

3 March 2025

MAC RECEIVES POSITIVE EVALUATION FROM EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE

Te Kura o Tititea Mount Aspiring College has received a positive assessment in its latest Education Review Office (ERO) evaluation.

Principal Nicola Jacobsen said the report contained an evaluation of the impact of the college's school-wide focus on improving literacy skills and developing learner agency.

"The ERO report found that the majority of our learners in Years 7 to 10 are achieving at or above expected curriculum levels in reading, writing and mathematics, with equitable achievement for Māori learners," she said.

"Most learners continue to achieve Levels 1, 2 and 3 of NCEA and university entrance, with increasing parity for Māori, and students also reported an increased sense of ownership and commitment to their learning goals.

"We are also seeing strong development of teacher capability and confidence in prioritising literacy as a critical skill for learners to reach their potential both within and beyond school. For example, our teachers use a collaborative inquiry process to examine and share their understandings about best practice to support learners' literacy progress across all of our learning areas."

Nicola said the report highlighted the college's effectiveness in creating conditions for learning success, including through the role of leaders at the school.

"My leadership team works with our teachers to build their capacity as educators, and we also provide opportunities for students to take on an increasing range of leadership roles and activities that contribute to the promotion of the school's values, helping to create a positive environment for learning.

"We have peer support leaders, house leaders, committee leaders, the student representative on the School Board, and our head students, as well as many opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate leadership in academic, artistic, sporting, cultural and service-oriented activities at school, and also in our community."

"It's also important to note the contribution of our School Board which fosters productive partnerships with parents, whānau and the community to ensure everyone is on the same page when it comes to the strategic direction of the school, and supports and resources our priorities to improve our students' wellbeing and learning progress."

School Board Chair Niamh Shaw said the latest ERO evaluation was a reflection of the hard work and effort of the school's staff.

"Everyone on the board is really proud of the college's senior leadership team and the staff on achieving such a positive evaluation, and we are delighted to have played a small part in supporting the kura on its journey."

The report also documents the college's future priorities which are expected to result in improvements in students' self-management, confidence in writing, ownership of their learning progress, levels of achievement, and regular attendance.

The college's next evaluation is due within three years.

The ERO is the New Zealand government's external evaluation agency that provides monitoring and evaluation of early learning services, kōhanga reo, puna kōhungahunga, kura and schools.

The report can be viewed on the college website: mtaspiring.school.nz/school-board/

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