



18 December 2018

To whom it may concern,

Earlier this year Conrad Waitoa from Inspire Education presented to our staff at Teacher Only Day. His presentation launched our inquiry into how we can be more culturally responsive to our learners and their whanau.

Conrad presented an engaging seminar that took our staff on a journey of reflection. His kaupapa was both challenging and moving and left us questioning; how can we do things better? Many of the staff related to Conrad's stories and shared their own challenges as learners in the New Zealand education system. Conrad also opened himself up for question time where he worked with staff around their personal challenges.

The presentation was a turning point for us as a staff. Conrad assisted us in creating a dialogue around the challenges our Maori learners face, which in turn, focussed us on making a plan. From here, 16 of our staff voluntarily made the commitment to take on additional study in Tikanga and Te Reo and we launched a school wide inquiry into culturally responsive practice. We are currently reviewing our curriculum and how it embraces Te Ao Maori and looking at ways to engage whanau.

Kind regards,

Joanne Smith  
Principal