

# National Network Meeting Blitz

## SUMMARY

### STUDENTS >>

#### Why did you become a Peer Mediator?

- To help people out
- I like giving things a go
- It helps teachers out
- More peace in the school
- It makes a good school environment
- I learn skills to help with bullying
- I use the skills at home
- A good experience
- To be part of what is happening in the school



### COOL SCHOOLS COORDINATOR FEEDBACK >>

- Happy children, happy playgrounds
- Student ownership and empowerment
- Students obtaining life skills
- Students resolving conflicts without teacher intervention
- Leadership and mentoring by senior mediators
- Students supporting each other
- Student safety
- Decrease in bullying issues
- A happy, healthy, harmonious, and high-achieving school
- The programme is positive and proactive

### WHERE WE WENT >>

- Northland
- West Auckland
- Wellington
- Canterbury
- North Auckland
- Nelson/Tasman Bay



### COORDINATOR BENEFITS FROM THE MEETINGS >>

- Share stories and learn new ideas
- Receive latest updates
- Receive support with running the programme
- Felt valued as a coordinator
- Hear of funding availability
- It was a motivating environment
- To share resources
- Reinforced my confidence that the programme makes a difference



### OTHER INSIGHTS >>

- Students have written poems about their role
- Schools have developed their own reward systems
- Mediator role is respected in the school
- Mediators are learning life skills
- Those receiving mediation are also learning life skills
- Mediators are empowered
- The mediator role has given students direction



## COOL SCHOOLS IMPLEMENTATION - "GEMS"



- Weekly Peer Mediator meetings with the Coordinator.
- Stickers, tokens, certificates, badges – good incentive.
- Important to get all staff on board with how important mediation is.
- Mediators monitor the "Friendship Seat" on duty in the "Peace Garden" which they can create as a project.
- Mediator Managers - help the Coordinator with administrative work.
- Peace Ambassador Award for mediators to attain.
- Create a mediation training video.
- Role play video competition.
- Role play reversal – teachers play the disputants and the Student Peer Mediators mediate the teachers.
- Run a mediation session at assembly.
- Puppet show to teach the skills to the junior children.
- Lessons around feelings - often juniors have difficulty in expressing their feelings.
- Lunchtimes – PM's can run small activities and/or games.
- Mediation analysis in Circle Time.
- Restorative practices and PB4L align with Cool Schools.
- Road show within the school to highlight what mediators do.
- Cool Schools Peer Mediators Big Day Out with mediators from other local schools - workshops, activities, awards, etc.
- Design a rewards programme – certificates and/or golden tickets can be handed out to students.
- Use the manual to teach a different lesson each week in weekly PM meetings.