



Our Local Curriculum

Creating a localized curriculum for Ngatapa School that aligns with the New Zealand Curriculum and the Enviroschools philosophy while reflecting the school's vision of "Learning for Life" and its values of confidence, respect, and innovation involves crafting a cohesive and engaging educational experience.

School Vision

Learning for Life. Our mission is to develop life skills in our children through engagement and awareness so that they are creative confident learners.

Values

Confidence, Respectful, Innovative

Curriculum Framework

A. Vision and Values Integration

1. Confidence:

- *Encourage Risk-Taking:* Create a safe learning environment where students feel confident to take intellectual risks and explore new ideas.
- *Leadership Opportunities:* Provide opportunities for students to take on leadership roles in environmental projects and cultural activities.

2. Respect:

- *Cultural Awareness:* Foster respect for the Ngatapa iwi and other cultures through inclusive practices and learning.
- *Environmental Stewardship:* Teach students to respect and care for their local environment through active participation in sustainability initiatives.

3. Innovation:

- *Creative Solutions:* Promote innovative thinking through problem-based learning and encourage students to come up with creative solutions to local and global challenges.
- *Technology Integration:* Use technology to enhance learning and to facilitate environmental and cultural projects.

B. Curriculum Areas

1. Social Sciences

- *Local History and Culture:* Integrate the history, traditions, and stories of the Ngatapa iwi. Include local legends, historical events, and cultural practices in lessons.
- *Community Engagement:* Involve students in community projects that reflect local issues and historical contexts.

2. Science

- *Environmental Education:* Focus on local ecosystems, biodiversity, and sustainability practices. Conduct field studies and involve students in local environmental monitoring projects.
- *Action Projects:* Implement student-led projects such as conservation efforts, waste reduction programs, and habitat restoration.

3. Mathematics

- *Real-World Data:* Utilize local environmental data for mathematical analysis and problem-solving. For example, track weather patterns or measure the growth of plants in the school garden.
- *Resource Management:* Teach budgeting and planning skills through projects related to sustainability and school resource management.

4. English (Literacy)

- *Cultural Texts:* Include Māori literature, local stories, and works by local authors. Use these texts to develop reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.
- *Environmental Writing:* Encourage students to write about environmental issues, create persuasive arguments for sustainability, and document their project experiences.

5. The Arts

- *Cultural Arts:* Incorporate Māori art forms and traditional crafts into the curriculum. Collaborate with local artists and cultural experts for workshops and projects.
- *Creative Expression:* Use art as a medium to explore and express ideas related to the environment and local culture.

6. Health and Physical Education

- *Outdoor Learning:* Utilize the local environment for physical education activities that promote health and well-being. Activities might include nature walks, outdoor sports, and environmental scavenger hunts.
- *Wellness and Mindfulness:* Integrate practices that support mental and emotional well-being, encouraging students to reflect on their learning and experiences.

Enviroschools Integration



A. Action for Sustainability

1. Student-Led Initiatives:

- *Projects:* Support student-led projects like tree planting, recycling programs, and energy-saving campaigns.
- *Decision-Making:* Involve students in decision-making processes related to school sustainability initiatives and environmental practices.

2. Community Partnerships:

- *Local Collaboration:* Partner with local iwi, businesses, and environmental groups to support and expand sustainability projects.
- *Shared Resources:* Leverage community expertise and resources to enhance environmental education and action.



B. Learning by Doing

1. Outdoor Learning Spaces:

- *School Garden:* Develop a school garden that includes native plants and traditional Māori crops. Use the garden for hands-on learning in science, mathematics, and the arts.
- *Field Trips:* Organize regular field trips to local natural areas and historical sites to provide real-world learning experiences.



2. Sustainable Practices:

- *Eco-Friendly School:* Implement and maintain sustainable practices within the school, such as composting, rainwater harvesting, and energy efficiency.
- *Student Involvement:* Engage students in the maintenance and improvement of these practices, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility.



Assessment and Evaluation

A. Formative Assessment

- *Project-Based Evaluation: Assess student learning through their participation in projects and real-world problem-solving activities.*
- *Reflective Journals: Use journals and portfolios for students to document their learning experiences, reflections, and personal growth.*

B. Summative Assessment

- *Performance-Based Assessment: Evaluate students' understanding and application of knowledge through presentations, reports, and practical demonstrations.*
- *Community Feedback: Seek feedback from community members and local iwi on the effectiveness and relevance of the curriculum.*

Professional Development

A. Teacher Training

- *Cultural Competency: Provide ongoing professional development in Māori culture and history, focusing on integrating these aspects into the curriculum.*
- *Enviroschools Philosophy: Train teachers in Enviroschools principles and practices to effectively implement sustainability education.*

B. Collaborative Learning

- *Networking: Encourage teachers to connect with other Enviroschools and share best practices, resources, and strategies.*



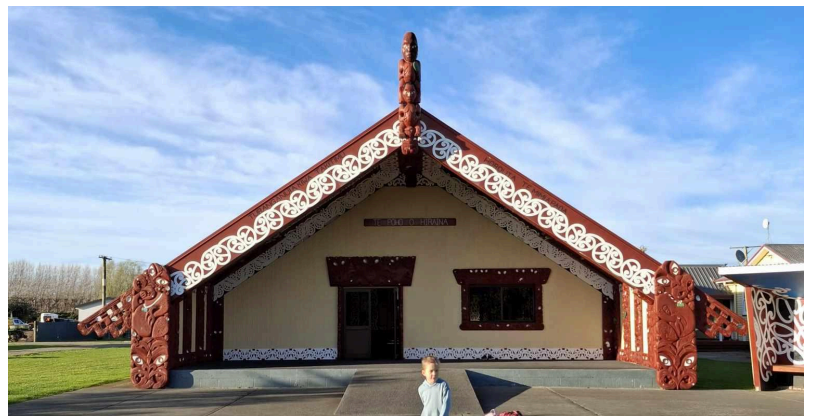
Community and Whanau Engagement

A. Partnership Building

- *Iwi Collaboration:* Work closely with Ngatapa iwi to ensure that cultural aspects are accurately and respectfully incorporated into the curriculum.
- *Family Involvement:* Invite whānau to participate in school events, projects, and decision-making processes related to the curriculum.

B. Celebrating Success

- *Showcase Events:* Organize events to celebrate student achievements in cultural and environmental projects. Share these successes with the wider community to foster pride and continued support.



This localized curriculum for Ngatapa School, integrating the New Zealand Curriculum with the EnviroSchools philosophy, will support students in becoming confident, respectful, and innovative learners while deeply connecting them to their local culture and environment.