



▷ RELATIONSHIPS & EXPECTATIONS



▷ *“Māori enjoying education success as Māori”*

$$KH = e^{[rmp]}$$



What teachers are saying about...

Relationships

- » We have to know our kids – that means we have to talk to them. We've got to know what they did yesterday; we've got to get them to share their lives with us.
- » In some respects it's about having to trust people; having to form relationships on other people's terms maybe where you're not always in control.
- » I experience much greater job satisfaction through improving relationships with my students.
- » I think a good teacher, first and foremost, is someone who knows their kids. We need to have respect, rapport with and empathy for our kids.
- » It's also important to me that teachers spend time and energy supporting those other aspects, those other sides, of a child's character.
- » It's about potential and encouraging potential to come through.
- » I've had to learn to step back, I often want to get involved and do things myself. But I've had to really learn to listen. Some of the best solutions they came up with were things that I'd never thought of.
- » I think it's about recognising that we, teachers, don't know everything and that our role is often about stepping back to be that facilitator and realising you're not the expert. Really, my expertise is the motivating, encouraging and supporting. I feel it's about having high and real expectations of students and making them believe that they can do it.
- » It's also about making sure every child succeeds and not just from a learning perspective.

Expectations

- » The critical thing for me is that a good teacher knows undeniably that all children can learn.
- » For me, it's about recognising skills even if they're quite latent.
- » Showing students that I care about whether they succeed or not rather than just accepting a certain level of achievement, is really important.
- » I believe that treating all students in the same way is not always the same as treating everyone fairly.



▷ THE CLASSROOM



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What teachers are saying about...

The classroom

- » To me, a good teacher thinks about what they're doing, they check out research and they continually refine, evaluate and reflect on their practice – minute by minute and day by day. That means collecting data, gathering information and so on. You can't just stand up in front of the class and do the same thing day after day as a technician – it just doesn't work.
- » They check out the evidence, data, marks and other information. But there are also more anecdotal types of evidence – a teacher's observations: "when I do this, I've noticed that."
- » Bringing the Māori perspective into things, in everything, so it's in your written language; it's in your reading. It just sits at the bottom of everything; it's not a stand alone 'let's do Māori'.
- » I have found that Māori students excel when they can celebrate their identity as Māori – when that identity is not weighted down by stereotypes and is freed from the challenge of disproving such stereotypes.
- » My students get to see themselves reflected in the curriculum when my planning and lessons reflect the values and beliefs of my Māori students.
- » I keep building on my knowledge of te reo Māori. The kids have a right to expect us to pronounce their names correctly. I wouldn't like it if someone continually mispronounced my name. I ask them to correct my pronunciation.
- » I ask the students what would help them learn better in the classroom – for example, I give them a say in lesson content.
- » I believe that setting and achieving goals together motivates and energises the student. Show them the steps they can take to achieve their goals.
- » Teaching doesn't have to be from the front of the classroom, if I move away from the front of the class and get in amongst my students – it is great for their learning and is a good way to build on my relationship with them.
- » I find that group work means that students must be engaged and their levels of concentration have increased significantly.



LEARNING



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What students are saying about...

Learning

- » We do like to learn even though we're noisy and that ...
- » We can learn from each other and not just from the teacher or out of books.
- » We can see other people struggling in class so we help them.
- » I have had a few real cool teachers who have taught me a lot.
- » His teaching style motivates us to learn and makes us want to learn more. Even though he is quite strict, we know it's good for us.
- » She's got like a belief of students gaining or achieving something in mathematics and that's what everyone likes about her.
- » If they respect us they get it back ... cos with respect comes trust and stuff ... not stereotyping people.
- » I like a teacher who loves to learn themselves and who is prepared to give and receive information.
- » Teachers have to motivate us and make learning interesting and fun.
- » Have discussions and group activities to help with understanding each other's points of view.
- » Do more fun activities and more fun and interesting ways to learn really hard things.
- » It makes it easier to learn when the teacher is understanding and easy to get along with.
- » ... because she was kind and understanding and took the time to explain things.



▷ WHĀNAU
INVOLVEMENT



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What everyone is saying about...

Whānau involvement

From whānau

- » Every parent wants their children to be successful, Māori parents are no exception.
- » You have to have a relationship with the teacher and the school so you can help.
- » For me, it's a link into my daughter's education because I can see the strategies that the teachers are using and when she comes home I know where she is at.

From teachers

- » We can get a whole new perspective on things when we get to know and understand the whānau and the child a bit better.
- » We have got to stop thinking we know what whānau want and just ask. They will tell us. And it is what we do next that's important.
- » And about how many opportunities we provide for whānau to be safe, in terms of responding openly, honestly and frankly about what we can do together.

From students

What students, of all ages, are saying to schools about whānau:

- » I reckon it's very important for our parents to get involved with schoolwork that the kids have been doing, because then we can talk about it at home, so it's learning at school and at home.
- » Give them regular updates on your learning or notes home and not just negative.
- » Anything that encourages whānau participation.
- » Provide information on all the unis, polytechs and even small courses, so that we know what's out there for us.
- » Hold regular parent teacher meetings, that way, teachers can inform our parents from a similar viewpoint about all the things their children are involved in.