

*Equity = Fairness, impartiality*

### **Rationale**

Wilford School is committed to equity through New Zealand treaty commitments, legislation and policy, and the school's values. This policy describes some of the implications.

### **Policy**

1. School policies and practices will reflect equity as required through New Zealand's human rights commitments, New Zealand education policy, and the school's values.
2. Central to the school's purpose is the realisation of *every* child's right to a free education aimed at developing their personality, talents and abilities to their fullest potential and effective citizenship of their communities, that develops respect for human rights, their own cultural identity, the values of Aotearoa New Zealand, and the environment.
3. The school will ensure as much as practicable that all children have equality of educational opportunity regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, socio-economic or other status.
4. The school will ensure it respects and protects Māori taonga and equal citizenship rights as required by Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
5. All members of the school community will be treated fairly, with respect for their human rights and in accordance with natural justice.
6. The school will actively promote equity, and each year the Principal will identify and report on strategies to support this policy.
7. Issues of inequity will be referred to the Principal for consideration and action as required.

### **Key relevant documents**

Right to education:

- *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (article 26), *International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights* (article 13), *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* (articles 28-9).
- *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (article 14).
- *Education Act* (ss 1A, 3, Schedule 6 s5).
- *The New Zealand Curriculum* (pp 9, 10).

**Date approved:**

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