



COOK ISLANDS

Ministry of Education

Maraurau o te Pae Api'i

## PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### AVATEA SCHOOL

#### To the members, caregivers and community of Avatea School

On 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014, the Ministry of Education's Planning and Development (P and D) Division undertook an education review of the school's staff, systems, teaching programmes and resources. The following is an executive summary of our findings.

#### Review Purpose and Coverage

The purpose of this review was to view the college holistically in all areas of learning offered at Avatea School. P and D reviews do not cover every aspect of performance and each P and D report may cover different issues. The aim is to provide information on aspects that are central to student achievement and useful to the school.

#### Summary of Findings

Despite the uncertainty surrounding the future of Avatea, the school community is in remarkably good spirits. The principal and staff continue to provide a positive learning environment for its year 1 to 8 students who come from an increasingly diverse range of ethnic groups in the community. The school has a role of 273 students of whom 7.7% identify as neither Cook Islands Maori nor Papaa. There is sound parental support and a school committee.

A range of effective teaching strategies is evident in classrooms. Integration of inquiry, shared concepts and environmental contexts across learning are features of learning. Whole-class modelling and differentiated grouping are evident. Students' work is attractively displayed in their classrooms. It is the principal's intention that recent curriculum changes better reflect the school, its context and community.

Reviewing and measuring the outcomes of the values and characteristics promoted through the curriculum need to be included and embedded in school schemes to clearly show current curriculum, values and assessment adequately provide direction for the school.

#### Future Action

The next full review of Avatea School will be considered on a yearly basis due to the uncertainty of when the new school will be built. In order to maintain quality and a positive learning environment Review officers are happy to visit for special focus areas.

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