



# Inclusion and Integration through Innovation

The Role of 21st Century Learning Environments in Promoting  
Social Participation and Access to Education for Learners with Special Needs

Auckland, New Zealand, 17-20 August 2008

Organised by OECD Programme on Educational Building (PEB)  
and New Zealand Ministry of Education



## School Visits



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## North Auckland Tour\*

Oteha Valley  
Rakaepai Whenua  
Wilson School

## West Auckland Tour

Mt Roskill Campus  
Futures West  
Oaklynn Special School

## South Auckland Tour\*

Te Mātauranga  
Botany Downs Secondary College  
Richmond Special School

### Broad issues

How does the school's physical environment **impact** on the **social image** and on the **development of competencies** of students with special needs?

Can you recognise **specific needs** the students might have regarding their **social image** and their **development of competencies**?

Can you identify **specific features/characteristics** of the school's physical environment that contribute to positive **social image** and enhance the **development of competencies** of the students?

*Social image refers to how being a student at the school may influence how others will view students and also how students view themselves (self concept).*

*Competencies mean not only academic skills but social and life competencies as well.*

\* Optional ferry return.

### Specific aspects to consider

1. The harmony between the school's mission (i.e. educational, social, cultural and other goals of the school) and the physical appearance of the school and the local neighbourhood.
2. Accessibility into and around the school for students, staff and visitors.
3. Proximity and accessibility of the school to local resources (e.g. shops, social and cultural venues, etc.) and to the community centre.
4. The image-impact of the names and language used about the school, students, staff, activities, etc.
5. The impact of aesthetic features (internal and external) of the school on the image and self concept of students.
6. The physical features of the school that provide appropriate positive challenges to students (i.e. the school provides opportunities for students to develop).
7. Features of the school that promote/support student individuality and identity.
8. Features of the school that promote social inclusion both within the school and in the local neighbourhood.
9. The age and cultural appropriateness of the school from the students' perspectives.





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## North Group (1)

### School

Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Te Raki Paewhenua

### Address

7 Ceres Court  
Mairangi Bay  
North Shore  
Auckland

+64 9 479 5624

[office@terakipaewhenua.school.nz](mailto:office@terakipaewhenua.school.nz)

### School Principal

M. Muir-Tuuta

### Chairperson

Kura Cherrington

## About the school...

This public primary school offers total immersion in te reo Maori co-educational kura (school) for students from years 1 to 8. It is currently seeking wharekura (secondary) status.

The current enrolment is 55 – 100% Maori. It is a centrally resourced decile 5 kura. There is one resource teacher of Maori attached to the kura.

This is the only Kura Kaupapa Maori on the North Shore, Hibiscus Coast area. The kura was previously sited at Awataha Marae in Northcote for 14 years before moving to new premises in Mairangi Bay in June 2008. Management and whanau have had a major input in to the design and landscaping of the kura, and this has been sensitively reflected in the architecture.

All kura must adhere to the Te Aho Matua (Maori Education) philosophy:

- *Te Ira Tangata* focuses on the physical and spiritual endowment of children and the importance of nurturing both in their education.
- *Te Reo* focuses on bilingual competence and sets principles by which this competence will be achieved.
- *Ng Iwi* focuses on the principles that are important in the socialisation of children.
- *Te Ao* encompasses those aspects of the world itself that have an impact on children's learning.
- *Ahuatanga Ako* lists the principles of teaching practice that are considered of vital importance in the education of children.
- *Te Tino Uaratanga* defines the characteristics (outcomes) that Kura Kaupapa Māori aim to develop in their children.

Students, whose parents seek this Maori medium educational provision, travel from all over the North Shore to attend the school.



