

# Suggestions for working with parents and whānau

- ✓ Regularly communicate positive information and achievements to parents and whānau.
- ✓ With Māori whānau, develop a shared understanding of tikanga (cultural practices), such as language, customs, obligations, traditions.
- ✓ Promote regular kanohi ki te kanohi, face-to-face contact to reinforce strong communication and engagement with parents and whānau right from the start.
- ✓ Communicate and share information in a meaningful way, demonstrating understanding and support for parent and whānau concerns.
- ✓ Value what parents, caregivers, family, and whānau have noticed or assessments they have had done outside school.
- ✓ Involve parents, families, and whānau in determining strategies to support student learning and well-being.
- ✓ Ask about and work with any programmes or materials being used at home to maximise consistency and support for the student.
- ✓ Develop systems for passing on information about a student's needs, progress, and next steps, in ways that are meaningful.
- ✓ Hold discussions in environments where families feel safe, and that support their identity and connections e.g. a whānau space, marae, church or community center.

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