

# *Evaluation of the Accident Compensation Corporation's (ACC) Injury Prevention in Schools Resource Kit*

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## ***Introduction***

This project arose as a proposal by the Maori Injury Prevention Coalition ('M.I.P.C') in August 2003 and was submitted to the Hamilton Kidsafe campaign in the same month. Following this, members of the coalition, Accident Compensation Corporation ('A.C.C') and Te Runanga o Kirikiriroa ('The Runanga') established Memorandii of Understanding ('MoU') to pilot their injury prevention resource within the community of Hamilton City. Education New Zealand won a contract to deliver the kit out to all New Zealand schools and was brought on board to facilitate teacher training for the pilot programme. The duration of the project was one year, ending with the completion of this report.

## ***Aims***

The ACC Injury Prevention in Schools Resources Kit evaluation also known as 'the project' is a process and outcome evaluation to determine the effectiveness of an ACC school information resource kit trialed in three primary schools situated within Kirikiriroa. The overall aims of the project are:

- To reduce the likelihood and severity of unintentional injuries among tamariki Maori in schools;
- To implement the ACC school information resource kit into the school curriculum;
- To monitor, provide feedback and advice on the effectiveness and suitability of the kit to tamariki Maori.

## ***Objectives***

The objectives of this project are as follows:

- Raise awareness within the school community about injury prevention;
- Reinforcement of falls prevention messages in schools;
- Increase knowledge, understanding and skills of the wider school community to enhance safer behaviors among tamariki Maori;
- Support the school management in implementing an injury prevention focus into the school curriculum;
- Develop a partnership with the school community;
- Encourage tamariki to look after one another to prevent falls;
- Encourage a school ethos to ensure a safe environment within the schools.

## ***Evaluation Approaches***

There were three key approaches used to complete this project. These were:

- The kaupapa Maori approach (the predominant method used);
- Key qualitative components; and,
- Key quantitative components.

Upon commencement, the project was then organised into key research steps. These included the identification of key stakeholders and schools, a scoping exercise and literature review to determine avenues of research and process. Once schools were confirmed, resource training and use could commence. The evaluation team explored use of the resource both prior and after introduction of the resource through class focus groups and teacher interviews. The data collected was analysed by recurring theme, and a final report was written.

## ***Key Findings***

- Introduction of the resource kit created a significant rise in the rates of response by both mainstream and Rumaki classes.
- The resource kit was successful in raising student's awareness of injury prevention;
- The kit integrated well with current curriculums;
- Overall the resource was easy to use in the classrooms;
- The resource kit was designed for the right age group;
- The resource kit was flexible and contained a wide range of activities;
- Posters needed to be more realistic to engage the interest of the senior students;
- Questionnaires needed to be in Te Reo to engage the participation of Rumaki students;
- Stickers were not a preferred resource in the kit;
- That the resource kit adequately targets children in general but is lacking in cultural relevance, specifically for tamariki Maori;
- There is an identified need to promote injury prevention on a level more realistic for students;
- There was some difficulty in getting the injury prevention message to be put into practice;
- There was an identified need for further teacher assistance.