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## North Group (1)

### School

Oteha Valley School

### Address

2 Medallion Drive  
Albany  
North Shore  
Auckland

+64 9 477 0033

[enquiries@oteha.school.nz](mailto:enquiries@oteha.school.nz)

[www.oteha.school.nz](http://www.oteha.school.nz)

### School Principal

Megan Bowden

## About the school...

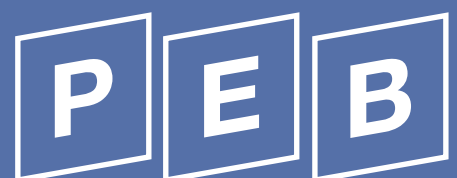
Oteha Valley School is a public primary school in Albany, North Shore. It is a decile 9 school with provision for students with special needs from years 1 to 6. The school opened in 2004 and was built to cater for the planned residential development of the Albany basin. In 2006, the school received an OECD award for its learning environments, and it has been included in an international compendium of exemplary educational facilities. The present buildings represent the first stage of the school's development. There is sufficient land for two additional classroom blocks to be constructed in response to enrolment growth.

Oteha Valley School students learn in an environment based on the value programme "Life and Pride". Students have contributed to developing the indicators for successful implementation of the programme. This involvement has been valuable in helping students take ownership of the school's value and pride. The school values spread throughout the school and are evident in the consideration that students show one another and the recognition they receive for their participation in all aspects of school life.



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## North Group (1)

### School

Wilson School

### Address

Lake Road  
Takapuna  
Auckland

+64 9 489 5648

[admin@wilson.school.nz](mailto:admin@wilson.school.nz)

[www.wilson.school.nz](http://www.wilson.school.nz)

### School Principal

Jan Kennington

## About the school...

The Wilson School is a special school supporting students with physical, learning, communication and behavioural needs situated in Takapuna, a suburb of North Shore City. School programmes cater for students from 5 – 21 years. The school climate is one of supported, personalised care and learning for students. School programmes offer students well co-ordinated teacher, therapy and teacher aide support to achieve individualised learning and national curriculum goals.

The school is composed of ten classes, six of which are located within the base school. Four satellite classes are located in mainstream primary schools on the North Shore. Construction of a new purpose built base school was recently completed within the four hectares of park-like grounds of the Wilson Trust overlooking the Waitemata Harbour. The new school is light and spacious, incorporating design features which outstandingly meet the needs of students with physical disabilities.

The official opening of the new Wilson School will take place in September.





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## West Group (2)

### Campus

**Mt Roskill Campus**

### Addresses

**Mt Roskill Primary School**

Frost Road

Mt Roskill

Auckland

School Principal: Bas Barriball

[admin@mtroskillprimary.school.nz](mailto:admin@mtroskillprimary.school.nz)

[www.mrps.school.nz](http://www.mrps.school.nz)

+64 9 620 5050

**Mt Roskill Intermediate School**

Denbigh Ave

Mt Roskill

Auckland

School Principal: Mike O'Reilly

[office@mri.school.nz](mailto:office@mri.school.nz)

[www.mri.school.nz](http://www.mri.school.nz)

+64 9 620 8508

**Mount Roskill Grammar School**

Frost Road

Mt Roskill

Auckland

School Principal: Greg Watson

[admin@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:admin@mrgs.school.nz)

[www.mrgs.school.nz](http://www.mrgs.school.nz)

+64 9 621 0050

## About the campus...

Mt Roskill Primary School is a decile 4, multi-ethnic, contributing public school with about 740 students: NZ European/Pakeha 6%, Maori 3%, Indian 46%, Asian 25%, Samoan 7%, Tongan 6%, Niuean 2%, Cook Island 2% and "other" 3%. The school's Endeavour Centre offers a flexible programme for children with varying degrees of disability and health problems, who require additional therapeutic and educational support. The approach used is holistic based on individual programming and the children in the Centre are involved in the full life of the school.

Mt Roskill Intermediate School is a decile 4, co-educational, public school serving about 800 year 7 and 8 students: NZ European/Pakeha 8%, Maori 7%, Indian 33%, Asian 24%, Samoan 9%, Tongan 9%, Cook Island Maori 2%, Niuean 1%, African 1%, Middle Eastern 1% and "other" 5%. The school was first opened in 1956, completely remodelled during 1995 and currently has a teaching staff of 43 including 6 specialist teachers. The school's Physically Disabled Unit was established in 1976 and now has three teachers and two special education assistants. Physiotherapists, occupational therapists and a speech language therapist are also on the Unit staff.

