

Teaching effectively for all akonga: The mentor/leader's role

Celebrating Northland's Tamariki

Whangarei
3 October, 2020

Barbara Watson (PhD)

# WHY THIS FOCUS?



My observation as a facilitator

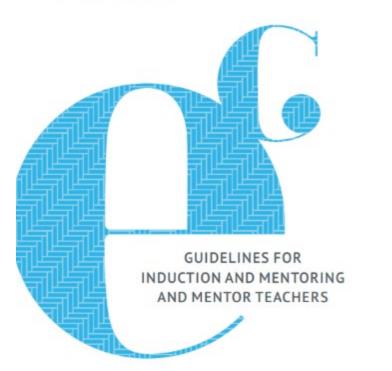
My work as a researcher

My experience as a mentor and coach

## WHY THIS FOCUS?

AND MENTOR TEACHERS

AND MENTOR TEACHERS



- effective teachers for diverse ākonga in Aotearoa New Zealand
- professionally engaged teachers committed to ongoing inquiry into their own teaching and working collaboratively with colleagues.

EDUCATION COUNCIL

NEW ZEALAND | Matatū Aotearoa

#### **YOUR EXPERIENCE?**

How does your experience match with mine?

What are the challenges to supporting teachers to be effective for all learners?





# **CLARIFYING OUR TERMINOLOGY**

Effective

Diverse ākonga / all ākonga

### **EFFECTIVE TEACHER**

Behaviour

warmth, civility, clarity

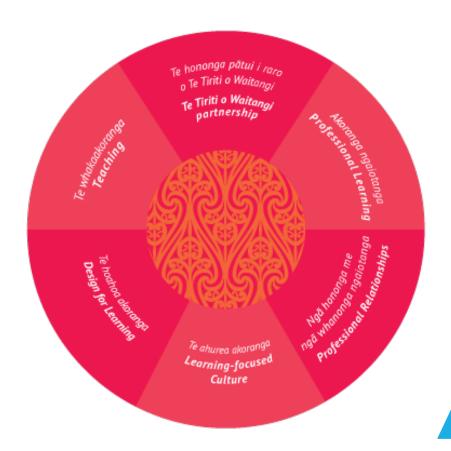
Knowledge

of subject matter, of students

Beliefs

the ability to improve student achievement

### IN NZ



#### **Teaching**

Design for learning

Learning focused culture

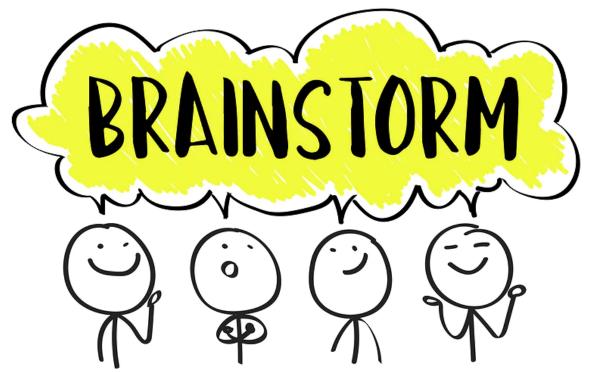
Professional relationships

**Professional learning** 

Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership

# DIVERSE ĀKONGA

Who are the various groups that make up the diversity of learners teachers work with in ECE services?



Which group/s do you/your teachers feel least equipped to serve well?

# THE LEADER'S / MENTOR'S ROLE

# Is to be a leader of teachers' learning

The role the leaders takes in promoting teacher learning is the factor that most impacts on outcomes for learners.

Robinson, Hohepa and Lloyd, 2009.

#### LEADING TEACHERS' LEARNING

What would it look like if we put as much time and effort into assessment and planning for teachers as we do with children?

What things do we need to put in place to make sure this happens?

What other skills do you need to develop? What other knowledge do you need?



