

Deep Green Bush-School

Statement of Practice

The philosophy of Deep Green Bush-School (DGBS) promotes and instills the Culture of Sustainability and Core Principles.

This is enacted in practice through ensuring that students are treated as capable and responsible learners, and trusted to undertake their learning within an environment of freedom and choice; relating to decision making, action and authentic learning.

The school's goal is to raise students who are emotionally healthy, critical thinkers, mature in their outlook, caring and responsible, wise, with a deep understanding of the world around them and have the courageous to act on their understanding and knowing of the world, with good intention for others and the world they participate in.

Above all, our practice is deeply embedded in trust of the student:

- within the supportive and creative environment of the school
- free from coercion in order to nurture the discovery of self-knowledge, intuition, intrinsic motivation, emotional and social intelligence.

We have high expectations from the students in terms of:

• developing self-reliance	• strong will,	• confidence,	• patience,
• resilience	• building character	• managing risk-taking	• cooperation

The DGBS adopts structures that promote:

• Learning of responsibility necessary with freedom	• Rule-making and participation in the day to day running of the school	• Operational decision-making become the responsibility of the students	• Students take responsibility over the safe and responsible use of school equipment and resources
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We strongly believe that without trust and risk-taking the human development cannot be complete. Furthermore, the school shapes a world-view deeply rooted in ecological sustainability and understanding the impact of human behaviour on the ecosystem.

Our practices enable students to experience everyday life on a deeper level, thoughtfully consider life after high school, having a realistic view of the labour market, the declining emphasis of university qualification, the role of jobs and money, understanding debt and fully exploring alternatives.

The DGBS promotes students learning from members of the community who exemplify the kind of wisdom normally experienced from wise elders or kaumatua. Our philosophy and practices nurture inner freedom, critical deep thinkers and fearless learners.