

TRAUMATIC INCIDENTS

RATIONALE

Aorangi School will acknowledge and show concern for families of our school in times of trauma and will respond, appropriately to any traumatic incident or events which affect the physical, psychological or emotional well being of any person at our school.

A traumatic incident is defined as an event which:

- causes sudden and/or significant disruption to a school
- creates significant danger or risk that could traumatically affect students and/or staff within the school
- impacts on the effective operation of the school.
- attracts negative media attention for the school or M.O.E.

PURPOSE

- To support any child, staff member or member of our community who is involved in a traumatic incident.
- To assist the school community to manage a traumatic incident.

GUIDELINES

1. All relevant personnel will be informed, and given guidance to support families in trauma so that the school responds with sensitivity and care.
2. The Trauma Team will assemble as soon as practicable.
3. The Trauma Team, in consultation with staff and appropriate community members, will support the family in need.
4. Information from the school is through the Trauma Team only. Information will be precise, correct and factual.
5. Information to the media must be through the Trauma Team.
6. The resumption of normal operations, as soon as possible, will be the aim.
7. All expressions of grieving will be accepted as normal.
8. Outside agencies will be used, as appropriate, to support the school.
9. The teaching of the Change, Loss & Grief unit will be part of the Health & P.E curriculum.

CONCLUSION

Our school will respond sensitively and with care to its community in times of trauma.

Approved **Board of Trustees Meeting** ___ / ___ / ___

Signature of Chairperson _____ ___ / ___ / ___

Signature of Principal _____ ___ / ___ / ___