

## Red Hill School in New Zealand designated at Safe School

Red Hill is a Decile 1a full primary school with approximately 260 pupils, serving a predominantly Maori and significantly increasing Pacific Island community. on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2007 a site visit was conducted and the designation ceremony was held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, in conjunction with the end-of-year school prize-giving. The Mayor for Papakura attended the designation ceremony along with around 200 other community representatives.



The introduction and overview of Red Hill School, shows the journey towards accreditation outlining the geographic location, demographics, values, vision, mission statement and unique qualities. It provides the reader with a real sense of the school and provides a meaningful context in which to place the Safe School programme. In addition, the whole application provides examples of how the wider network of parents/whanau, students, staff and community are all involved in ensuring a physical and emotional safe environment for students at Red Hill School. Red Hill School is geographically located within the Papakura District Council, which is very supportive of the school, and is beginning its own journey towards community accreditation through their experience with local schools.



Since the opening of the school in 1992 many programmes have been developed and reviewed. Included in the application was a table highlighting 37 programmes covering: Road Safety, Eliminating Violence, Water Safety, Fire Safety, Cyber Safety, Sun Smart, Leadership, Social Skills, & other life skills, Fitness, Nutrition, Cultural Awareness, Self-esteem, Emotional Well-being, First Aid, Property Management & Resourcing. All programmes contributed to promoting students' ability to make safe choices for themselves, socially, emotionally and physically in a coordinated, comprehensive and sustainable manner. During the site visit the positive achievements of these programmes were clearly evident.

The application by Red Hill School, to become a member of the Safe School Community International Accreditation Programme (SSCIAP) is of an extremely high standard, and provides an excellent model for other schools to utilise. The application is also very well presented and easy to follow. It demonstrates an outstanding ongoing commitment to developing and maintaining the safety culture and a safe environment at Red Hill School. A copy of this school's application is available on the SSCIAP website [www.safeschoolciap.org](http://www.safeschoolciap.org)

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