



Excellere College

Whaia te Maramatanga o Te Karaiti



2018 Principal's Report

Excellence in learning

Christianity in living

Principal's Report on 2018

"This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118: 24 NASB

2018 saw us consolidate our Relationship-based Learning culture, and finalise the addition of new learning spaces for 2019. We, again, saw improved academic results and continued NCEA success.

Our year, again, started with a powhiri for new students and families. Some highlights for our students during 2018 included: school picnic, Poor Knights diving trip, mufti days, athletics days, senior science trips, swimming pool on-site, Senior Ball, Friday canteen, Life Education, Careers Roadshow, worship at assembly, Noho Marae, Excel assembly concert, 40hr Famine, SPRINGS Challenge, music camp, cross country, successful sports tournaments, senior leavers dinner, and a wonderful Awards praise-giving to end the year. The majority of our students were also able to attend a school camp during 2018.



During the year we continued to focus on improving classroom practice. This was achieved with the support of a Ministry PLD contract focused on Relationship-based Learning. We continued to develop the capacity of our Impact coaches, with them ending the year ready to visit staff and provide feedback on specific learning practices.

Our participation in the Te Tai Raki Kahi Ako continued as we finalised our Achievement Challenges, selected Across-School and Within-School-Teachers.

We began term one with a school picnic, which was a wonderful opportunity for parents, students and staff to mingle in a relaxed environment. Our Term One camps involved Years 3-6, Year 11, and Year 12. They all had a great time experiencing God's creation. Our Year 7-13 athletics day, again, saw great participation and some outstanding results. We had the pool on site for our Juniors, and a group of our senior students attended the World Vision Leadership Conference in Auckland, listening to inspirational speakers and learning about the 40hr Famine later in the year. Some staff attended the NZACS Leaders' Conference in Rotorua.



During term two we had a Noho Marae for Year 10 and Kapa Haka members. Excel Performing Arts School visited and had our students cheering along. We 'Ran for Bibles' during our school cross-country, and students were involved in local Winter tournaments. We participated in the 40 hour Famine and Our Senior Ball was, again, very successful with CRS students joining us this year.

Term three saw us hosting student Learning Conferences, where efforts were acknowledged and next steps discussed. We hosted a music camp with Laughton Kora. Our Year 13's hit the slopes on their annual Snow Camp and Life Education was here for three days.

During term four our SPRINGS challenge reward trips were held and we attended local athletics days. We farewelled our leavers at a special assembly, and dinner. Our NCEA students prepared for, and sat, external exams. We ended the year with two successful Awards celebrations where achievements were acknowledged and items presented by our students.



We farewelled Ray Graham, and Mary-Lynn Steel in 2018. They both retired after long careers in education.

Our Parent Support Group had another successful year supporting the school. Their continued provision of canteen on Fridays is a highlight for our students is a successful fundraising activity. We thank the group for their continued support of our College.

Our proprietors, New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust and our land Trust, Whangarei Christian Education Trust, continued to work together successfully to develop the capacity of the school to grow in the future. At the end of the year four relocatable classrooms were purchased to provide new spaces for Science, Art and Music. As the school grows we will continue to require more space.

Our Board of Trustees, led by Don Birkett, continued to provide strong and stable governance for Excellere College. This has laid a solid foundation for school leadership to pursue initiatives which have had a positive impact on student learning.

Academically we had another excellent year, with an improvement in our overall results for Reading and Writing, and improvement overall for our Maori students.

Overall Results 2018, Year 1 – 8 (at/above NZC expectation)