<u>This Photo</u> by Unknown Author is licensed under <u>CC BY</u>

# EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS (ECE SERVICES)

- establish consistency in teaching and learning across the organisation
- engender a culture of professional debate and developmental lesson observation
- rigorously monitor and evaluate what they are doing
- focus on the needs, interests and concerns of each individual learner.
  - **Q** Ko & Sammons, 2013

# THREE KEY THINGS

Build evaluative capability

Keep the focus on equity

Disrupt the status quo





### **KEY FOCI FOR LEADERSHIP ACTION**

#### Developing evaluative and reflective capability

- Common understanding of good
- Teachers are held/hold themselves accountable to that standard
- Evidence-based decision making / inquiry

#### Keeping an equity focus

- Clear view of effective teaching for diverse leaners
- Targeted and strategic PLD focus

#### Disrupt status quo

- How do we know this is best?
- Shining the light on the gap between espoused/enacted practice
- Expect teachers to articulate and justify their teaching actions and their effectiveness

# ENSURE KEY SYSTEMS DRIVE IMPROVEMENT

Induction

Induction & mentoring

Professional Growth Cycle &

**Endorsement** 

Internal Evaluation



# **ACTIVELY PROMOTE EQUITY AWARENESS**

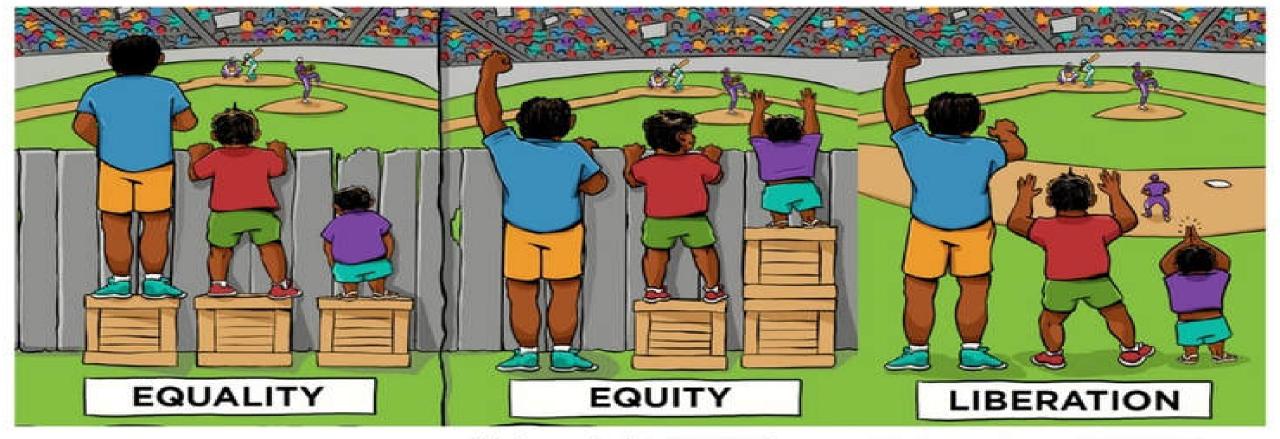
Embed in internal evaluation, professional growth cycles and induction and mentoring things that require teachers to engage with issues of equity

#### Eg:

Whose world view is privileged here? Is this appropriate?

How is your cultural locatedness effecting your decision-making and actions?

Do your values align with those of the child and their whānau?



This image depicts EQUALITY. All individuals are being treated equally with the same supports. It challenges the assumption that everyone benefits from the same supports. As shown, not all start from the same position; some have a height advantage.

This image depicts EQUITY. The people are being treated equitably. It demonstrates that when different individuals are given different supports, it makes possible for them all to have equal access.

This image depicts LIBERATION. The barriers have been removed and supports are no longer needed. The inequity has been addressed.

### **SKILLS NEEDED**



Facilitating common understanding

- Observation / feedback
- Challenging status quo
- Promoting reflective thinking
- ? Facilitative questioning
- Difficult conversations

Dank U Merci mahalo Köszi obrigado thatu60 Grazie Thank Deky danke Kiilos Gracias Diekuje

### **REFERENCES**

- Good, T.L., Wiley, C.R.H, & Florez, I.R, (2009). Effective Teaching: an Emerging Synthesis. *International Handbook of Research on Teachers and Teaching.* pp 803-816
- Ko, J. & Sammons, P. (2013). *Effective teaching: a review of research and evidence*. CfBT Education Trust. <a href="https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED546794.pdf">https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED546794.pdf</a>

Robinson, V., Hohepa, M. & Lloyd, C. (2009). School Leadership and Student Outcomes: Identifying What Works and Why Best Evidence Synthesis. <a href="https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/series/2515/60170">https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/series/2515/60170</a>