

OUR LOGO

Organ donation – the gift of life

Our logo of the interlacing circles is a metaphor for the three key participants in the organ donor story – the donor, the family of the donor, and the recipient.

The “life circles” indicate the connection all three participants have with each other – the donor’s gift of an organ, the family who gave permission for this process to occur in a time of incredible emotional stress, and the recipient who receives the organ because of this generosity.



It is an emotional time for all concerned, and they will be linked through this intimate process forever. Yet the donor family never meet the recipient – or know each other’s identities, hence the life circles never quite meet.

The stylised strokes of the three circle elements also represent the cycles of all things living – that there is a beginning and an end, and in the context of organ donation, life can be renewed from the ending of another.

Through death comes the gift of life.

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TĒNĀ KOUTOU – GREETINGS

INTRODUCING A NEW SOCIAL STUDIES
AND HEALTH EDUCATION TOPIC:

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT
ORGAN DONATION



RAISING AWARENESS OF ORGAN DONATION THROUGH HEALTH EDUCATION AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Our school will be undertaking a new topic of study for health education and social studies at years 9–10 and years 11 and 13 (Levels 1 and 3 NCEA).

The topic is intended to raise awareness about organ donation in Aotearoa New Zealand.

All students who will be applying for their driver's licence will be required to answer yes or no to whether they would be willing to donate their organs in the event of their death. We want the students to have the opportunity to discuss, research, and make up their own mind about this topic.

We would love their whānau and families to play a big part in that fact-finding journey by contributing time and discussing the topic with students.

HOW WILL THE TOPIC BE TAUGHT?

The main focus of the teaching will be on supporting students to approach different people about sensitive topics such as organ donation and to help raise their understanding and awareness about organ donation:

- The resources are specially designed for the classroom and are based on the New Zealand Curriculum and the new NCEA standards. They include video clips created for this study and activities that challenge students to consider their own views on organ donation.
- Through questionnaires, interviews, and discussions with peers, family members, and people in their community, students will explore how different groups view organ donation.
- Students will use the evidence they collect from their planned investigations as the basis for their personal view and understandings about organ donation.
- In social studies, students will follow a social inquiry process to help them understand how people work to promote social justice and human rights within the context of organ donation.
- In health education, students will explore how organ donation affects the well-being of people and society and ways of promoting awareness of organ donation. Students at NCEA level will be required to look critically into an ethical issue about organ donation and its effects on well-being.
- Students will be encouraged to consider cultural and religious considerations that may affect people's views on organ donation. They will work with the whare tapa whā model of well-being to help them explore the dimensions of spiritual, mental, family, and physical health.

WORKING TOGETHER - MĀ TE KATOA TE MAHI

Our school and Organ Donation New Zealand (ODNZ) support families and whānau to become informed about organ donation and to be involved in discussions about this subject with their children. We welcome your questions and thoughts and will be happy to discuss these with you. Thank you for your time and support.