

Policy on Bi-Culturalism



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| Rationale | GirlGuiding New Zealand provides girls with opportunities to make a positive contribution to their community. It is therefore necessary for members to understand that the Treaty of Waitangi enables Māori and Tauīwi cultures to co-exist in one nation in a spirit of mutual respect and responsibility. |
| Purposes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To develop mutual respect for the attitudes and values of both cultures.• To accept that the Māori culture is unique to New Zealand.• To ensure that GirlGuiding New Zealand reflects both cultures.• To enable members to feel comfortable with the concept of bi-culturalism in a multi-racial society. |
| Guidelines | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In all aspects of Guiding, sensitivity must be shown to both cultures, and members are encouraged to include Māori language and culture in their unit programmes.• All publications produced by GirlGuiding New Zealand should include Māori titles and sub-titles.• The option of including Māori language and protocol is encouraged in Guiding ceremonies, meetings and events.• Resources will be provided to extend members' understanding of Māori culture and language.• Liaison with local Māori iwi is encouraged and local Māori resources should be investigated.• Leaders planning events and activities should ensure that consideration of Māori beliefs and values is included and that alternative options are provided, when necessary.• Experiences in both cultures should be provided to assist the social development of girls and women.• Trainings must regularly include education on Māori cultural issues. |
| Conclusion | Māori and Tauīwi members of GirlGuiding New Zealand can co-exist in a spirit of mutual respect and responsibility, identifying with their own culture and growing in understanding and experience of the other. |
| Date of policy | 2000 |
| Last reviewed | February 2011 |