

CLOVERLEA SCHOOL

CIRCLE TIME

At Cloverlea School, we adapt Jenny Mosley's Circle Time. Circle Time is an opportunity for our LEGENDs to reflect on the learning that has happened that day through a LEGEND value focus. Circle Time incorporates what we know and value about Kagan Structures to encourage full participation in this end of day discussion. The length of time for the reflection is dependent on what Kagan Structure is being used and the age and stage of the LEGENDs.



IT IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE:

Circle Time has proved successful in further developing relationships within the classroom for both akonga and kaiako. It encourages Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) strategies that fit with the school's PB4L beliefs. The attitudinal qualities of Circle Time are respect, genuineness and empathy which runs alongside our LEGEND values, especially iNclusive.

Circle Time provides a calm and structured end of day routine to help build a noa perspective. It puts learning at the forefront of children's minds and sends them home from the classroom after having reflected with their peers in a settled state, building a shared understanding of the mahi they have done throughout the day.

CURRICULUM LINKS:

Circle Time supports the Cloverlea curriculum. It is a tool used to discuss learning across all curriculum areas based on different questions with opportunities to discuss outcomes for learning between kaiako and tamaiti.

Circle Time incorporates the use of Kagan structures through our LEGEND lens, making explicit links between the way we show LEGEND Values in different curriculum areas.

'Key Competencies are brought to life for our LEGENDs through Circle Time. Thinking' as they reflect on their own learning and how they used LEGEND values. 'Relating to Others' links as all learners listen and respect each other's reflections. Everyone has had different experiences throughout the day. 'Managing Self' as LEGENDs end their day in a calm and structured routine. 'Participating and Contributing' links to Circle Time by actively encouraging LEGENDs to fully participate in discussions to end their day.

WHANAUNGATANGA

Circle Time provides valuable opportunities for tamariki to practise speaking and active listening as well as social turn taking and team building skills through an enjoyable and uplifting part of their school day.

Circle Time builds relationships when the following underlying principles are put in place:

- Unconditional warmth
- Dignifying and valuing each response
- Warm body language including positive eye contact
- Positive responses
- Communicate empathy
- Non-judgemental listening.

LINKS TO OUR LEGEND VALUES:

Lead - We take on our role within the Kagan group/class discussion. We set a high standard of reflection and build a shared understanding.

Excellence - We offer our ideas and experiences, reflecting as best we can. We create a sense of ako between kaiako and tamariki.

oRganised - We are packed up and show Nahanaha ready for the end of the day routine.

Resilient - We build on others' ideas when we are stuck reflecting on our own.

iNclusive - We actively listen and share ideas with our Kagan group/class.

Determined - We let others share their learning and ideas even if we agree or disagree. We use active listening skills.

RESEARCH & EVIDENCE:

<https://www.circle-time.co.uk/>

Niho Taniwha by Melanie Riwai-Couch

ENACTING TE TIRITI O WAITANGI:

Circle Time enables akonga to foster the value of whakawhanaungatanga through Kagan structures to build and form a shared understanding from kaiako and tamariki.

Article 1 focuses on building positive relationships with their peers by actively listening and sharing to end their day.

Article 4 acknowledges the importance of wairua and wellness. Circle time provides an opportunity for our akonga to calm their wairua and positively reflect on their day. It also enhances the mana of tamariki.

Ārahi, Kairangi, Nahanaha, Manawaroa, Kotahitanga, Rae Pakari

LEAD, EXCELLENCE, ORGANISED, RESILIENCE, INCLUSIVE, DETERMINED