure all students experience learning contexts from multiple cultures

There are clear expectations in schools' charters for celebration of diversity, stating the right of all children to feel culturally safe

Wesley College seeks representation from all the cultures within our school community.

This procedure was issued by the Principal July 2021.

This procedure will be reviewed on / before July 2024.

PRINCIPAL

8 July 2021
DATE