



Parent-Teacher Meetings

Going Beyond Communicating What Parents Want to Hear.



THEMES

apologising, authority, catastrophisation, comparison, conflict, courage, decision pathways, deflection, diluting, emotional reasoning, empathy, expectation setting, eye-contact, framing, guilt, helplessness, honesty, impact, inconvenient realities, intent, messaging, meta-cognition, personalisation, perspective taking, preparation, professionalism, purpose, psychological safety, self-regulation, shame, situational awareness, simplifying, social complexity, social equilibrium, stressors, sugar-coating, teacher self-efficacy, well-being.

Of all the conversations teachers are involved in throughout a year none has greater potential to progress learners' outcomes than those they have with parents at Parent – Teacher meetings, yet most teachers are provided no professional development or learning on how to facilitate these meetings effectively.

Parent – Teacher meetings provide unique challenges. They are short, there is little time to build rapport (and if you do try there's very little time left to talk about anything else), and they are formal.

Situationally, these forums require teachers to move from teacher of students to leader of parents. Successfully switching, teachers pull parents into their worlds of teaching, curriculum, pedagogy, data and improvement and yield considerable influence. Failing to do so, teachers get dragged into parents' worlds.

Learn strategies, tactics and meta-cognitive solutions allowing teachers to take hold of Parent-Teacher meetings and to communicate unpalatable and potentially painful information in ways minimising offence, indignation and resentment whilst avoiding the traditional conversational traps of sugar-coating, diluting, deflecting, back-tracking, apologising, avoiding or withdrawing.

If you're seeking professional learning for your staff or leaders focusing on well-being, teacher leadership, advancing outcomes for learners and developing partnerships between home and school, this in-school workshop, facilitated to meet your unique context, might be part of the solution you're seeking.



What are people saying about our programmes?

"Tony, the way you challenged our thinking and made us think about how to be effective has been a revelation ... the ideas you present are so different from mainstream PD providers and whilst I know some people are uncomfortable with that, the thinking and ideas you share make so much sense and so much of a difference. Why aren't there more people like you giving the same messages and making the complex so much easier to confront. Thanks once again – participants are saying it's the most compelling PD they've ever had with many a-ha moments!"

Dy Stokes, DP, Paparua Street School, Executive Committee Christchurch Senior Leaders Network

This can also be facilitated for your Kāhui Ako

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