

Private School Review Report

School Name: Southwell School

Profile Number: 4141

Location: Hamilton

Introduction

ERO reviews of private schools are significantly different in process and more limited in scope and reporting than those for state and state-integrated schools, focusing as they do on the *Criteria for Registration* set out in clauses 2 to 6, Schedule 7 of the Education and Training Act 2020.

Clause 9, Schedule 7 of the Education and Training Act requires the Education Review Office (ERO) to review private schools and to report to the Secretary for Education on whether each school meets the criteria for registration.

More information about ERO reviews of private schools can be found on ERO's website [Private and independent schools | Education Review Office \(ero.govt.nz\)](#)

The criteria for registration are that the school —

- a) *has premises that are suitable, as described in clause 3, Schedule 7; and*
- b) *usually provides tuition for 9 or more students who are of or over the age of 5 years but are under the age of 16 years [clause 2(b), Schedule 7]; and*
- c) *has staffing that is suitable to the age range and level of its students, the curriculum taught at the school, and the size of the school (clause 2(c), Schedule 7; and*
- d) *has equipment that is suitable for the curriculum being delivered or to be delivered at the school (clause 2(d) Schedule 7); and*
- e) *has a curriculum for teaching, learning, and assessment and makes details of the curriculum and its programme for delivery available for parents; and*
- f) *has suitable tuition standards, as described in clauses 2(e),(f) and 5, Schedule 7; and*
- g) *has managers who are fit and proper persons (as described in clause 6, Schedule 7) to be managers of a private school; and*
- h) *is a physically and emotionally safe place for students (clause 2(h), Schedule 7).*

When an ERO report identifies an area within the criteria for registration that is not meeting the criteria at the time of the ERO review, that will be reported, the Ministry will be informed and the Ministry will follow up the issue with the school.

ERO's Judgement

a) The school has premises that are suitable as described in clause 3, Schedule 7

Meeting

b) The school usually provides tuition for 9 or more students who are of or over the age of 5 years but are under the age of 16 years

Meeting

c) The school has staffing that is suitable to the age range and level of its students, the curriculum taught at the school, and the size of the school

Meeting

d) The school has equipment that is suitable for the curriculum being delivered or to be delivered at the school

Meeting

e) The school has a curriculum for teaching, learning, and assessment and makes details of the curriculum and its programme for delivery available for parents

Meeting

f) The school has suitable tuition standards as described in clauses 2(e), (f) and 5, Schedule 7

Meeting

g) The school has managers who are fit and proper persons (as described in clause 6, Schedule 7)

Meeting

h) The school is a physically and emotionally safe place for students

A safe place is one in which risks to student safety are regularly assessed and evaluated with a view to eliminating, or at least reducing, harm. A safe place is one where clear policies exist and are acted upon to eliminate or minimise harm.

ERO's judgement is based on the quality, intent and regular review of the school's policies and procedures.

The school has regularly reviewed policies and procedures to provide for a physically and emotionally safe place for students.

Conclusion

On the basis of the information obtained during the review, ERO considers that Southwell School meets the criteria for registration as a private school set out in clauses 2 to 6, Schedule 7 of the Education and Training Act 2020.

Other Matters

Provision for International Students.

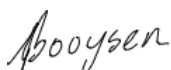
The school is a signatory provider to the *Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021* established under section 534 of the Education and Training Act 2020. The school has attested that it complies with all aspects of the Code and has completed an annual self review of its implementation of the Code.

At the time of this review there were 2 international students attending the school.

The school has robust systems of self-review to ensure the health and safety of international students. Students are well integrated into school and community life. High quality ESOL and in class academic support are offered to all students with seamless access to the school pastoral care services if needed.

Provision for Students in the School Hostel

Southwell School currently provides accommodation for 37 students in a purpose-built boarding house. Student wellbeing and care is central to the staffing and provisions provided for boarders. Annual internal reviews are robust and used well to identify areas to strengthen practice. The schools core values and vision are the foundation of the boarding house policies and procedures, that support the provision of a safe physical and emotional environment for all students.



Shelley Booyesen
Director of Schools

15 May 2024

About the School

The Education Counts website provides further information about the school's student population, student engagement and student achievement. educationcounts.govt.nz/home