

TIMATANGA COMMUNITY SCHOOL JUNIOR TEACHER APPLICATION FORM

Name:

Contact information:

Why do you want to work in a democratic school?

Please note, if you do not want to work in a democratic school in particular, please don't apply for this job as we are only looking for people who want to teach and learn in this pedagogy and environment.

Relevant work experience:

Relevant life experience:

Anything further that you would like to tell us:

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are seeking an experienced Y0-2 teacher for free play based, child led learning in a democratic school, where children choose their own learning contexts and help to run their school. Learning largely emerges from play and curiosity; we also teach literacy and numeracy skills in small groups. Our learning culture is one of expectation and inclusion but not compulsion.

Classes often contain a range of ages and they occur both inside and outside. Timatanga is a full primary of 28 students with a teaching principal and two staff supported by daily whanau involvement.

We are seeking the right person to teach:

- Y0-2 literacy and numeracy in both skills groups and integrated curriculum (mornings)
- Y1-8 supporting play, provocations and child led learning, and sharing what you are into (afternoons)

Experience sought: Playcentre or similar play and provocation based learning a must. Hand-making, early literacy, music, outdoor experiential education, Te Reo, experience of Te Whaariki, preferred.

Qualities sought: Emotional intelligence, the ability to be self-reflective and collaborative; the ability to teach responsively and to learn from, and with, your students, creative, passionately interested in teaching practice as an inquiry into the nature of true learning.

WHAT IS DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION?

Teachers and students have an equal vote in the decisions about their learning and their social lives. Students decide how, when, what, where and with whom they learn, and they have an equal share in the decision-making as to how their schools are run, and which rules and sanctions, if any, are necessary.

Here are some other attempts at definition:

"The diverse participants in Democratic Education are united in upholding the spirit of the Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and implementing this as the primary framework for the day-to-day practices in all learning environments."
IDEC in New Zealand

"Democratic education is education in which teachers and learners work together as equals."
David Gribble

"Democratic Education is based on respect, tolerance and love."
Yakov Hecht

WHAT IS TIMATANGA SCHOOL'S APPROACH?

Democratic schools are diverse and function in a range of ways. Timatanga School is run through school meetings and decisions are made by consensus, but teachers have the final say on health and safety matters. Children co-create curriculum with others and chose the content and context for their learning, but they are guided through a learning journey process once they have started something of sustained interest. There is no compulsion to participate in classes but there is a strong culture of expectation that you will participate. Much learning is discovery and/or play based and so teachers often create a stimulating, orderly and creative environment with a range of provocations and then they step back.
<http://timatanga.school.nz/>