

POLICY: Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The daily life of the College will be permeated with the values of Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Special links will be maintained with the Sisters of our Lady of the Missions as the College Founders and their special charism reinforced in the College. The Board acknowledges that our Catholic values contribute to a community where truth, justice and equity underpin decisions that protect and support all members of our community. This policy upholds the mana and dignity of all who belong to our community through our obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

1.0 Purpose and Scope

Sacred Heart Girls' College is a Faith Community where the integration of faith with culture provides the foundation for learning. We proclaim a vision for society where human life is sacred, and the dignity of the human person is respected. The position of Maaori as Tangata Whenua within this faith community is recognised and upheld by Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of our country.

2.0 Definitions

Kaupapa Maaori	An approach that is aligned to Maaori practices and principles.
Taonga	Applied to anything considered valuable, including socially or culturally valuable objects, resources, phenomena, ideas, and techniques.
Te reo Maaori	The Maaori language, known as te reo Maaori or simply Maaori. An official language of New Zealand.
Tikanga	the Maaori way of doing things – from the very mundane to the most sacred or important fields of human endeavour. ^{Williams (1998, p.2)}

3.0 Purpose and Scope

The concepts of our special character as expressed through Communion, Contemplation and Mission, along with the catholic virtues of Faith, Hope and Justice are reflected in our Kaupapa Maaori at Sacred Heart Girls' College strategy through the following three principles:

Participation - of all students as active citizens in our unique cultural heritage

Protection - of Tikanga, Taonga and Te Reo Maaori

Partnership - as a reciprocal, collaborative relationship between Maaori and non-Maaori

To fulfil the intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi the Board and Principal will ensure:

1. The principles of participation, protection and partnership throughout the College community are actively promoted and upheld.
2. The policies developed for the College, reflect the bicultural intent and the unique position of Maaori culture as stated in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
3. The College curriculum reflects Maaori perspectives and opportunities for all students to learn about Maaori practices, language, and history.

4. That all students will have access to te reo Maaori and will have opportunity to experience and engage with the special character of the College through Te Reo Maaori.
5. That staff will have access to and be supported to learn te reo Maaori through organised professional development and learning.
6. That Maaori student achievement is increased towards reaching parity with all students and Maaori student spiritual and emotional needs are catered for.
7. That a collaborative partnership is created with the whaanau, iwi and hapuu of our Maaori students.
8. That Maaori success will be acknowledged and celebrated to provide positive Maaori role models within the school.
9. Te Whare Waananga, Puaawai is maintained as a place to strengthen Maaoritanga within the College.
10. All reasonable steps are taken to provide instruction in Tikanga Maaori and Te Reo Maaori.
11. That all College practices create an appreciation of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the value of upholding the principles of Te Tiriti.
12. Tainui kawa is acknowledged and upheld within the College's practices.
13. Appropriate resourcing is provided to assist staff and learning areas to implement Maaori perspectives, where appropriate, in their teaching programmes.
14. The Te Tiriti o Waitangi policy is used in conjunction with the Special Character policy to underpin all school decision-making structures, policies, and planning.

References

- The Education and Training Act 2020
- Community Consultation
- Principal's Performance Appraisal
- Special Character

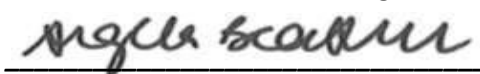
Review

The Board of Trustees will review this policy.

Review schedule: Triennially

Review due next: **October 2028**

Approved by the Board of Trustees at the meeting held on: **20 October 2025**



Presiding Member