

Special Character Policy for the Council

The Council is responsible for ensuring the Special Character, as defined in the Integration Agreement, is maintained within the school.

The Board of Trustees needs to provide an authentic Montessori environment for ākongā (students) appropriate to the applicable plane of development.

Through the Principal it will:

- View all ākongā as unique and empowered individuals, who are part of a collaborative community of learners.
- Base all decisions concerning the direction of the school on the school values and vision and the agreed *Essential Elements for Montessori Education*.
- Foster the values of respect, peace, tolerance and understanding which are an integral part of the school community.
- Provide an authentic Montessori environment as defined by the agreed *Essential Elements for Montessori Education*.
- Base hiring decisions for lead kaiako (teachers) at the pre and primary school levels on the necessity to have high quality face to face Montessori training.

The following procedures exist:

Classroom Observation

Essential elements for Montessori education

Enrolment for non-preference ākongā

Signature of Chairperson, Wā Ora Montessori School _____

Date _____