



EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE
TE TARI AROTAKE MATAURANGA

CONFIRMED

**PRIVATE SCHOOL
REVIEW REPORT**

HEREWORTH SCHOOL

August 2010

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1 Background

Introduction

The Chief Review Officer has a statutory duty to report on the performance of private schools throughout New Zealand.

Under section 35A of the Education Act 1989, private schools are required to be “efficient”. The Act defines “efficient”, in relation to a private school as:

- (a) having suitable premises, staffing, equipment, and curriculum; and
- (b) usually providing tuition for 9 or more students who have turned 5 but are under 16; and
- (c) providing suitably for the inculcation in the minds of students of sentiments of patriotism and loyalty; and
- (d) giving students tuition of a standard no lower than that of the tuition given to students enrolled at...schools of the same class.

This report focuses on the extent to which the school meets this requirement and other statutory obligations.

This review report was prepared in accordance with standard procedures approved by the Chief Review Officer.

2 Efficient

Suitable premises and equipment

The facilities and spacious grounds are well maintained. Hereworth School has a mix of historic and newer buildings which contribute to the attractive and safe learning environments. Ongoing upgrading of facilities demonstrates the board’s commitment to providing high quality work and learning environments for students and staff. Over the past three years the school grounds have been further developed and include an edible garden and planting of native trees.

The library and technology classrooms are well equipped. The board has invested significant funds to improve teaching resources including the provision of interactive whiteboards in classrooms.

Suitable staffing

The collaborative staff team demonstrates a strong commitment to providing an all round education that supports boys to achieve to their potential. Factors contributing to this include:

- staff demonstrating an understanding of and enthusiasm for boys' education;
- whole-school and targeted individual staff professional development; and
- cross grouping of students where relevant.

Staff support the school's special character and values.

Suitable curriculum

Hereworth School has a clear focus on motivating and engaging boys in their learning. The school defines its suitable curriculum as allowing for ".....the delivery of the New Zealand Curriculum through an holistic approach to educating the child and ongoing professional development for struggling students and accelerant opportunities." The board, management and staff are strong advocates for meeting the specific needs of boys.

Work has begun to redefine the Hereworth Curriculum in 2010. As part of its ongoing cycle of self review the board is presently redeveloping its strategic direction. Staff are aware of the need to continue developing their curriculum statements, assessment practices and expectations. It is timely to align the school's curriculum with the new strategic plan.

Further development and analysis of school-wide assessment information would allow the board to make more informed decisions about resourcing. This should also support the more consistent use of data to inform planning and teaching according to the identified needs of individuals and groups of students within classes.

Suitable tuition

Relationships between staff and boys are characterised by mutually respectful interactions. Staff employ positive strategies to engage boys in learning. These are supported by:

- thoughtful placement of teachers to allow them to work to their strengths;
- specialist teaching in the performing arts, visual arts, religious instruction and technology;
- a well-structured school day that recognises the particular learning needs of students;
- additional support to address the identified learning needs of at risk students and those requiring extension;
- the expectation that all boys will undertake the full range of academic, cultural, social, spiritual and sporting experiences to the best of their abilities; and,
- appropriate staff professional development focused on current school initiatives.

Students are confident, articulate and show genuine enjoyment in all aspects of their learning.

Staff share their strengths and expertise to ensure students are engaged and enjoy a wide range of academic, creative, cultural and sporting activities.

Patriotism and loyalty

Programmes effectively develop sentiments of patriotism and loyalty. Christian values are espoused and reinforced by regular religious instruction and supported by the school chaplain.

The school continues to strongly uphold its six cornerstones of school life: academic, spiritual, sport, cultural, social and the boarding house. Students are encouraged to understand the history of the school and the importance of loyalty, self discipline, respect and caring for others.

3 Statutory Obligations

Hereworth School fulfils the statutory obligations and requirements. The board and management take all reasonable steps to provide a safe and well-equipped physical and emotional environment for students.

4 Other Matters

Provision for International Students

Compliance with the *Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students* and the Provision of English Language Support

Hereworth School is a signatory to the *Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students* (the Code) established under section 238F of the Education Act 1989. This is a requirement of all schools that enrol international students in terms of the Act. Schools are also required to provide English language support for their international students.

The school complies with all aspects of the Code.

Provision for Students in the School Hostel

In this review ERO evaluated the extent to which the school hostel provides a safe physical and emotional environment that supports learning for students accommodated in the hostel.

From 1 March 2007 school hostels are required to be licensed by the Ministry of Education and comply with minimum standards specified in the hostel regulations.

The school hostel, accommodates 22 students, 10% of the school roll. It is owned by Hereworth School. It has been licensed by the Ministry of Education.

Opportunities are provided for senior day boys to experience boarding house life for a two week period. This contributes to the boys' growing sense of independence and confidence.

5 Conclusion

Hereworth School is efficient as defined by Section 35A of the Education Act (1989) in providing suitable premises, equipment, curriculum, staffing and tuition.



Kathleen Atkins
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