



COOK ISLANDS

Ministry of Education

Maraurau o te Pae Api'i

PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

To the members, caregivers and community of St Joseph's Primary School

On the 19th to 30th of August 2013 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 school holistically in all areas of learning offered at St Joseph's Primary 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

St Joseph's Primary School has a dedicated and energetic principal who is keen to provide the best possible learning experiences for all her children. She is working hard to improve numeracy and literacy through a range of measures including providing new learning and teaching resources and encouraging staff to up skill themselves through school based and Ministry of Education professional development.

The principal is supported by a strong PTA, led by a long standing and committed chairperson. The PTA meets regularly and has recently raised enough money to fund the construction of a new ECE classroom.

Classrooms are lively and attractive places where teachers are enthusiastic and supportive. Some teachers are moving towards more student centred learning and are including technology as a teaching and learning tool. It is suggested that more effort needs to be applied to ensuring that the content taught and assessed is clearly related to the curriculum documents. Planning and class work must also be directed at meeting the learning needs of all the children. St Joseph's should now introduce some differentiation into its classrooms so that the most able students are challenged and the least able are provided with work which they too can progress through.

Students at the school express their support for and enjoyment of learning at St Joseph's.

Future Action

The next full review of St Joseph's Primary School will be in 2015. Review officers are happy to visit for special focus areas.

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