



WESTERN SPRINGS COLLEGE  
*Nga Puna O Waiorea*

Friday 4 September 2015

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Western Springs College has been involved in The Leadership through Peer Mediation Training run by the Peace Foundation for the last three years. The training day encourages students to think about what peace means to them at a personal level, and how they can make our school a more peaceful place. It then provides them with some excellent tools for dealing with conflict in their own lives, and teaches them communication and mediation skills. It is informative and fun under the excellent leadership of Christina Barruel and her team.

After the training day the students are invited to become Peace Ambassadors at school. They meet regularly and are available as peer mediators, as well as organising events to promote peace at school. Working together as a team has been a highlight, and this year they started supporting a charity which works to strengthen families who are facing domestic violence.

Peace Ambassadors are usually trained in year 11, and this equips them well to move into other leadership roles in their final year at school.

*'I think peer mediation has helped me give the right advice to my friends and has also helped me through problems of my own'. Michaela*

*'Being part of the peer mediation program has helped me to help others. Not just in peer mediation sessions but with my friends and in situations outside of school. I have learnt a lot about people and how we function'. Nadia*

Thank you for considering funding this training day for 2016. I thoroughly recommend the work of the Peace Foundation and appreciate their support for our students.

Linda Bean  
School Guidance Counsellor