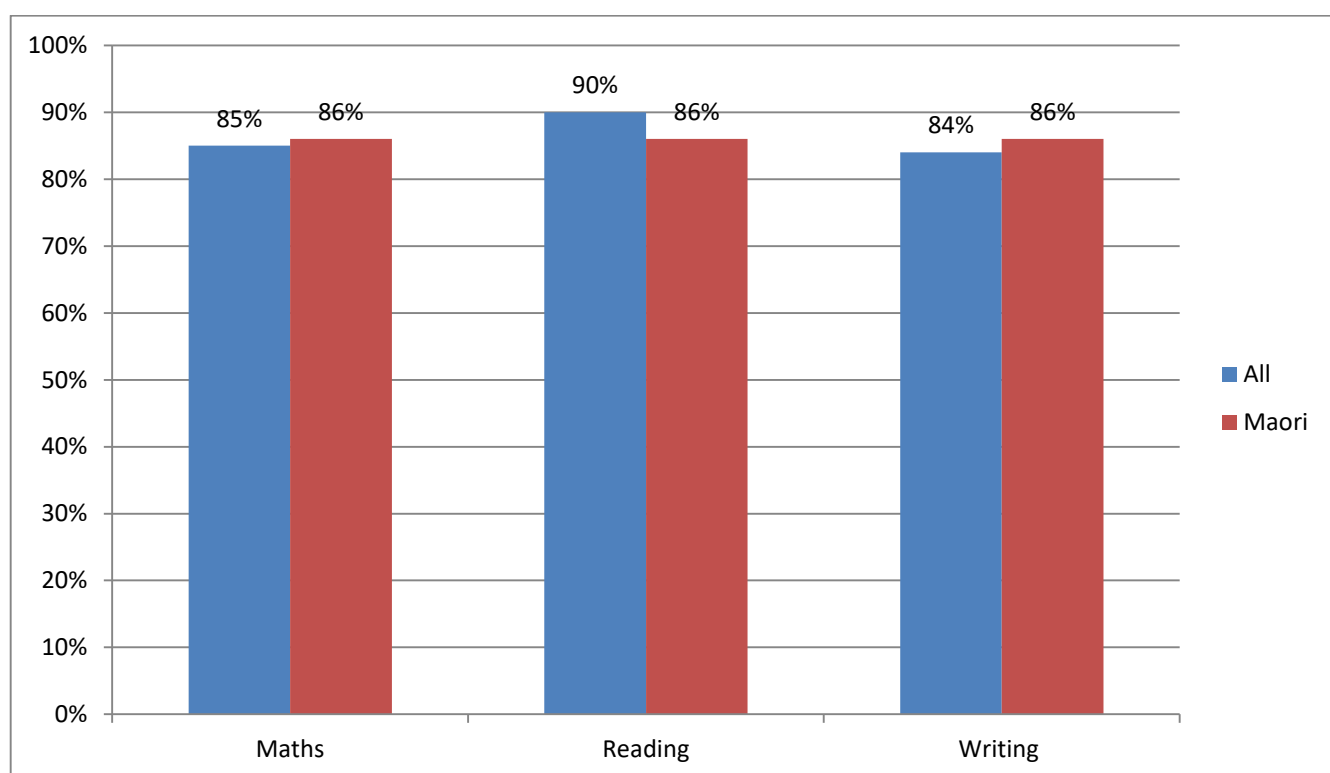


Figure 1 National Standards Year 1 – 8

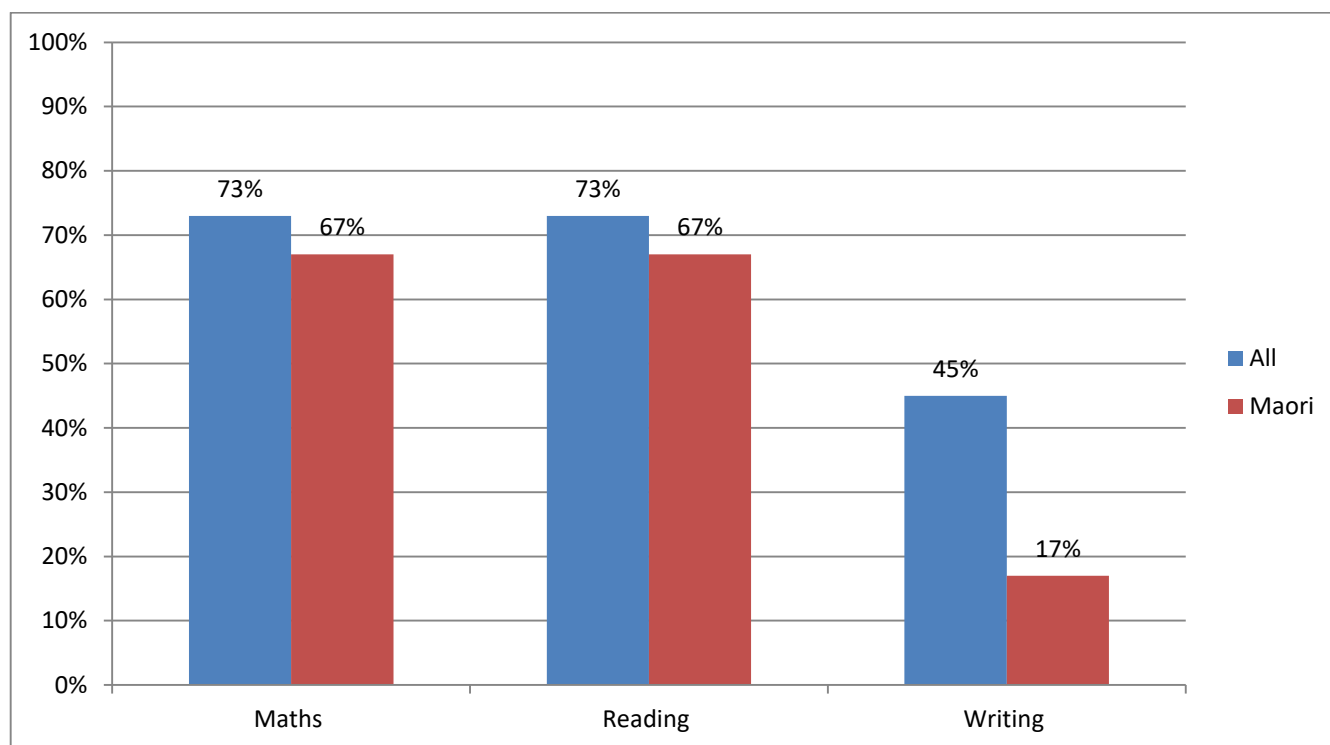
Our Reading improved from 81% to 90%, with Maori moving from 74% to 86%.

