



COOK ISLANDS

Ministry of Education

Maraurau o te Pae Api'i

## PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### AVARUA SCHOOL

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

On 10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> November 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

The purpose of this review was to view the school holistically in all areas of learning offered at Avarua 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

Although student enrolment has fallen, Avarua School remains the biggest primary school in Rarotonga. Progress has been made with the documentation of schemes, including the integration of careers for Years 7 and 8. Documentation of learning areas and school programmes is commendable. Student portfolios complement units taught during the year. Teachers are demonstrating awareness of and catering for the different learning levels of students in their classrooms.

In the three ECE classes, children are learning through playing. The teachers have detailed thematic plans for each week which are assessed at the end of the week.

Student well-being is supported by established pastoral practices. Overall senior students expressed satisfaction with what they have achieved at Avarua School.

The school committee members are aware of their increasing role in decision making, policy review and ratification, and ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone in the school. They are positive about their roles and appreciate the fact that they are included in the review of the policies and some decision makings.

Avarua School has addressed most of the compliance directives from 2013.

#### Future Action

The next full review of Avarua School will be in 2016. Review officers are happy to visit for special focus areas.

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