



# Foundations of the Garin Curriculum

This is a statement of the school's philosophy regarding what we teach, how and why we teach in that way. The School Leaders review that statement each year, so it evolves, and all subject areas remain committed to the Garin style of education.

As a new school in 2002 we were in the fortunate position of being able to develop a curriculum that reflected requirements of the New Zealand curriculum. We have always had a focus on key competencies: thinking, using language, symbols, and texts, managing self, relating to others, participating and contributing and, as we became more aware of the future needs of students we have added: ICT capabilities and ethics, responsible decision-making, global citizenship and junior students will learn a language.

As a Catholic school our curriculum reflects the demand that we "live and teach the values of Jesus Christ" (Integration Act 1975), and is enhanced by tikanga Māori. We acknowledge the need for our students to learn and grow as whole people, and we work closely with our parents to help students become the adults they were created to be. Senior students will select subjects that support areas of future development and careers.

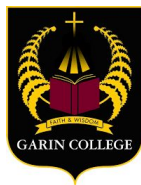
As a twenty-first century school, our curriculum anticipates the spiritual, intellectual, technological, social and citizenship needs of young people growing to adulthood in a changing world.

How do we do that?

Ensuring quality, breadth and depth of learning Garin offers a broadly based curriculum. We find ways to integrate learning wherever possible, acknowledge the importance of literacy and numeracy, recognising the needs, abilities and interests of all students.

We use a range of programmes to assist students develop their literacy and numeracy skills. Our gifted and talented programmes recognise the special abilities of students.

We believe in developing the whole person of each student – while acknowledging the importance of academic success for each student, preparing students for a further education, training and careers.



The Gateway and Trades Academy programmes offer students opportunities to explore and complete qualifications through work placements and study in vocational areas. We take care to integrate careers education into the programmes of all curriculum areas so students are able to see the purpose of their learning. We find opportunities in all subjects to provide students with “real-life” experiences and connect with our wider community.

In all learning areas we prepare students to be confident, connected, and actively involved lifelong learners. We help students identify their personal skills, strengths and abilities by developing career plans and so make purposeful decisions about courses and experiences they need by providing wider curriculum opportunities through a holistic education approach.

Our Outdoor/Religious Education Journey programme introduces our students to the great New Zealand outdoor experience. Club Garin provides the financial backing and organisational infrastructure required to achieve a comprehensive arts, sports, and community service programme for all students. Monitoring and evaluating programmes and ensuring a range of assessment practices maximise student achievement and success. We collect data on student success and invite student evaluation of programmes. Achievement data provides us with the context and direction for further changes to teaching and learning. We tailor assessment programmes to fit the needs and abilities of students.