

Principals of the Treaty of Waitangi in the Classroom at Mount Hutt College

The Principle of the Treaty of Waitangi as outlined in the New Zealand Curriculum states that the '*curriculum acknowledges the principles of the treaty and the bicultural foundations of Aotearoa New Zealand. All students have the opportunity to acquire knowledge of te reo Māori me ōna tikanga.*' P.9 NZC

The Treaty of Waitangi guarantees participation, protection and partnership for Māori.

- **PARTICIPATION** – real opportunities to participate as a valued member of the group
- **PROTECTION** – real opportunities to use and have their cultural knowledge and values affirmed and validated
- **PARTNERSHIP** – real opportunities to have some say over their learning e.g. ako; co-construction

Teacher actions that would show evidence of the principle of the Treaty of Waitangi could include:

- Showing respect for the culture e.g. not sitting on desks and not allowing students to sit on desks
- Include appropriate Māori contexts where suitable e.g. first refer to local Ngai Tahu contexts such as mahinga kai or landmarks
- Use te reo as appropriate; greetings are one way to try out your pronunciation – our Māori students want you to try! The more you try the more students get used to it
- Using approaches outlined in the effective teaching profile such as acknowledging, valuing and making use of prior knowledge e.g. traditional Māori medicines, links with people such as tipuna, and using co-construction where students get to have a say in their learning.

Glossary

Ako	a teaching and learning relationship where the teacher is also learning from the student
Mahinga kai	food gathering places
Ngai Tahu	main South Island tribe (iwi)
Te reo	language
Tikanga	can be described as general behavior guidelines for daily life and interaction in Māori culture, including culture and traditions
Tipuna	ancestor