

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 all lead kaiako (teachers) on the necessity to have high quality face to face Montessori training. New hires in the high school will undertake the adolescent orientation training within their first two years of employment.
- Provide ongoing Montessori professional development to support an authentic Montessori environment.
- Provide ongoing commitment to our national body.

The following documents exist:

Classroom Observation

Essential Elements for Montessori Education

Signature of Chairperson, Wā Ora Montessori School _____

Date _____