



POLICY 7.1

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS POLICY

RATIONALE

Tokomaru School views the education of its pupils as a shared responsibility between the parents/caregivers of pupils at the school and the school itself.

Learning is enhanced if a responsive and effective partnership is established between the school and its community recognising that the community as a whole contributes to the values, traditions and heritage of the school.

PURPOSES

- To develop closer relationships between in-school and out-of-school learning (especially in times of unexpected school closure).
- To create a close association between pupils, parents, caregivers, teachers and Board of Trustees
- To use community resources, where relevant, in school programmes to extend learning opportunities
- To ensure ongoing effective consultation between school and home/community is maintained.

GUIDELINES

1. Parents/caregivers and appropriate resource personnel from the community are encouraged to participate in and help with activities, trips and outdoor education. Procedures will be in place to ensure that these people are fully informed of their duties and obligations.
2. Home learning will be encouraged as a link between in school and out of school learning and to encourage learning habits for the future (refer to 1.1.1 Home Learning Procedure).
3. Parents/caregivers are invited to participate in the policy making of the school where appropriate.
4. The Home and School Association is regarded as very important in the partnership between the Community and the School, and the Board of Trustees will maintain a close association with it.
5. Appropriate viewing arrangements will be provided for in school events eg sporting events, assemblies, pōwhiri etc.
6. Consultation with the community by the school and Board of Trustees will take a variety of forms and will attempt to reach all groups within the community on a regular basis (see 7.1.1 Consultation Procedure).
7. Procedures will be provided to enable staff, parents, members of the Board of Trustees and students to voice their concerns, comments and questions in a manner which respects the dignity and confidentiality of all concerned (refer 3.1.6 Complaints Procedure & 3.1.6a Complaints Procedure Flow Diagram).
8. Both formal and informal methods of reporting will be regularly employed to ensure parents are informed of what is happening with regards to their child's learning, behaviour and attendance. These methods should be reviewed annually and be made known to the community in a timely manner.
9. Procedures will be in place to ensure that the transition from home to school will be made as smooth as possible including appropriate liaison with relevant Early Childhood Centres.

REVIEWED: August 2023
APPROVED: September 2023
NEXT REVIEW DATE: September 2026

APPROVED BY: 
Presiding Member, BOT

DATE: 4/9/23