



# Excellere College

Whaia te Maramatanga o Te Karaiti



## 2021 Principal's Report

**Excellence in learning**

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**Christianity in living**

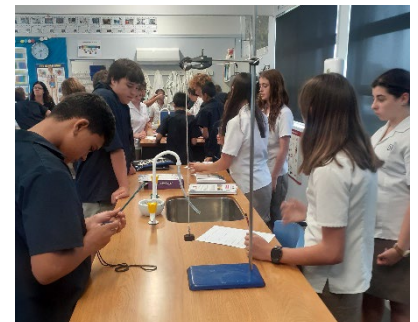
*"We love, because He first loved us."*

*1 John 4: 19 (NASB)*

## Principal's Report on 2021

2021 was another year of Covid disruption, and again provided opportunities for us to adapt and innovate in our learning environment. Despite the interruptions our students showed resilience and patience in their learning.

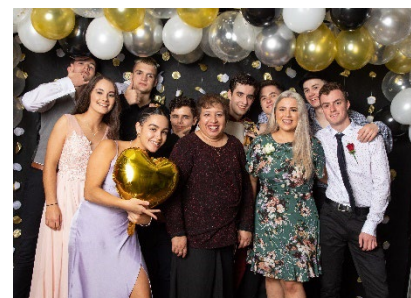
Our year, again, started with a powhiri for new students and families. Some highlights for our students during 2021 included: Poor Knights diving trip, mufti days, athletics days, senior science trips, Senior Ball, Friday canteen, camps, worship at assembly, Duke of Edinburgh, successful sports tournaments, senior leavers dinner, and Award praise-givings to end the year.





During Term One we were able to continue with most events with our camps involving Years' 7/8, 9/10, 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. Our Duke of Edinburgh students were also able to start their tramping experiences. During the holidays our students represented us at the ANZAC Day dawn parade.

A highlight of Term Two was the appearance of Mazbou Q, a Music Mentor for our senior students. He spent time helping us compose and record new music. We held our Year 7 – 13 Cross Country, and attended the Year 4-6 and 7/8 Winter Tournaments. Our Senior Ball, was very successful with students from Renew School again joining us this year.





Term Three saw us hosting student Learning Conferences, where efforts were acknowledged and next steps discussed. We were able to squeeze Mathex in before lockdown and distance learning interrupted the term. Emerging into Level 2 seniors were able to sit exams, and our Duke of Edinburgh students hit the trail again.

Term Four was a busy time as our NCEA students prepared for, and sat, external exams. Our Duke of Edinburgh students snuck in another tramp, and we also farewelled our leavers at a special dinner. We ended the year in good heart, with three successful Awards celebrations where achievements were acknowledged.



With the support of a Ministry PLD contract we had a focus on refreshing our Local Curriculum throughout the year, using a Christian lens. This included continued participation in the Te Tai Raki Kahi Ako with a focus on Authentic and Meaningful learning, and a number of NCEA Teacher-Only-Days.

This year we welcomed Maria Jackman to our staff, teaching in Years' 9 and 10. We farewelled Sue Brits, Rebecca Pennefather, and Karen Crosbie at the end of 2021.

We thank our Parent Support Group for their continued support around the school.

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. A deck veranda roof, new Caretaker spaces, and developing 20-Year Plan were actioned.

Our Board of Trustees, led by Mirko Wojnowski, continued to provide strong and stable governance. 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 some of our results.

