



Cosgrove School Accreditation



On the 23rd June 2006 Cosgrove School in Papakura was awarded accreditation as an International Safe School. At a special assembly, Cosgrove was acknowledged as only the second school in New Zealand, and the first in the North Island, to be awarded this honour in recognition of the strategies it had in place for injury prevention and for promoting a positive safety culture and safer environments.

The Safe School concept www.intlsafeschools.com was developed out of the World Health Organisation Safe Communities Network and is a system for schools to use to become safer places to learn, work, live and play. The Peaceful Resources' Center is home to the International Safe Schools Programme and Safe Communities Foundation NZ (SCFNZ) is the Safe Schools affiliate support centre and certifying authority for New Zealand and the wider Australian region.



All the students, staff, many parents/whanau, School Board Trustees and invited guests Papakura District Mayor John Robertson, Judith Collins MP for Clevedon, and Principals of the Papakura school cluster were welcomed into the ceremony by the school Kaumatua and Principal Vicky Joplin. Safety posters were displayed around the walls of the hall.



Student Council leader Meenul Dayal, and Deputy Chair Priyankit Bangia spoke about the school's journey in becoming an International Safe School. This was an interactive session with students answering safety related questions. Meenul said "this accountability, ownership and responsibility toward safety has added to the sense of pride and mana in what it means to be a member of Cosgrove School".

Dr Carolyn Coggan of SCFNZ led the formal accreditation ceremony, and was followed by Ray Freeman from the Board of Trustees and Deputy Principal Peter Rout. All congratulated Cosgrove School on their exceptional efforts to reach accreditation status. International messages of support and congratulations came from United States, Thailand, Hong Kong, and from New Zealand's other accredited school Woodend in Rangiora.



SCFNZ Director also acknowledged the support that SCFNZ Safe School strategic adviser, Tania Peters, has provided to Cosgrove School. Dr Coggan stated that "the application by Cosgrove School for designation as an International Safe School was of an extremely high standard, was very well presented was the result of several years of hard work".



Cosgrove School has emerged as a leader of injury prevention and safety promotion within the school environment. Vicky Joplin, Cosgrove School Principal, needs to be commended for her outstanding effort and commitment to improving the physical and emotional health, wellbeing and safety of students and staff at Cosgrove School.

Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ)

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Certifying Centre of the WHO Safe Community Network; Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion; and Affiliate Centre with Certifying Authority of the International Safe Schools Movement.