Our Maths improved from 78% to 85%, with Maori moving from 63% to 86%.

Our Writing remained at 84%, with Maori moving from 85% to 86%.

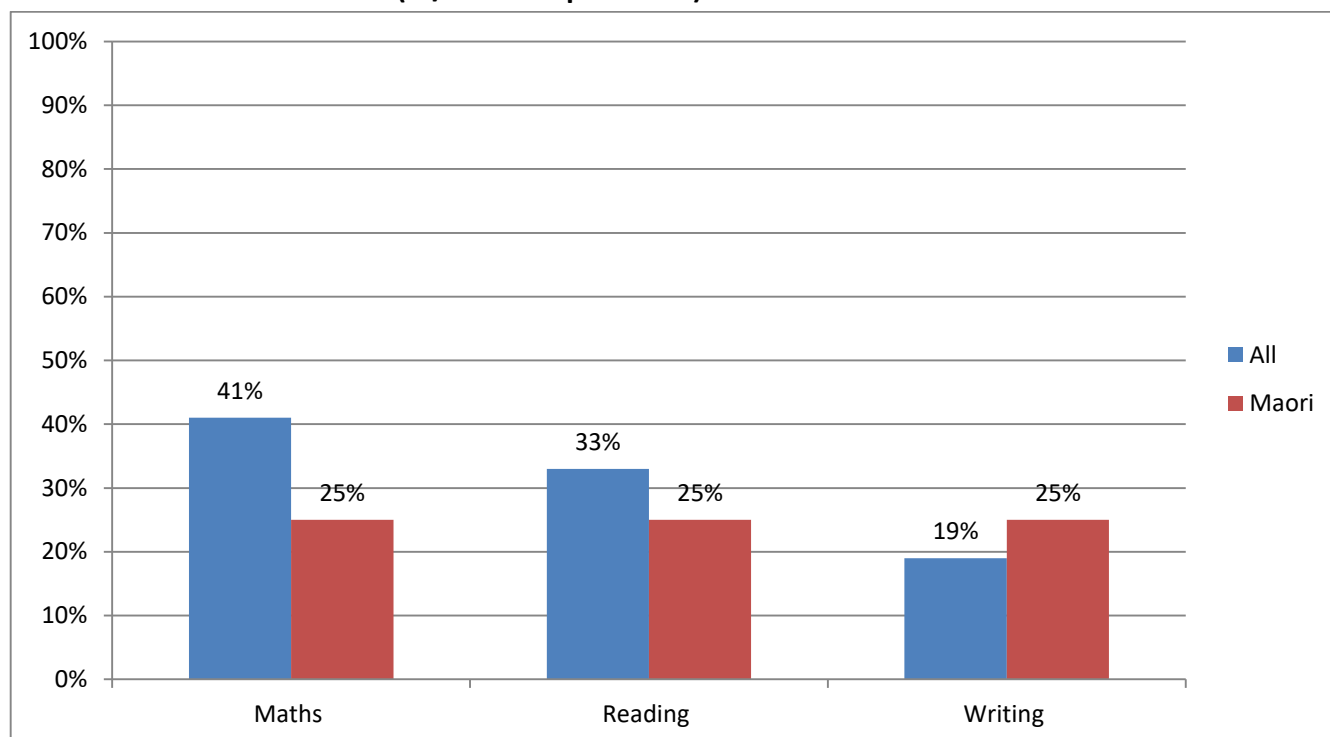
These results continue the progress on accelerating targeted groups of students. Our Maori student results were especially pleasing, after a number of years of focus. Our collaborative culture means staff are working closely together to identify challenges, analyse formative data, develop strategies to accelerate learning, and include students, and families, in the learning process.