### Overall Results 2021, Year 1 – 8 (at/above NZC expectation)

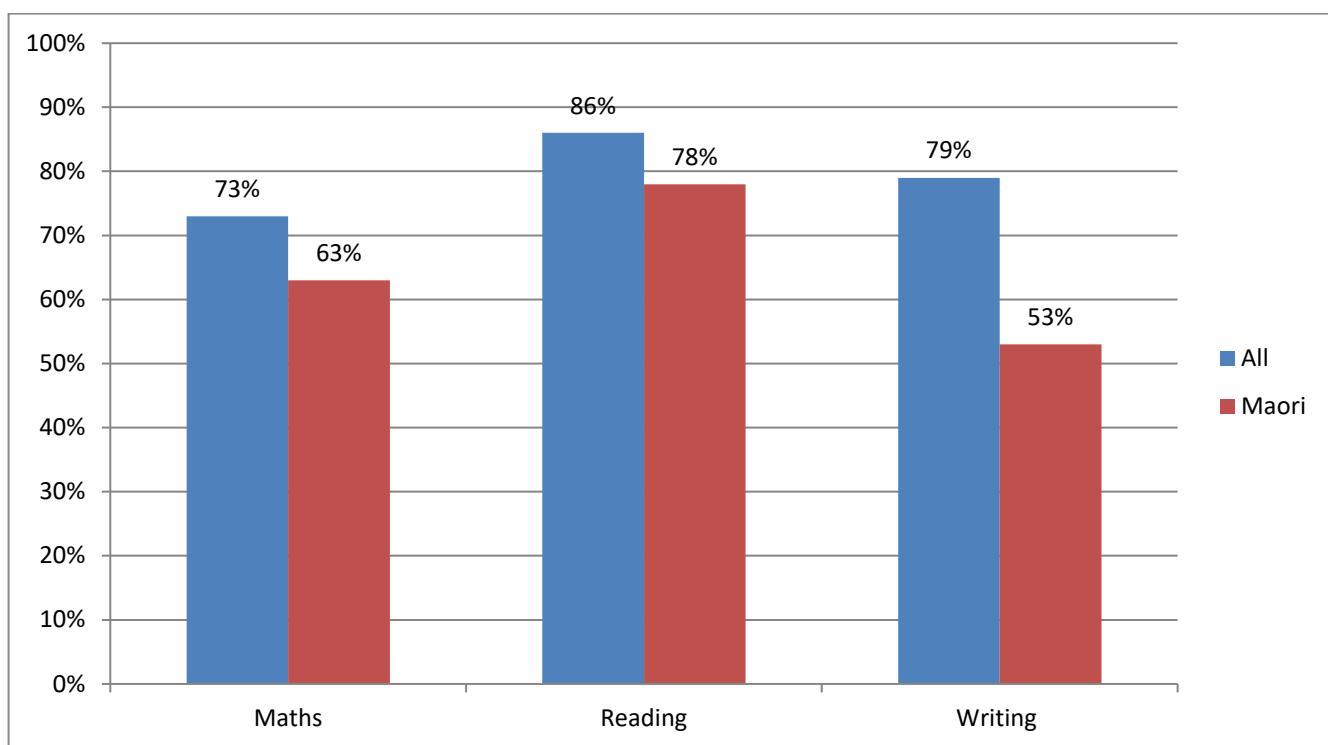


Figure 1 National Standards Year 1 – 8

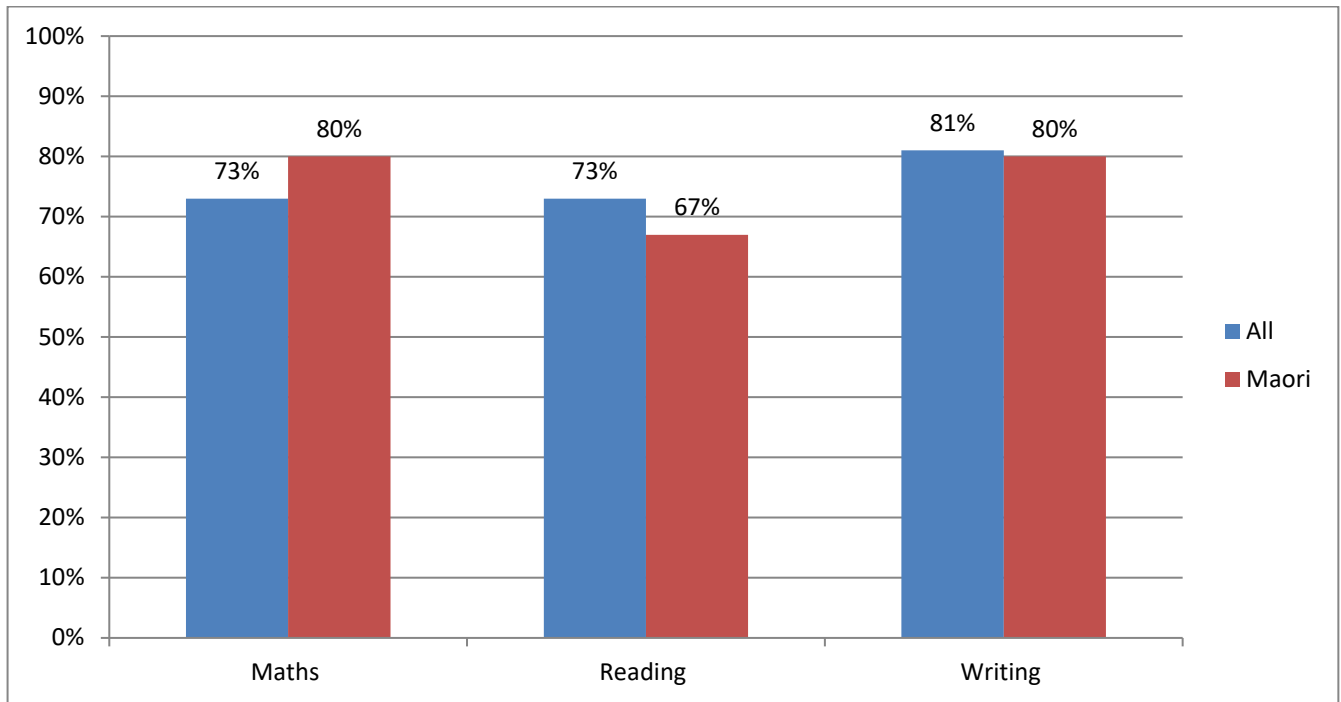
Our Reading increased from 82% to 86%, with Maori increasing from 74% to 78%.

