

# Learning Support

*Ko au ko au  
Ko koe  
Ko koe  
Me haere ngatahi taua*

I am who I am  
You are who you are  
Let us move together in unison



## Our Special Education Policy

### ***Rationale***

Villa Maria College provides for all students with special curriculum-based needs.

### ***Objectives***

1. To identify and provide support for students with special education needs.
2. To identify and remove barriers to their learning for students with special education needs.
3. To work in partnership with parents/caregivers to identify and overcome barriers to learning.
4. To foster positive relationships between students with special educational needs and other students especially through Religious Education and Peer Support Programmes.

### **Code of Conduct for teacher aides**

- Clarify expectations of the teacher and follow directions
- Be professional and discrete
- Be knowledgeable about the student
- Treat students with dignity and respect
- Be as unobtrusive as possible
- Follow school procedures
- Defer to the teacher for disciplinary issues
- Be knowledgeable about adapting class goals, procedures, materials and assessments to the students' needs
- Notify the teacher of planned absences
- Model the Special Character Villa Maria College.

## Learning Support Department Services

We co-ordinate specialty services for individual students or for small groups as required:

- Correspondence lessons from Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu
- Applications to NZQA for Special Assessment Conditions
- S.A.C services
- Individual educational programmes
- Peer tutoring
- Learning support classes
- Teacher aide assistance
- Academic assessments
- Links with community agencies
- Individual and small group tuition
- ORRS, LSF, RTLB services
- Gifted and Talented
- Non-English Speaking Background
- Transition to and from Villa.

## Teacher aides work for the target students by:

- Helping the students achieve the teachers' goals
- Locating and preparing resources
- Adapting curriculum, materials, procedures and assessments
- Reader/writer for assessments (if approved)
- Providing knowledge and insights into individual student's needs
- Helping to provide pastoral care
- Helping to manage student behaviour.

**In the spirit of inclusion embodied in *Special Education 2000*, the target student may be part of a small group who receive teacher aide attention thus avoiding alienation and learned dependency.**

***Ministry of Education (1996) Special Education 2000. Wellington: Ministry of Education***

## Lines of Communication

Teacher aide



Class teacher and/or Learning Support Coordinator



Teachers, parents, caregivers, counsellor, Heads of House, Heads of Faculty, Senior Management