



Kohia Terrace School Three Way Learning Conferences

What are they?

Three way learning conferences take the form of a conversation between the student, their parents and their teacher where they talk about the student's learning, with the student taking an equal role.

Recent research by Professor John Hattie provided a "list of the most effective influences on student achievement" which identified student self-reporting as the most significant indicator linked to raised student achievement. Visible Learning, Tomorrow's Schools (2009)

Three way learning conferences reflect the intent of the NZ Curriculum where it states its vision for our young people is for them to be confident, connected, actively involved and life long learners.

"This reporting procedure, in which the student is very actively involved in the learning and reporting process, is a fundamental shift away from the one-way transference of information from teacher to parents, and is consistent with the characteristics of effective assessment in the NZ Curriculum." Ministry of Education, Assessment Online, TKI.

How do they support our KTS learner attributes?

At KTS we are committed to establishing learning-focused relationships in which teachers create an environment where the learners are encouraged to "own" the learning process. Our teachers and students use the language of learning and where appropriate co-construct the learning eg. Learning Intentions: "We are learning how to" and Success Criteria: " We will know we have learnt this when"

Since students are at the centre of all reporting, it follows that they should be an integral part of the reporting process.

"For the focus to be kept on the learning, and the ownership of learning with the child, then the best person to talk about the learning is the learner." Michael Absalom, Clarity in the Classroom (2006)

Self Aware/ Wānanga – I know and value who I am and strive to be all I can be

KTS students receive ongoing feedback and feed forward from their teachers and use self-assessment as a regular part of their learning process and use this information to set new learning goals. Three way learning conferences provide an opportunity for students to celebrate their learning with their parents.



Connected/ Whanaungatanga – to their learning and able to relate to others and to their environment .

KTS students accept responsibility for their learning, their progress and their achievement. Three way learning conferences provide an opportunity for students to share with their parents their growth as a learner. It is critical that the learning process has a student voice and this forum encourages students, parents and teachers to engage in open and honest dialogue.

Equipped/ Māramatanga – for learning, actively participating and continually learning to self manage

KTS students are actively involved in the learning process and they will have selected a range of evidence of their learning including work samples that highlight strengths and areas for future development.

Empowered/ Whakamana – I can bring about change by having the confidence to try new things

KTS students are encouraged to reflect on their learning. Three way learning conferences provide an opportunity for discussion on the student's learning goals and how they can be supported both at school and at home to promote their progress and achievement.

Why three way learning conferences?

Through 3WLCs the family can be brought into the learning focused relationship between the teacher and the student. This partnership further supports the student's learning. The aim of 3WLCs is to celebrate successes and discuss areas for improvement. They highlight student strengths, current achievement and next learning steps.

Following these conferences parents/ caregivers should have a clearer picture of their child's current developmental learning needs and goals.