Our Maths dropped from 81% to 73%, with Maori dropping from 81% to 65%.

Our Writing increased from 76% to 79%, with Maori dropping from 68% to 53%.

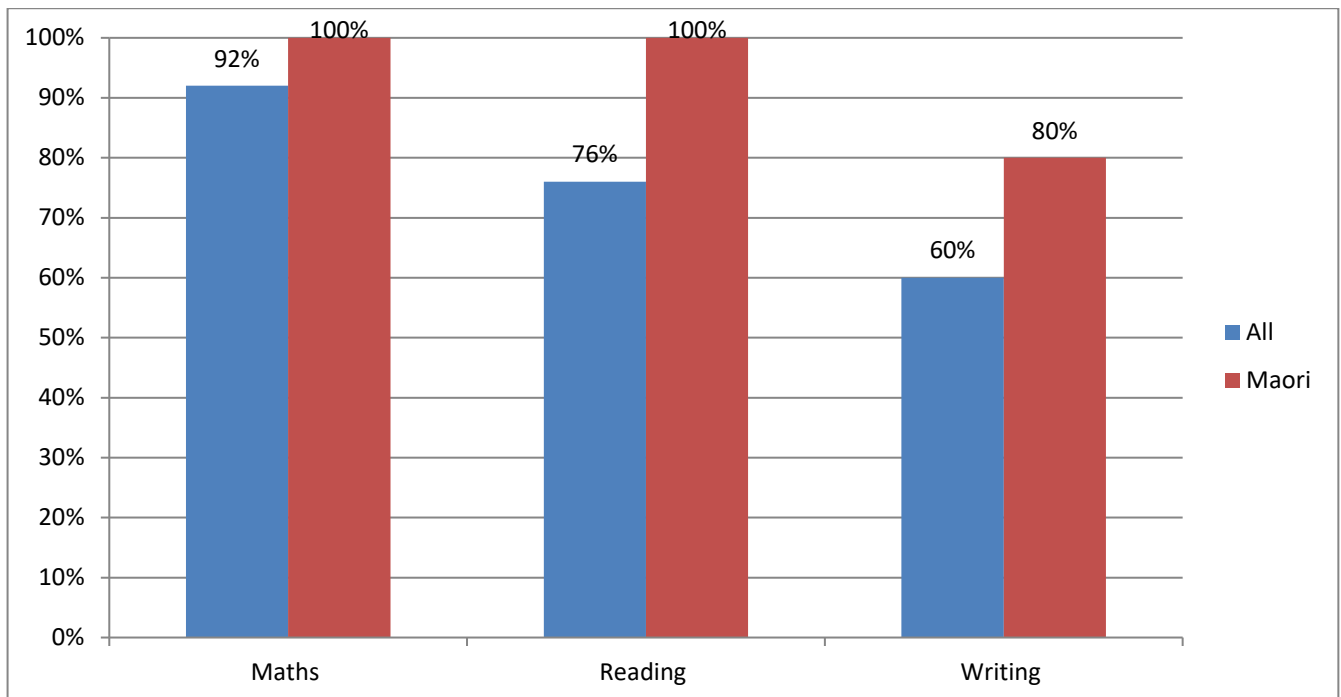
Although overall school results remain pleasing, the drop in our Maori results will require in-depth analysis and a continued focus on accelerating students identified at risk of not achieving. Our collaborative culture means staff are working closely together to identify challenges, analyse formative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

