



## **2019 Principal's Report**

**Excellence in learning**

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**Christianity in living**

## Principal's Report on 2019

*"Just as the Father has loved me, I have also loved you; abide in my love."*

*John 15: 9 (NASB)*

2019 saw us consolidate our Relationship-based Learning culture. We, again, saw strong academic results and continued NCEA success.

Our year, again, started with a powhiri for new students and families. Some highlights for our students during 2019 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, 40hr Famine, SPRINGS Challenge, 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 2019.



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, and purchased iRIS technology to make observations more efficient.



Our participation in the Te Tai Raki Kahi Ako continued as our Across-School and Within-School-Teachers began their journeys in this arena.

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.

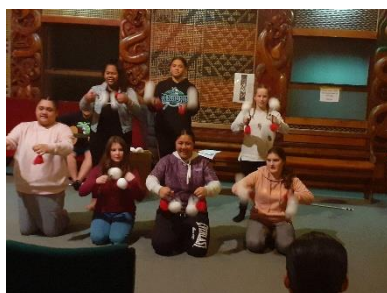


During term two we supported 'Run for Bibles' during our school cross-country, and students were involved in local Winter tournaments. We participated in the 40 hour Famine and Our Senior Ball was, again, very successful with students from other Christian schools joining us this year. At the end of the term our staff attended the NZACS Conference in Tauranga.



Term three saw us hosting student Learning Conferences, where efforts were acknowledged and next steps discussed. We had a Noho Marae for Year 10 and Kapa Haka members. Our Year 13's hit the slopes on their annual Snow Camp and a group of Year 11's spent a week on Great Barrier Island at the OPC camp.

During term four our SPRINGS challenge reward trips were held and we attended local athletics days. Life Education was here for three 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 Melanie Osborne in 2019. Melanie had a real impact on all her ESOL students, and we wish her well with her first child.

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. Our roll cap was increased to 300, and at the end of the year four relocatable classrooms were purchased to provide new spaces for Science, Art and Music. As the school continues to grow we will require more space.

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

Academically we had another solid year, with a slight dip in all our results.

