Report on How Totara School Has Given Effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

1. Introduction

At Totara School we are committed to honoring *Te Tiriti o Waitangi* by fostering a learning environment that values and upholds the principles of **partnership, protection, and participation**. This report outlines the ways in which our school integrates these principles into our curriculum, school culture, and governance.

2. Partnership (Mahi Tahi)

We actively work in partnership with *whānau*, *hapū*, and *iwi* to ensure that Māori perspectives, language, and traditions are respected and incorporated into school life.

- **Consultation with Whanui Hui** to discuss school policies, curriculum, and student needs. All voices were heard.

  Whanau Hui with children every Monday to sing waiata, share whakatoki and build inclusiveness through te reo.

- **Cultural Advisors & Kaumātua Involvement:** Engagement with local Māori leaders to guide tikanga and cultural practices in the school. Kapa Haka festival was held in Term 3 preparation for this was undertaken by the school. This included waiata, haka, Tikanga of event.

3. Protection (Tiakitanga)

We ensure that te reo Māori, tikanga Māori, and mātauranga Māori are safeguarded and actively promoted within the school.

- **Te Reo Māori Integration:** Te reo Māori is used in signage, school communications, and daily classroom activities.
- **Professional Development:** Teachers receive ongoing training on culturally responsive pedagogy and the use of te reo Māori.
- **Mātauranga Māori in Curriculum:** Māori knowledge and perspectives are woven into subjects such as science, history, and the arts.

4. Participation (Whai Wāhitanga)

We support Māori students to succeed as Māori, ensuring equitable access to learning opportunities and leadership roles.

- **Māori Student Achievement Focus:** Monitoring and supporting Māori students' academic progress and well-being.
- **Whānau Engagement:** Encouraging family participation in school events, decision-making, and student learning.
- **Kapa Haka & Cultural Events:** Offering kapa haka, pōwhiri, and *Matariki* celebrations to strengthen cultural identity. Youth Town teaching Ki-o-Rahi and other Maori games.

5. Conclusion

Through these initiatives, Totara School demonstrates a strong commitment to *Te Tiriti o Waitangi*, ensuring that Māori students thrive in an environment that respects their culture, language, and identity. Moving forward, we will continue to strengthen these efforts by deepening partnerships with Māori communities and expanding culturally responsive teaching practices.