Overall Year 9 Results 2018 (at/above expectation)



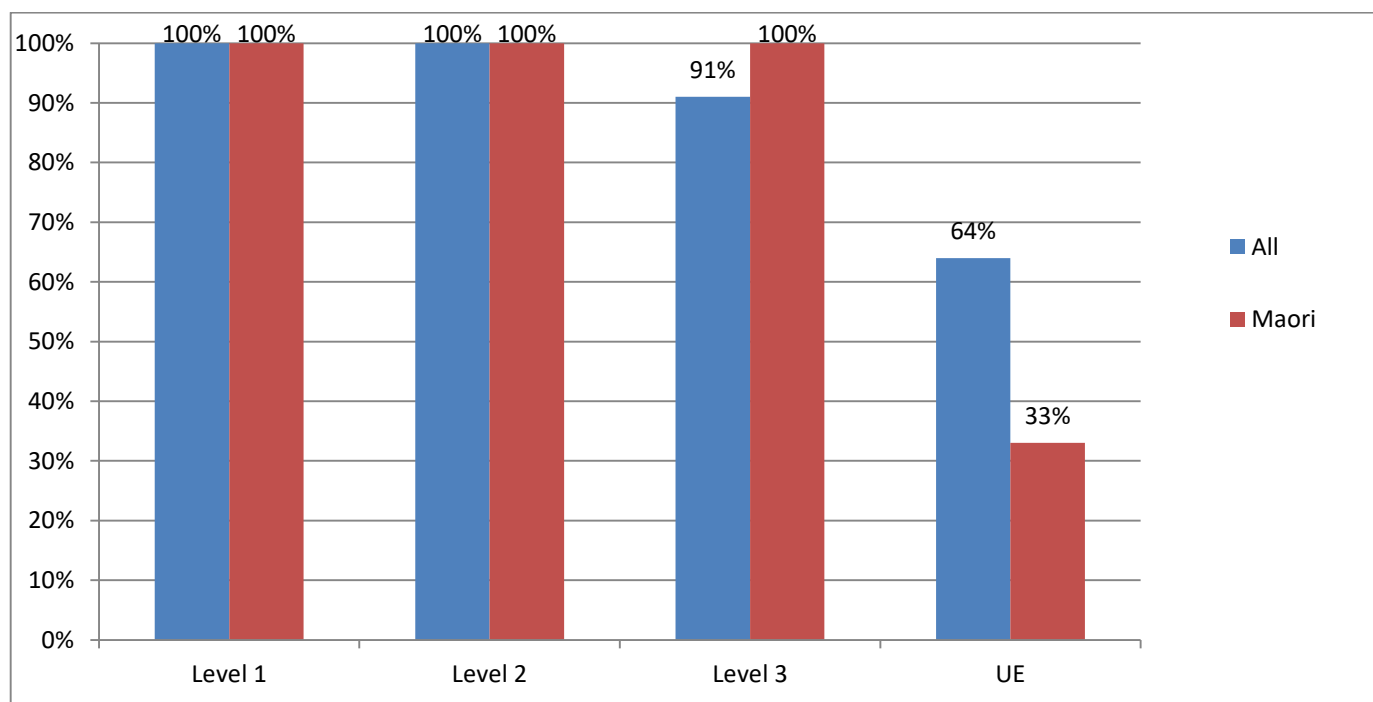
Our Year 9 results showed an improvement in some areas, however we will be looking to support Writing in 2019.

Overall Year 10 Results 2018 (at/above expectation)



Our Year 10 results were disappointing and this cohort will be a focus for 2019 as they enter NCEA Level One.

Overall NCEA Results 2018 (passed)



Our results in NCEA remain very pleasing, with an 89% pass rate at Level 2, and 80% at Level 3. At Level 1 we had 33% Excellence, and 33% Merit endorsement. At level 2 we had 25% Excellence, and 19% Merit endorsement. At level 3 we had 13% Excellence, and 25% Merit endorsement. Results for our Maori students continue to be excellent with a 100% pass rate at level two and three. 30% of our Year 13 students were successful with UE.

2019

We welcome Tim Osborne, Moselle Brown and Susan Brits to our teaching staff in 2018. Maria Shortland also joins us our new Librarian.

We will have new learning spaces for Science, Art and Music and our Library. These are the beginning of our property growth due to roll increase.

2019 will see us continue to refine our understanding of Relationship-based Learning, continue a focus on maths, explore the Digital technologies curriculum, and strengthen our Christian character through identifying and celebrating Kingdom glimpses.

Graeme Whitehead
Principal
February 2019

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1: 14 (NASB)