### Overall Results 2019, Year 1 – 8 (at/above NZC expectation)

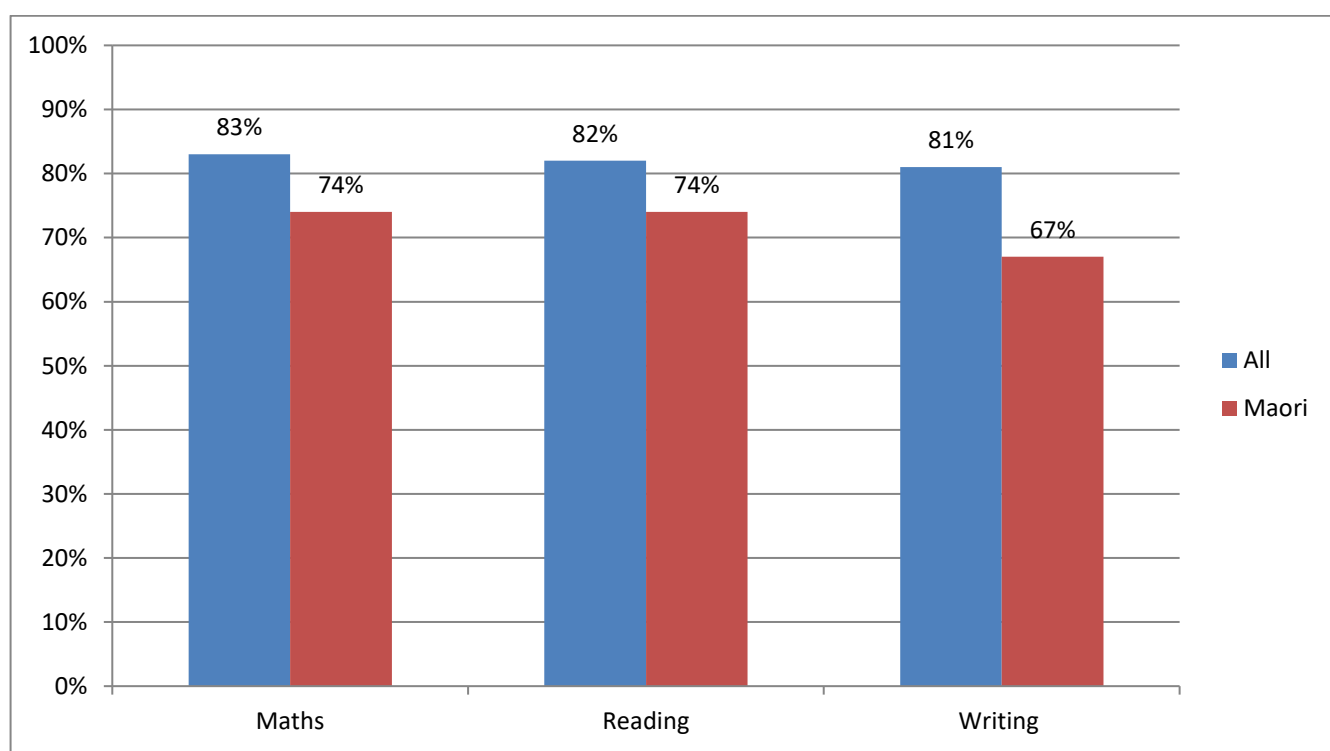


Figure 1 National Standards Year 1 – 8

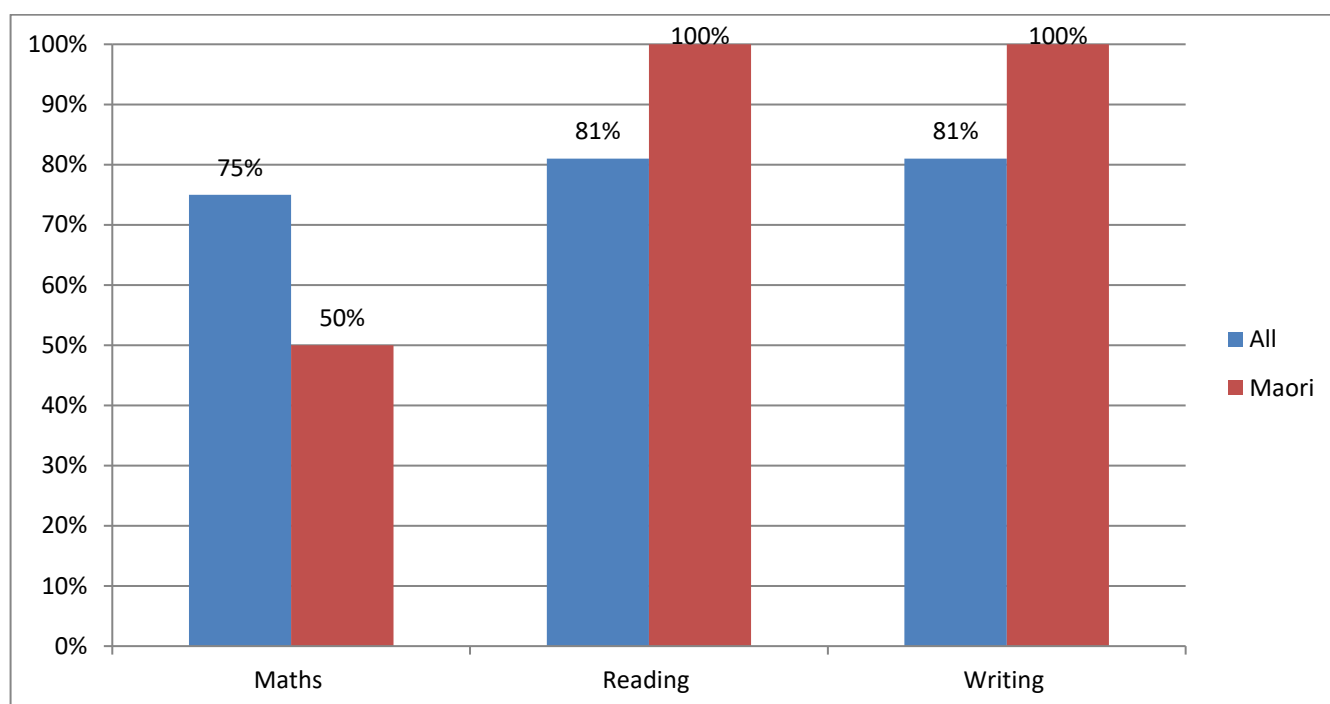
Our Reading dropped from 90% to 82%, with Maori moving from 86% to 74%.

