



Parent and Caregiver Consultation

The parents and caregivers of Sumner School have been asked how they see the future of the school, and what they would like to see in their new Principal. The following ideas, competencies and values were themed and grouped from parent/caregiver responses. Their own words were used where appropriate.

Sumner School in 5 Years' Time

If in 5 years' time people were talking about Sumner School in the community, parents/caregivers would like people to be saying ...

- The school is the heart of the community and is integrated into the wider Sumner village.
- There is a creative, caring, safe and positive school culture, where everyone feels welcome and children are proud to wear the Sumner School uniform.
- The school nurtures a love of learning and develops children academically, socially, and emotionally.
- Children are happy and enjoy learning at school and leave the school with empathy, confidence, independence, and understanding of their strengths.
- When children think back on their time at Sumner School, they see it as a positive experience in their lives.
- Staff inspire children, are happy and supported, and love working at such a visionary, open-minded, collaborative, and respectful school.
- Sumner School prepares students with good life skills for the future, giving fantastic support for all abilities, and ensuring students are well equipped to succeed at High School.

Sumner School Now

Parents and caregivers feel that what sets Sumner School apart and what makes it stand out from other schools is...

- The unique natural environment surrounding the school that gives children a sense of identity, large green spaces, and the beautiful coastal environment.
- The positive, happy and caring culture of the school that gives children a place to feel confident, comfortable and safe.
- The supportive parents and strong sense of community who are closely involved with the school.
- The great students who look out for each other, are enthusiastic and believe in their future.
- Devoted and hard-working staff who are highly engaged and deliver a high standard of teaching and learning.

Parents and caregivers feel that Sumner School has strengths in...

- Offering a diverse subject range, including a focus on mainstream subjects, offering excellent support for pupils whether they require additional support or are high achievers.
- Providing a range of opportunities for students, including music programmes, arts and crafts, gardening, technology and sports.
- Creating excellent teaching programmes and learning opportunities for students, within innovative learning environments.
- Encouraging students to embody the strong SURFER values and different character strengths, centering them at the heart of education.

The Future of Sumner School

The parents and caregivers of Sumner School would like a new Principal who has excellent skills...

- In communicating and collaborating with staff, students, parents and the wider community.
- In leading to inspire others and achieve a vision, while creating a healthy and stable working environment for staff and learning environment for students.
- In building relationships and connecting with others, as well as identifying and utilising strengths of staff to build a strong team.
- In management, including financial management, and in delegating and sharing responsibility.

The parents and caregivers of Sumner School would like a Principal who is...

- Approachable, and is someone who parents and kids can talk to without feeling intimidated
- Respectful of the environment, with a belief that environmental projects (e.g. enviro-schools, gardening) are not only important for student wellbeing, but are also excellent vehicles through which to deliver the curriculum.
- Is visible in the classroom and around the playground, is well-liked by children, knows their names, and gets involved with what they are doing.
- Has a high level of integrity and openness, who is also friendly, kind and caring.
- Will bring fresh ideas to the school and is dynamic in their approach to running a school.
- A considered implementer of change, that is based on best practice that makes a difference to student outcomes.

The parents and caregivers of Sumner School would like a Principal who values...

- Respect, fairness, equality, and diversity.
- The community presence and engagement and encourages their involvement in the school.
- The strong environmental focus of the school and the community's passion for its physical surroundings.
- The holistic approach to learning with a focus on wellbeing.
- The multicultural makeup of Aotearoa and is assimilating about incorporating te reo into all areas of learning.

The parents and caregivers of Sumner would like a Principal who has knowledge and experience...

- As a classroom teacher who is well respected and has worked with primary school children of all ages.
- And a proven track record of successfully leading a school where parents have high expectations.
- In a leadership role, preferably as a Principal, but at least in a Senior Leadership Team.
- Of Modern Learning Environments, and challenges and best practices around these.
- With Primary School level children, including understanding developmental needs, and knowledge in up-to-date pedagogy, and best practice.
- New Zealand Curriculum, the Ministry of Education, and their systems and processes.

Parents and caregivers would like a new Principal whose personality suits the culture and environment of the school, and who values the children and is motivated by what is in their best interests.