The Effective Teaching Profile Activities and Resources

Mere Berryman and Robbie Lamont 2013
Deficit Theorising

The Characteristics of Effective Teachers of Māori students

Effective teachers of Māori students, first and foremost, create a culturally appropriate and responsive context for learning in their classrooms. In doing so, they demonstrate the following understandings:

a) they positively reject deficit theorising as a means of explaining Māori students’ educational achievement levels,

b) they know and understand how to bring about change in Māori students’ educational achievement and are professionally committed to doing so.
Manaakitanga - Caring for the person

Effective teachers of Māori students demonstrate, on a daily basis, that they care for the students as culturally located human beings above all else. The voices of the students make it clear that this is a fundamental prerequisite for teachers, a base on which all other characteristics rest.

Watch a video on Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga

Effective teachers who show manaakitanga:

- treat students and whānau with respect which leads to reciprocity
- are compassionate
- understand the world of the students as teenagers and as Māori
- have a sense of humour
- can be trusted to keep confidences
- are giving of themselves
- act in a fair and just manner
- are friendly and firm in relation to students
- learn and ensure Māori names are pronounced properly
- ensure actions are culturally located
- participate with students in a variety of ways
- want to be in the classroom with the students.
Mana Motuhake

Effective teachers of Māori students demonstrate, on a daily basis, that they care for the performance and learning of their students.

Watch a video on Mana Motuhake

Effective teachers who show mana motuhake:

- have high expectations of students and voice these often
- have clear teaching goals and communicate and negotiate these with students
- have a strong commitment to developing students’ learning
- have a strong commitment to teaching students how to learn
- continually and critically reflect on their own teaching
- do not accept mediocrity from anyone (especially themselves)
- constantly support and reward efforts and learning by students
- take personal and professional responsibility for student learning
- clearly identify what is expected of students and what the learning actually involves
- have a clear philosophy of teaching, that is, understand “the why”
- are passionate about their subject and what is being taught
- teach in small chunks, if there is a need for such an approach
- make homework relevant and check carefully and responsively.
Effective teachers of Māori students demonstrate on a daily basis that they can create and maintain a secure, well-managed learning environment.

Use this video to stimulate discussion with other members of your team. What evidence can you see/hear of whakappiringatanga in these brief classroom clips.

Effective Teachers who demonstrate whakappiringatanga:

- stress the importance of respectful relationships (no put-downs)
- have excellent classroom management
- use non-confrontational classroom management strategies
- have a clean, tidy, organised room
- invite whānau to be involved at a variety of levels
- see their classroom as part of the whole school.