Our Maths dropped from 85% to 83%, with Maori moving from 86% to 74%.

Our Writing dropped from 84% to 81%, with Maori moving from 86% to 67%.

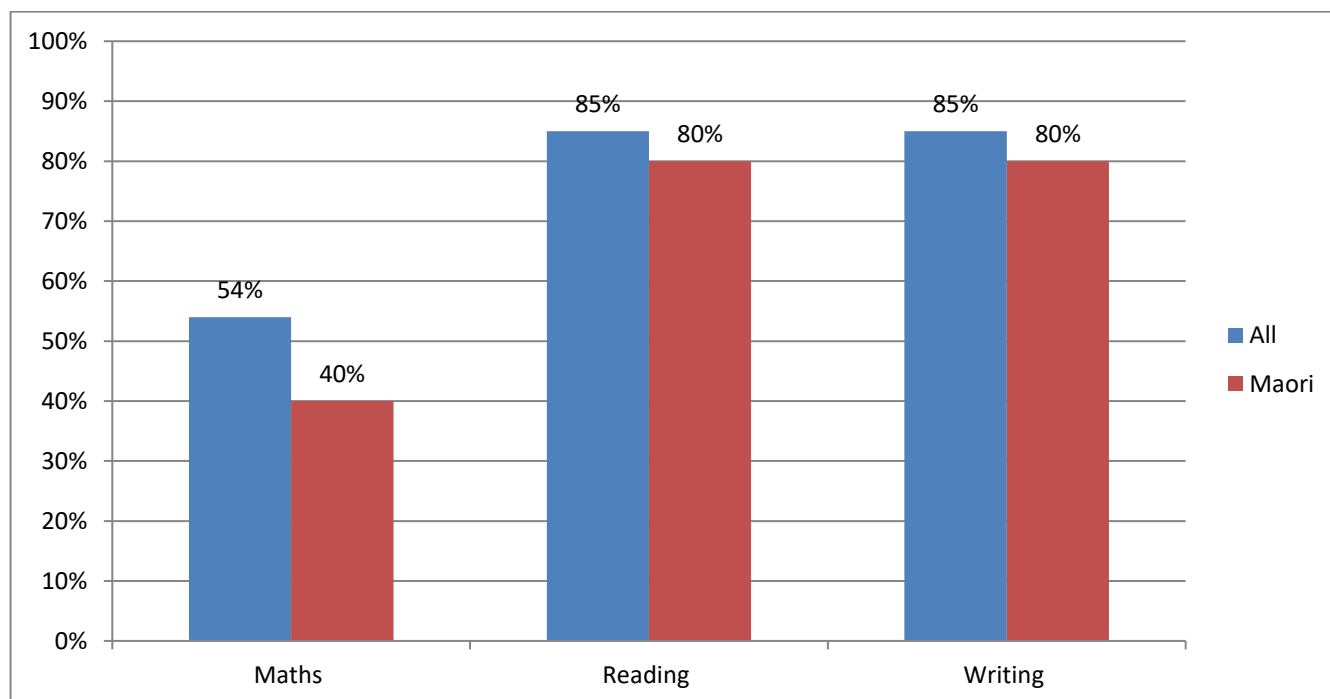
Although overall school results remained above 80%, the drop in our Maori results will require in-depth analysis and a continued focus on accelerating students identified at risk of not achieving. Our collaborative culture means staff are working closely together to identify challenges, analyse formative data, develop strategies to accelerate learning, and include students, and families, in the learning process.

