

National Standards

Our school is a State Integrated school. This means that we fulfil all the requirements of a Steiner education and the very good NZ Curriculum, but we **will not assess against NATIONAL STANDARDS** through the primary school.

We are the only State schools in the country to have our unhurried and children centred education not dictated by the National Standards, and **yet** achieve levels of academic achievement that **far exceed the national norms**.

We assess our students without comparisons or ranking of students against one another.

The Steiner schools of NZ have successfully negotiated with the Ministry of Education to recognise the spirit of our education, our learning programmes and our outcomes. We have agreed that by the end of the Primary school years (year 8) our students will have had the opportunity to achieve the standards, which our data already demonstrates, occurs successfully.

We, like many NZ schools, believe National **Standards** are a failure model for those students who are already struggling, and worse, create an increasingly narrow educational focus on literacy and maths to the detriment of all other important subjects.

We believe educational achievement should be achievement in all areas of a child's life - Practical /kinaesthetic; creative / artistic; academic /cognitive - simply called a **HEAD, HEARTS HAND** learning programme.

We promote a balanced, whole person learning environment, creating manifold neurological pathways to solution finding, clear thinking, interpersonal intelligence, engagement, creative expression and most importantly a **CONFIDENCE in themselves**. A holistic education offers many pathways to knowledge within a balanced Structured, nurturing environment.