

The Role of the Advisory Kaiako

To fulfil the essential elements of authentic Montessori practice. Specifically

1. Respect – WaOra will create a respectful atmosphere where the akonga, the environment and the adults, staff and parent community are honoured.

Our Guiding Montessori Value for this:

Generosity of Spirit – good people create good people. Human communities make possible the greatest expressions of human goodness and achievement.

Within this framework the role of the Advisory kaiako is:

- To be approachable, a listener, a helper, a guide, and a supporter
- To be a mentor and work with akonga to set both academic and aspirational goals
- To meet with akonga each term to discuss progress towards goals and whys they have been set.
- To liaise with other teachers when akonga need support and/ or counselling.
- To be compassionate
- To encourage a positive attitude towards learning
- To be the first point of contact for parents
- To follow up on lateness and absences if needed
- To be the primary contact for parent teacher interviews

Parent Consultation

Please make contact with each parent/caregiver in your pastoral group within the first two weeks of Term One.

Below are some guidelines that may help when contacting parents.

- State facts simply and accurately
- Be prepared to cope with the different reactions you may get.
- Be patient, understanding and a good listener
- Be tactful, gentle but firm.
- Be prepared to change your point of view if you receive additional information from a parent that shed new light on the situation.
- Be prepared to offer support and guidance to parents/caregivers. Encourage them to work with you. Suggest joint actions that they can undertake with you.
- Be prepared to recognise when you cannot handle a problem and get advice from your Head Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal or Counsellor.
- If you are reluctant to contact a parent but know contact is needed. As your Head Teacher or Assistant Principal to make contact and carry out the conversation.
- If you wish 'support' at a parent interview just ask, either the Head Teacher or the Assistant Principal would be willing to be there with you.