### Overall Year 9 Results 2019 (at/above expectation)



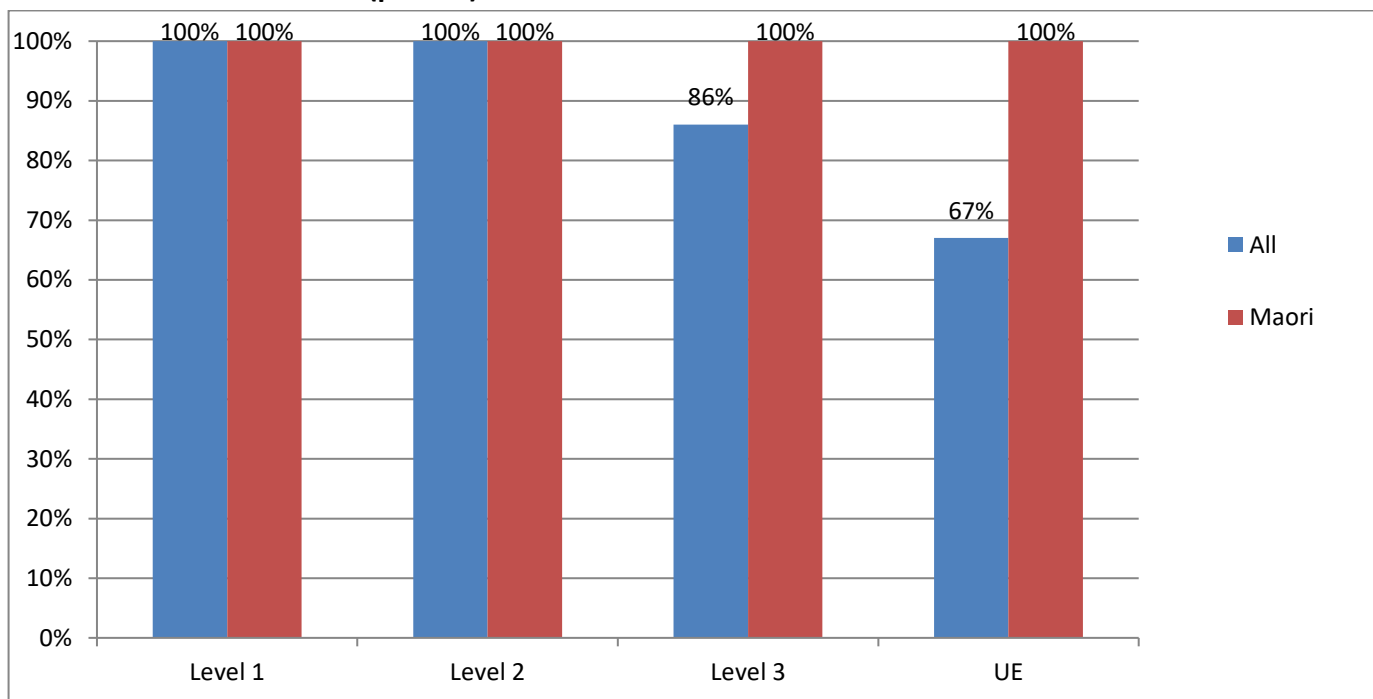
Our Year 9 results showed an improvement in some areas, however we will be looking to support Maths in 2020. We saw an improvement in our Maori results.

### Overall Year 10 Results 2019 (at/above expectation)



Our Year 10 results saw an improvement across all areas, which will set them up well for NCEA Level One.

### Overall NCEA Results 2019 (passed)



Our results in NCEA remain very pleasing, with a 100% pass rate at Level One and Two, and 86% at Level three. At level Two we had 20% Merit endorsement. At level Three we had 33% Excellence, and 44% Merit endorsement. Results for our Maori students continue to be excellent with a 100% pass rate at level One, Two and Three. 67% of our Year 13 students were successful with UE.

## 2020

We welcome Karen Crosbie, Chantel Minnaar and Marja Smith to our teaching staff in 2020.

2020 will see us continue to refine our understanding of Relationship-based Learning, explore the Digital Technologies curriculum, and strengthen our Christian character through an emphasis on service, leadership, NCEA Biblical Studies courses, and internal PLD. We also start the year with our biggest student roll, 263.

Graeme Whitehead

Principal

February 2020

*"This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you."*

*John 15: 12 (NASB)*