



**WATERLEA
SCHOOL**

With Learning We Grow

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Auckland

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TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

It is with pleasure that we support WYNRs Soccer for Life Programme as we have found the programme to have many positive benefits for our school and our children. These benefits include the following:

Role models:

Many of our teachers are mature adults who no longer enjoy playing with the children. Therefore the programme which is run by young, active and positive coaches provides our students with positive role models.

Preparation:

The coaches are well prepared. We know well ahead of time when they will be in the school. They supply all the necessary equipment. Lessons, that are both lively and encourage all children to participate, are well planned.

High Expectations:

The coaches have high expectations of student behaviour, participation and achievement. Not only do children thrive on these high expectations they act as a catalyst for classroom engagement – no child wants to miss their WYNRs sessions. The WYNRs programme, with its 'can do' approach, has impacted positively on those students who have difficulty complying consistently with the behaviour codes set by their classes.

Physical Health and Well-being:

Through the physical activities the students' fitness levels have improved. Their gross and finer motor skills are more refined. Because the activities are well matched to the skill level of the children they gain a sense of achievement when they successfully complete each task.

The team activities provide the students with cooperative learning opportunities to problem solve, learn to play fairly and be inclusive. In turn the students gaining an improved sense of self-worth

Sustainability:

The on-going nature of the programme means that good habits have time to be formed and those undesirable ones have regular and timely reminders to change.

Please find the following student quotes as testimony to the worth of the programme:

"Wynrs inspires me to get active" - Jessica

'I have also enjoyed learning the life skills that you have taught us. Learning about honesty has really helped me get in trouble a lot less. With a positive attitude, I've actually enjoyed things a lot more and through goal setting, I have been able to achieve my goals' Maria

'I enjoyed learning life skills and how it is important to always be actively listening' Kayla

'Before taking part in Wynrs, I didn't play soccer but you have encouraged me and now I play for a club.' Matias

'With your help, I now have confidence and I realise that with all your help and encouragement, I can control a ball and juggle with both legs.' Chloe

'I have learnt to have a positive attitude towards everything I do, not just soccer.' Charlie

I have learnt how to do step ups on a ball and that dribbling isn't that hard once you get the hang of it! I have also learned that a positive attitude is the good way to go when you are learning something new.' Cara

These are just some of the benefits that we have found at Waterlea School. It is important to note also that this programme comes free of charge. This fact is, in itself, a major plus for our school.

We very much appreciate the work done by Rush and his WYNRs team and therefore support the WYNRs programme.

Yours sincerely

**Margaret Palmer
Principal**