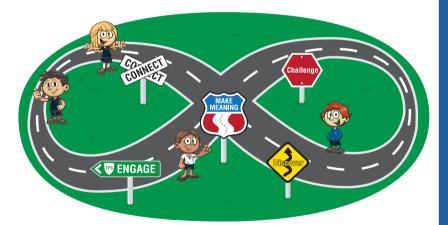
Culturally Responsive and Relational Practices

What is Culturally Responsive and Relational Practices (CR & RP) at TPS?

Every learner brings cultural capital to school with them. CR & RP is understanding and connecting to the cultural capital of each individual. It is important we know who our learners are; valuing their language, culture and identity. Teachers use contexts for learning which enable our learners to connect new learning to their own prior knowledge, values and beliefs.





TAURANGA Primary School

Why is CR & RP important?

It is important for our learners to know that their cultural capital; what they know, value and believe, is a starting point for connecting to the world. Culture is central to learning. Culture plays a role, not only in communicating and receiving information, but also in shaping the thinking processes of our learners. Culturally responsive and relational practices acknowledge, respond to, and celebrate what each learner brings to their learning. Our goal is to anchor our curriculum in the everyday lives of our learners, connecting their knowledge and skills to content knowledge by using real life and authentic contexts to engage students in learning.

The CR & RP Principles

Cultural relationships involve:

Whānau – Relationships that demonstrate we care for our learners and have high expectations for their learning.

Whakapapa – Understanding and knowing who our learners are; their cultural experiences and prior knowledge are foundational to their identity as a learner. Kaupapa – Promoting a common vision that is focused on the potential of all learners to thrive in the education system without compromising who they are.

Responsive pedagogy (teaching practice) involves:

Wānanga – Learning practices and decision making that is responsive to a range of relevant contextual information, building from the learners own prior knowledge and experience.

Ako – Promoting reciprocal responsibilities to engage with each other in ongoing, interactive dialogue and sense-making.

Mahi ngātahi – Teachers, learners and whānau share in the power of contributing their own sense-making to the learning of others.

Source: Poutama Pounamau www.poutamapounamu.org.nz