



TE KURA TUARUA O TAWERA DARFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

7 McLaughlins Road
PO Box 5, Darfield 7541
Aotearoa New Zealand
Phone: +64 3 318 8411
Email: admin@darfield.school.nz
www.darfield.school.nz

April 2023 Health Darfield High School Parent and Whānau Consultation Summary

Darfield High School Board of Trustees
8 Aug 2023

Introduction

Midway through Term 2 2023, all families were sent a Health Consultation questionnaire seeking parent feedback on the school's current health programme. Families could complete the questionnaire electronically via Google Forms. Whānau had a total of three weeks to complete and submit the survey.

This year we received 211 completed questionnaires.

Our thanks to the whānau who shared their thoughts with us and to Mrs Nicole Reardon, teacher in charge of Health, who led the consultation process. Our thanks, too, to Mrs Reardon for her leadership in the field of Health education.

Parents/Whānau identified the following aspects that some felt we SHOULD be covering throughout the health curriculum (note - a lot of these are covered currently):	Parents and Whānau identified the following aspects that some felt we should NOT be covering in our Health curriculum;
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Resilience- Relationships- Bullying- Exercise, diet and sleep- Mental health and well-being (it's OK not to be OK)- Social media effects- Digital world/online safety- Respect for all genders- Consent- Road rules- Strategies to enhance well-being- Sexuality Education (should be age appropriate)- Exploring racism, casual racism and unconscious bias- Muscles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gender diversity- Discussion on puberty blockers and sex change- Explicit content of sex, drugs and pornography- No outside organisation to be teaching sexuality



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dangers of Vaping- Gender identity- Gratitude- Menstruation- Medicinal drugs- Dangers of drink driving- Self-esteem- Personal hygiene | |
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Education and Training Act 2020 Section 127

s127 Objectives of boards in governing schools



- (1) A board's **primary objective** in governing a school are to ensure that –
- every student at the school is able to attain their highest possible standard in educational achievement;
 - the school –
 - is a physical and emotionally safe place for all students and staff; and
 - gives effect to relevant student rights set out in this Act, the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, and the Human Rights Act 1993; and
 - takes all reasonable steps to eliminate racism, stigma, bullying, and any other forms of discrimination within the school; and
 - the school is inclusive of, and caters for, student with differing needs; and
 - the school gives effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, including by –
 - working to ensure that its plans, policies, and local curriculum reflect local tikanga Māori, mātauranga Māori, and te ao Māori; and
 - taking all reasonable steps to make instruction available in tikanga Māori and te reo Māori; and
 - achieving equitable outcomes for Māori students.

In summary:

- We are assured that our Health Curriculum meets the requirements of the Education and Training Act.
- This feedback was shared with Senior Leadership and the health staff. Staff discussed the feedback and considered what changes we could make for the delivery of our Health programmes in 2024. Specifically ensuring our content is delivered honestly, accurately, and age-appropriate for our year levels.
- It was evident from the feedback there is concern from a few within our community around Sexuality Education. Specifically gender identity and the role that the teacher plays in teaching this content. As a school, we believe in an inclusive approach as defined in our vision and values and we are supportive of an inclusive environment for all, making sure everyone is treated with manaakitanga / respect. Gender identity is addressed at year 9 by ensuring we are using the correct vocabulary/terminology when addressing biological sex and gender identity.



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- It was fantastic to see that the majority of our school community is in support of our Health curriculum. All of the points mentioned above in the table (apart from teaching of road rules) are taught within our Health and PE curriculum. It is great to see what is being taught, supporting the values and beliefs of our community.
- The Health subject teacher for years 7-10 delivers content of Sexuality Education here at Darfield High School. We understand it is important for our students to be trusting, confident and have a relationship with the people that are delivering a topic as sensitive as Sexuality Education.
- We have *Attitude* that comes in and does a one off presentation to each year level. The topics covered align with topical issues at the time for those levels such as *'being a positive online user', 'holistic health and well-being', drugs and alcohol and 'relationships'*. The *Life Education Trust* also spends a week at DHS (year 7&8 only) and the topics are chosen by the class's Whānau teacher to reinforce content being taught. This year the topics covered were: *why is it important to show empathy towards others, what is Peer Pressure and how do we deal with it, how do the decisions I make online and/or offline affect me and others, what is the importance of kindness, how can we show resilience, why might we react and respond differently to our world and those around us, why is it important to think about how we communicate with others online and finally to never give up when it gets too hard*. The Police Education Officer also comes into lessons to support the *Kia Kaha* and *DARE* programmes at year 7 & 8. DHS will continue to use these organisations in the future.
- Professional Learning Development is taking place (in week 4 Term 3) for all of our Health teachers to upskill on our teaching resource *Navigating the Journey* (Family Planning).
- Families continue to be able to choose for their child/ren to be withdrawn from sexuality education by requesting it via email to Nicole Reardon nr@darfield.school.nz (TIC Health)
- There is no change proposed to our Health curriculum and its delivery.