Mount Roskill Grammar School is a decile 4, co-educational, public secondary school. It first opened in 1953 and now has over 2 200 students: New Zealand European/Pakeha 12%, Maori 4%, Indian 29%, Chinese 19%, other Asian 10%, Samoan 9%, Tongan 8%, Cook Island Maori 2%, other European 2%, Niuean 1% and "other" 4%. Over 70 different nationalities are represented in the student population and in excess of seventy percent of the students have English as their second language. The students achieve results which are considerably higher than national norms and align well with other highly performing schools across the country. The original buildings from 1953 have been refurbished and remodelled and new buildings have been added to cope with enrolment growth. The school's MacLean Centre, opened in 1977, and provides for students with physical disabilities. The Centre moved into a new building in 2003.



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## West Group (2)

### School

Oaklynn Special School

### Address

20 Mayville Avenue  
New Lynn  
Auckland

+64 9 827 4748

[office@oaklynn.school.nz](mailto:office@oaklynn.school.nz)

[www.oaklynn.school.nz](http://www.oaklynn.school.nz)

### School Principal

Louise Doyle

## About the school...

Oaklynn School is a special school for students aged 5 to 21 years. Central to the Oaklynn approach to schooling is that the lives of students will be enhanced through learning experiences that are fun, varied, challenging and designed to foster independence. Learning programmes meet individual needs, build on strengths and interest, have practical outcomes, and help young people to contribute to their community.

The school is a network of different places. At the centre is the base school, the administrative and resource centre of the school. Students between the ages of 13 and 21 years can attend classes here. In addition to the base school programmes Oaklynn School has six satellite units located in local primary, intermediate and secondary schools extending the range of schooling environments and options for students. Over the past six years at the base site a series of major building projects have been completed including two new classrooms, a multipurpose area with a teaching kitchen, and a new staffroom and administration/office area.

The Adult Learning Centre, which meets the needs of senior students in their last two years of schooling, has been developed to reflect an environment that students aged 19 to 21 years may expect to find in any tertiary institution.



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## West Group (2)

### School

Futures West Centre for Extra Support

### Address

22-24 Waipareira Avenue  
Henderson  
Auckland

+64 9 839 2170

### Programme Director

Richard Baines  
richardb@futureswest.co.nz

## About the centre...

Futures West is a Centre for Extra Support for secondary students who are at risk of school exclusion because of their challenging behaviour. Based in Henderson, West Auckland, the programme was established in 2000 following discussions amongst the principals of Waitakere City secondary schools who were concerned about a small group of students with a range of academic, social, emotional, behavioural and mental health problems, who had not settled into their local secondary schools. Futures West as an education provider sits between secondary schools and alternative education. The purpose-built environment has been designed to reduce anxiety, and this is reflected in the use of calming colours and the rounded features of the architecture.

The 10 to 20 week, holistic programme, supported by the Ministry of Education, Special Education and the Waitakere secondary principals, provides opportunities for up to 25 students at a time. During their time at Futures West, students engage in a modified high school programme focusing on the key competencies of self management and relating to others, in addition to core subjects. The programme is about young people taking charge of their lives and the choices they make so that they can successfully reintegrate into a main stream school or move on to an alternative education programme, a treatment programme, The Correspondence School, or employment.





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## South Group (3)

### School

Mt Richmond Special School

### Address

30 Albion Road  
Otahuhu  
Auckland

+64 9 259 1425

[admin@mtrichmondschool.co.nz](mailto:admin@mtrichmondschool.co.nz)

[www.mtrichmondschool.co.nz](http://www.mtrichmondschool.co.nz)

### School Principal

Kathleen Dooley

## About the school...

Mt Richmond Special School is a decile 2, co-educational, public school in Otahuhu, Auckland. It caters for about 135 students (20% European, 20% Maori, 52% Pasifika, 3% Asian, 5 % "other") from the ages of 5 to 21 years with a range of disabilities including intellectual, social-emotional, physical and sensory difficulties.

