



PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL SUMMARY

PAPAARO SCHOOL 2012

To the parents, caregivers and community of Papaaroa School

On the 29 October– 2 November 2012 the Ministry of Education's Planning and Development (P and D) department undertook a full 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 school holistically in all areas of learning offered at Papaaroa School. P and D reviews do not cover every aspect of school 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 this school.

Summary of Findings

Papaaroa Adventist School, under the management of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, enjoys a beautiful site in Titikaveka, stretching from the sea and beach to the hills at the rear. The children, from ECE to Year 10 make full use of these grounds, whether playing on the paths by the field at the front of the school or cultivating the ground to grow healthy crops on the slopes behind. Buildings and grounds are well maintained and the classrooms bright and cheerful, one even containing a full seashore mural.

Papaaroa School is a small school with a special character and closely linked to the community it serves. Teachers and students relate well to each other and there is a positive atmosphere throughout the school. The school board is actively involved in the school beyond its most obvious role of property and grounds maintenance. Meetings are held regularly and professional development for the teachers has been strongly supported. The healthy school programme is being maintained

The long standing principal demonstrates commitment to the school's special character and to the academic needs of the students. Teaching in the primary school is of high quality and the students are actively involved in their learning. At secondary level two teachers new to Cook Islands schools have an extremely heavy load and the range of their responsibilities in terms of subject delivery and student age and ability range means that not all expectations are being met. The professionalism and commitment of these teachers are not major issues. However, classroom practice, record keeping and documentation all need attention if the requirements of the Cook Islands Curriculum and school policies are to be met.

Future Action

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Cara Haque
Review Officer

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Jim Matheson
Acting Director Planning and Development