

Vision and Essential Nature of Rich Topic

The Rich Topic vision of the Puketaha School Learning Community is to develop students' curiosity about and understanding of people, places and concepts, and to equip them with the learning capacity to participate and take action in the world in which they live as critical, informed, and responsible citizens.

The Structure of the Teaching and Learning of Rich Topic

At Puketaha School we choose to integrate our Learning Areas of Social Science, Science, Music, The Arts and Technology as much as possible as we believe this best authentically reflects the world beyond the classroom while also making learning accessible to all children. Teachers aim to develop depth of coverage of a topic. The richness of learning comes from this depth and less from the complexity of curriculum areas. Teachers will allocate time for thoughtful exploration and experimentation.

Rich Topic learning will have valuable, real and tangible outcomes, will be interesting and relevant to children, engage students purposefully and involve in-depth exploration from more than one point of view. Most of all, it will inspire learning.

As students move through our school the Rich Topics and the contexts that they engage with will become more and more complex. The depth of the understanding, technicality of skill, breadth of knowledge and outcomes will increase in sophistication as students move into through the school. Through Rich Topic students will be exposed and will explore a range Global Concepts and future focused issues examples such as sustainability, citizenship, enterprise, change, and globalisation. Contexts will be co constructed to engage and explore these contexts dependent on the development, level and maturation of our students. We believe that these issues encourage students to make connections across the above Learning Areas and importantly our Values and the Puketaha 6C's, as we believe they are what are relevant and support students for their learning and their future.

Teachers at Puketaha School are aware of expectations of their students for each stage of their development and maturation and use a variety of teaching and learning strategies to ensure learning is personalised.