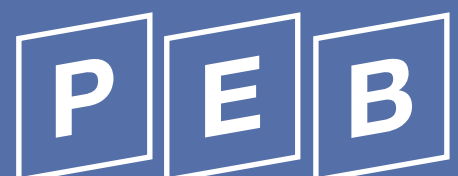
It has a holistic focus in its educational provisions and the programmes cater for students of all ages from a developmental level through to transition to work and adult life. The regular curriculum is adapted to meet students' individual needs and a number of internationally recognised programmes are offered to students where relevant: MOVE, TEACCH, Derbyshire Language Programme, ELIP, MAKATON, PECS, Pro-Social Skills Programme, Sulp, BOBATH, NVCI and Riding for the Disabled.

There are opportunities for integration through satellite classes based in local schools (Primary through to Secondary). Students are supported in small classes with teacher/student ratios of 1:5 to 1:10 with teacher aides, and a variety of specialist personnel.



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## South Group (3)

### School

Botany Downs Secondary College

### Address

575 Chapel Road  
Howick  
Auckland

+64 9 273 2310  
admin@bdsc.school.nz  
www.bdsc.school.nz

### School Principal

Mike Leach

## About the school...

Botany Downs Secondary College is a decile 10, co-educational, public school in Howick, Manukau City, which opened in 2004. It has about 1 600 students: 35% European, 5% Maori, 4% Pasifika, 40% Asian, 10 % "other" and 5% Foreign Fee paying.

The school is designed with six two-storey Whanau House buildings. The second floor contains specialist teaching rooms, and the ground floor has five teaching classrooms surrounding a Commons space

The Whanau House system is at the heart of the school and is the foundation of a holistic approach to student education. It provides a "school within a school" where students are part of a smaller group of 250 rather than being one of 1 500. Upon enrolment, students are placed in a Whanau House where they become part of an extended family of teachers and students which continues throughout their years at school.

A key objective of the school's strategic plan is to "maximise achievement through intellectual challenge and to nurture personal growth in an environment that promotes confidence and lifelong learning". A focus on learning and achievement within the whānau system is supported by a variety of strategies. Key initiatives include a "learning to learn" programme that integrates these metacognitive strategies into the daily learning process and a mentoring programme that promotes learning partnerships between students and teachers. There is a strong emphasis on the integrated use of information and communications technology (ICT) and the development of students' thinking skills.



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## South Group (3)

### School

Te Matauranga School

### Address

Finlayson Avenue  
Clendon  
Manukau  
Auckland

+64 9 266 9493  
office@tematauranga.school.nz

### School Principal

Jane Wallis

## About the school...

Te Matauranga is a decile 1 primary school in Clendon, Manurewa. It was opened in 2005.

Approximately 500 students are enrolled in the school: 38 % Maori, 53 % Pasifika, 6% Asian, 2% European and 1% "other".

All curriculum areas for Years 1-6 are covered, and immersion classes are available for Maori and Samoan students.

The 20 classrooms at Te Matauranga are all linked by a learning street. Principal Jane Wallis says the school and its street deliver the design's essential idea: a calm, safe, accessible and well-equipped school closely linked to its community. At any time of a school day parents can wander up and down, or sit on a bench in, the street to see their children at work with their teachers and know they are safe. The decile 1 community also wanted a school with an emphasis on learning how to learn, and with high expectations for achievement from an inquiry-based approach. This led to the design focus being put on the high-tech library/information centre. Other spaces on the street include facilities for resource teachers: learning and behaviour, social work, reading recovery, speech language as well as staff and administration. The school street not only leads to the information centre, it also includes sufficient cabling and wireless "airports" for all pupils to have easy internet access from all classrooms.

Other design features also reflect staff and community input, such as the multi-purpose hall and large paved area outside it that is located for powhiri and hui; the siting of play areas beyond the buildings so that children are safely invisible from the road; the school emblem which reflects the street and the emphasis on learning; and the design of the school uniform and the colour schemes.



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Notes:



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