

**Aotearoa New Zealand's quality public education system is one of the best in the world, and to advance this, we need our vision to endure.**

## **Why is quality public education essential?**

Because it:

- is the foundation of an active democracy, and a strong economy
- is vital to a fair, prosperous society, so all can participate fully, and all can benefit
- ensures our success as individuals, as a Treaty of Waitangi-based nation, and a multicultural society
- reinforces society's values and builds understanding of, and respect for, others
- is critical for addressing issues of social justice such as poverty, health and housing
- enriches and strengthens our local communities and whanau.

Every child has the right to a free, accessible and excellent education.

It is critical that quality public education is locally available and fully-funded by the state.

## **What do we want for every child in Aotearoa New Zealand?**

Only the very best...

... so each child will develop an enquiring mind, become passionate about learning, and grow and achieve as an active, thoughtful citizen of Aotearoa New Zealand and of the world.

## **What is our vision?**

- Every child grows to be a creative, capable, and confident citizen
- Whanau are involved and support their children's learning
- Schools and early childhood education centres are vibrant, flourishing learning environments, central to their communities
- Communities value their local schools and early childhood education centres, and use their resources and expertise to support them
- Society recognises the power of investing in quality teaching and learning.

## **Education is a human right and a public good**

The right to education enables people to fully participate in their society. The Government has a responsibility to provide a free, fair, and accessible quality public education system that adequately meets the diverse needs of children.

Whanau and communities have a right, and a responsibility, to be partners in education.

Each child has the right to an education that meets their diverse needs and helps them fulfill their potential.

Quality public education strengthens the future of our country for the good of all.

## **What should quality public education look like?**

### **Every child has the right to attend a quality local school or early childhood education centre where:**

- they are welcomed and have their individual needs met
- the government plans and fully-funds the public provision of quality education to meet 21st century needs
- communities, whanau, children, and educators work in partnerships to build nurturing, vibrant environments that foster learning
- responsibility and accountability for each child's education is shared by the child, whanau, the school or centre, and the state.

### **Every child has the right to quality learning opportunities which:**

- enable them to be the best they can be
- are child-centred and focus on strengths, successes, needs and potential
- foster a love of learning
- are based on a broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum
- encourage creativity, collaboration and a sense of adventure
- use assessment to support learning, acknowledge progress, and identify next learning steps.

### **Every child has the right to quality teaching and support from teachers, support staff and others who are:**

- creative, confident, competent and accountable
- respected and valued for their contribution to each child's wellbeing and learning
- appropriately skilled, trained and qualified
- encouraged and supported to continue their own learning
- well resourced and well paid
- able to access a clear career pathway.

**A strong, vibrant and well-resourced public education system is the best investment government and communities can make for the future of Aotearoa New Zealand.**