

## Question 1. Being Māori

As a New Zealander, what does “Being Māori” mean for you and your family?

- Being Māori to our Whānau is a belief of cultural heritage and grounding, knowing this helps us put ourselves forward in a positive way.
- Te Reo me ōna Tikanga (Māori language and customs)
- Identity and Participation
- Knowing who our ancestors were and being proud of that
- Understanding the history of New Zealand from a Māori viewpoint
- Identifying with our culture and heritage
- Celebrating our history and identity
- Recognising and learning about Tikanga and Te Reo Māori

## Question 2. School Environment

What activities and or practices in the school raise/  
would raise Māori Student Achievement?

- Karakia (prayer)
- Songs – waiata / haka / poi
- Celebrate and affirm that Māori culture is recognised and respected. It makes children feel valued for who they are and a flow on effect of this is higher achievement
- Biggest one – getting whānau engaged in their child's education
- Celebration of:
  - Matariki – Māori New Year
  - Te Wiki o te Reo
  - Marae – The heart of Māori culture
  - Mihimihi – Identity
- Participation at the Otago Māori and Pacific Island Festivals is awesome
- Religious Education encompasses Te Reo
- Having a knowledge of their Tikanga and positive reinforcement from the school towards these beliefs also may put achievements of Māori students in Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu