



Staff Consultation

The staff 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 staff 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, staff would like people to be saying that...

- Sumner School is the first choice school for families in the community, provides a first class education, and is a school that is pulsing with life.
- It is a school with strong relationships with the community, and happy staff, students, and parents.
- Students at Sumner School are supported to flourish across all areas of the curriculum.
- The school uses a personalised approach to learning that is fun, exciting, and up to date with pedagogical best practice.
- It is a school that allows students to develop positively, preparing them for a world of change, with the ability to face challenges without anxiety or stress.
- Sumner School has caring citizens in the making, where students feel good about their learning, are brave and take risks to make the world a better place.
- The wellbeing of students and teachers is nurtured, valued and at the centre of everything that the school does.
- The school cares about its staff, who are inclusive, responsive, strong, and who are supported by their leadership.

Sumner School Now

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

- The friendly, open and welcoming environment.
- The wonderful, close-knit, involved community environment that is safe and supportive.
- The unique environment, with beautiful surroundings and landscapes.
- The supportive network of excellent and dedicated staff with lots of experience, who work well together and with mutual respect to ensure high quality outcomes for students.
- The openness and friendliness of students, who are enthusiastic, multi-talented, and positive learners.

Staff feel that Sumner School has strengths in...

- The great cohesion across the staff, who are supported to grow and develop as educators to provide great teaching to all students.
- Inviting student and parent voice and supporting the community to be a part of their child's learning.
- Being unafraid of driving new initiatives and trying new things to benefit the children. For example, embracing modern learning environments.
- Embracing new technology and being tech-savvy.

The Future of Sumner School

The staff of Sumner School would like a new Principal who has excellent skills...

- In communication with staff, students, parents and other schools.
- In leadership and inspiring others.
- In getting along with people and building trusting relationships.
- In information technology.
- Across all curriculum areas and is focussed on student achievement.

The staff of Sumner School would like a Principal who is...

- A good fit for the community and works for the people.
- Kind, caring, and a genuinely nice person.
- Approachable and visible around the school.
- Fair and reasonable.
- Fun, has a good sense of humour and likes to have a laugh.
- Supports staff, trusts them and backs teachers who are willing to try new things.
- Has a growth mind-set and is future focussed.

The staff of Sumner School would like a Principal who values...

- Respect, open-mindedness and empathy.
- Working in collaboration and listening to the ideas of staff and students.
- Staff wellbeing and fostering strong relationships with staff.
- Supporting and encouraging staff to pursue their passions in relation to professional development opportunities.
- Spending time with students, showing genuine interest and making them feel important.

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

- And a proven history of being an effective leader, preferably as a Principal, but at least at a Senior Management Level.
- In leading NZ curriculum, education systems, pedagogy, best practice and assessment across the school.
- In current and emerging teaching practices and a willingness to share knowledge with staff.
- Working with Modern Learning Environments.

Above all, the staff would like a new Principal who can continue working on the amazing things already happening at Sumner School and bring some of their own exciting ideas.