

ACHIEVEMENT CONFERENCE



What is an Achievement Conference?

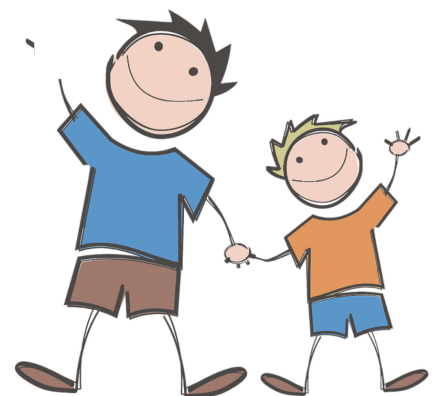
An Achievement Conference is a meeting run by the student for his or her parents, entirely focused on the student's recent learning. During the conference the student presents work in different curriculum areas, discussing the process of learning and the progress made to date.

Why Have Achievement Conferences?

Research shows that one of the ways to improve student achievement is developing students' ability to talk about their learning and their progress - it makes a difference!

Professor John Hattie published a revised list of the most effective influences on student achievement which identifies student self-reporting as the most significant indicator linked to raised student achievement. Two other international researchers, Black & Wiliam further comment, *"the process of students reflecting on their learning, through effective questioning that promotes the articulation of student thinking, is integral to classroom assessment practices that enhance student learning."*

'If the focus is to be kept on learning, and the ownership of the learning with the child, then the best person to talk about the learning is the learner'... 'Not only is the student the best person to tell their parents what they have learnt but if we believe that students build their knowledge by communicating what they know, then providing an opportunity for the students to tell their family what they know can significantly assist with that learning.' Absolum, (2006)



How Do They Work?

Conferences can last up to 30 minutes, although you do not have to stay this long if your child has finished sharing their learning. Other students from across their teaching team will present their achievement conference at the same time in your child's learning spaces. You can 'flow' into a conference slightly earlier or later if the teachers indicate there is space when you arrive.

You could be involved in a variety of activities during the session - looking at samples of learning, doing an activity to support learning, talking about goals and what your child's next steps, you, and the teacher(s) might do to support these goals, as well as looking at work around the learning spaces. At some point during the conference, one or more of your child's teachers will check in with you, but remember that your child leads the conference.

Achievement Conferences will be based in the following spaces. Parents and caregivers are welcome to visit the other team learning spaces during or after the achievement conference.

- Kanuka (Year 1-2) - Ashby 2-3
- Kahikatea (Year 3-4) - Mercy 3-4
- Matai (Year 5-6) - McAuley 1-2
- Totara (Year 7-8) - McAuley 3-4

What will I need to do to support my child?

Before the Learning Conference:

- Book a time and put it in your diary. All conferences could be booked on the School INterviews website. If you have not booked a learning conference you can call the office to check if there is a time available.
- Look at the progress and achievement information posted on HERO. All midyear data will be released on Hero at 4.00 pm on Thursday 30th of June. Discuss the information with your child.
- Discuss attendance if you have an estranged partner, if necessary as each child will run only one conference

On the Learning Conference day:

- Come with your child
- Listen - your child will do most of the talking
- Keep the conversation focused on learning
- Use the prompts below or from the teacher
- Celebrate, celebrate, celebrate
- Switch your phone to silent



After the Learning Conference

- Keep up the conversation about learning goals and successes with your child.
- The homeroom teacher will post a summary of the discussion that took place during the conference.
- Communication with your child's teacher does not need to be limited to conference time. If you would like to discuss anything about your child's learning, then please contact your child's teachers.