### Overall Year 9 Results 2021 (at/above expectation)



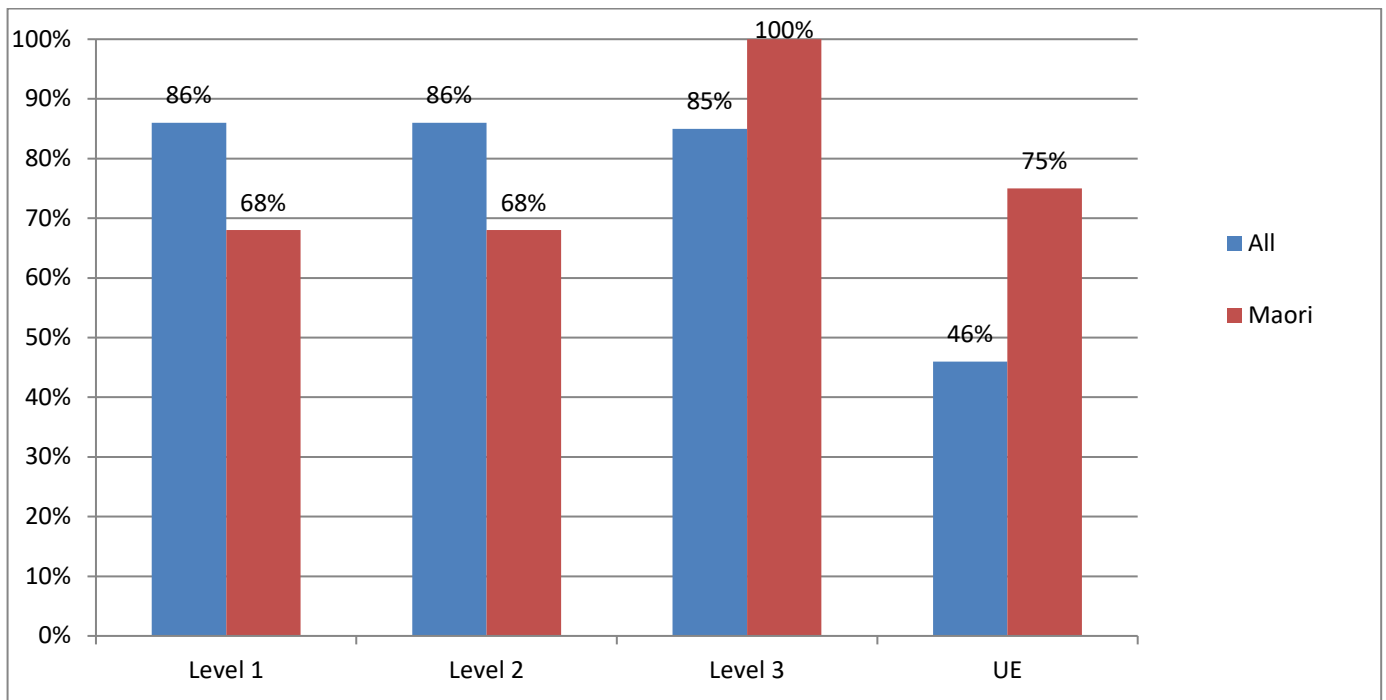
Our Year 9 results showed an increase in all areas, which is pleasing.

### Overall Year 10 Results 2021 (at/above expectation)



Our Year 10 results saw an increase in Maths and Reading, but a decrease in overall Writing. Our Māori results increased in all areas.

## Overall NCEA Results 2021 (passed)



Our results in NCEA remain very pleasing, however Covid has impacted some student achievement. An improvement at Level 3 is welcomed (50% to 85%). Our Maori results dipped at Levels 1 and 2, and we will need to monitor this progress during 2022.

## 2022

We welcome Leila Baba, Mehrzad Sinclair and Jeanne Hill to our teaching staff in 2022. We also welcome Jane Garrick, and Gabriel Segerfrojd to our school for Term One.

2022 will see us continue to explore and develop our Local Curriculum, and strengthen our Christian character through an emphasis on service, leadership, and internal PLD. We pray that Covid disruptions begin to lessen next year and we can return to some form of normality.

Graeme Whitehead  
Principal  
March 2022

*"We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."*

*1 John 4: 16 (NASB)*