

# PIRONGIA SCHOOL

*Together we climb . Pikia to tatou maunga*



## Whānau Group INFORMATION BOOKLET

*Working Together to be Lifelong Learners  
Mahi ngatahi ki te pae tawhiti akonga*

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# Pirongia School Whānau Group

## What is the Whānau Group?

The Whānau Group is a partnership of parents (previous and existing), teachers, school staff and members of the community, all who work together to support the school and the wider school community. The Whānau Group provides consultation for Pirongia School to enhance and support Te Ao Māori/The Māori Worldview, encompassing language and cultural practices.

## What is the Whānau Group's focus?

The Whānau Group's main focus is Manaakitanga – the process of showing respect, generosity, hospitality, support and care for others. Kotahitanga (unity) and Mahi Tahi (working together) are at the centre of this focus as the group works together to support our school and local community.



# Pirongia School Whānau Group

## Who can join the Whānau Group?

The Whānau Group is open to all families of any ethnicity, culture and background.

## When does the Whānau Group get together?

The Whānau Group have monthly get-togethers in the school Whānau Room (by the school hall). Hui dates and times are advertised in the school weekly newsletter and on the Pirongia School Whānau Group Facebook page. Hui times are often at 3:15pm or 6:30pm and go for around an hour. Children are welcome to the hui and can play games or do some activities in the Whānau Room or play on the playground during afternoon get-togethers.

## What does the Whānau Group do?

- Provides a support network for whānau within our school community.
- Supports the bicultural focus of the school to uphold the Ministry of Education's commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the guiding principles of Ka Hikitia (The Maori Education Strategy).
- Provides consultation to the school to ensure that tamariki have genuine culturally appropriate experiences through...
  - Kapa haka
  - Te Reo Maori sessions
  - Matariki celebrations
  - Maori language month
  - Family partnerships
  - Powhiri/welcome ceremonies
  - Daily karakia and waiata
  - Tuakana/Teina learning
  - Manaakitanga/Host responsibility
  - Kaitiakitanga/Guardianship (Environmental)



