

English Learning Area Statement

Vision and Essential Nature of English

The English vision of the Puketaha School Learning Community is to develop students' willingness and ability to communicate in a range of situations effectively, orally, visually and/or in written form and to equip them with the learning capacity to access all other areas of the curriculum and communicate confidently in our complicated world.

The Structure of the Teaching and Learning of English

Reading, writing and oral language are interactive tools that our students use to engage with all the learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum. As our students progress through our school and depending on their stage of development, English teaching and learning, and the way it looks in the classroom will vary.

In the Junior area of our school our younger students are learning how to read, write and speak confidently as part of their literacy instructional programme. From the Middle Syndicate onwards teachers at Puketaha School are identifying opportunities to strengthen students' literacy expertise within a wide variety of cross-curricular learning experiences.

As students move through our school the texts that they read and write and engage with will become more and more complex and at the same time the subject matter that they read and write about will become more abstract and specialised. Future focused issues such as sustainability, citizenship, enterprise and globalisation are explored especially with the older students. We believe that these issues they encourage students to make connections across the Learning Areas, our Values, Puketaha 6C's and they are relevant to students' futures.

Teachers at Puketaha School are aware of expectations of their students for each stage of their development and use a variety of teaching and learning strategies to ensure learning is personalised.