

EDS for Consideration

For Objective 3;

- Pa Enea scholarship opportunities
- Extension of the current scholarship scheme

My thoughts:

This could be an alternative option to coming to Rarotonga. Families then have choices.

Our teachers in the Northern Group/Te Pa Enea Tokerau do not have the capacity to teach NCEA. Most are Primary School Teachers and may also struggle with teaching Y8-10.

Internet Services is not always reliable, and even if students access Te Kura on line they still need to have someone who can tutor them; give the 1to1 teaching in order to understand their learning tasks. These people may not exist.

In 2019 I was working in Apii Omoka with a Year 11 student. It took us the whole term to get her sorted with her Te Kura work. We liaised with E. Sosene at MOE, Te Kura in NZ, and the IT personnel there too. Despite all the support it was Week 10 before the student was able to begin her studies.

She happily beavered away on her assignments and tasks for English and Maths, submitting each upon completion. However, mid-October she received an e mail stating she needed to submit her learning. She had. It is probably still floating around in Cyber-space.

The student was also told she needed to go to an NCEA accredited school location to sit her external exams. How sad and upsetting this was for her, as her assignments had been submitted, and how to you get from Omoka in Penrhyn to sit an exam, with the nearest accredited school for her being Araura College?

My suggestion:

Consider implementing the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) Programme as per Lucky School on Palmerston and Imanuela Akatemia on Rarotonga.

This is a Distance Education Programme which is NCEA accredited. Students already on the programme receive their results via a transcript of studies completed, graded and also their Level 1,2, or 3 Certificate from New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

If students were to enter this programme at Year 8 of schooling then they should have a reasonable standard of English and Mathematics in order to study and learn at their own rate via individual workbooks.

From its beginning, Accelerated Christian Education® has maintained high Biblical and academic standards and remained committed to setting children on a path for success. The goal is the same today: to prepare children for the world today and give them the academic and spiritual tools necessary to achieve their God-given potential. Accelerated Christian Education's concepts are based on the following Five Basic Laws of Learning:

1. A child must be at a level where he can perform.
2. He must have reasonable goals.
3. His learning must be controlled, and he must be motivated.
4. His learning must be measurable.
5. His learning must be rewarded.

Based on these principles, the A.C.E. curriculum assures parents of:

- A solid, mastery-based, back-to-basics education for their child.
- A course of study diagnostically individualized to meet a student's specific learning needs and capabilities.
- A program incorporating Scripture, Godly character building, and wisdom principles.
- A curriculum using advanced computer technology to help ensure the finest education possible in today's high-tech climate."
- Information above from www.aceministries.com

Accelerated Christian Education (ACE)

Founded over 45 years ago in America, the ACE (also known as School of Tomorrow) curriculum has stood the test of time. Concentrating on effective methods from the past, it is being used in thousands of schools and many thousands of home schools in over 100 different countries worldwide. It is a complete, Godly, and individualised curriculum. A child may now start with the preschool programme and finish with tertiary College level material, receiving one of the three ICCE certificates. In other words, a child need never return to the state for a stamp of approval. In some countries, even secular governments have begun to set up School of Tomorrow learning centres within their state schools because they can see that the system works!

Individualised Curriculum

Since 1970 Accelerated Christian Education has published individualised curriculum and provided training in its implementation for children ranging from preschool through to secondary school. Students are tested diagnostically. Students are then placed in the curriculum in each subject at their own performance levels determined by the results of the diagnostic tests.

The unique format of the curriculum allows students to advance from unit to unit as they demonstrate mastery. Students move independently through the curriculum under supervision.

Accelerated Christian Education is more than quality academics. The curriculum is built on a theistic philosophical foundation. Students learn to see life from God's point of view. Their personal relationship with God and their personal responsibilities to family, church, and community are of primary concern.

Principles of Accelerated Christian Education

The Four Keys to Accelerated Christian Education

1. Individualised:

The A.C.E. model adapts to the learning speed of your child. This is unlike the “state school model” where the class is lock-stepped regardless of the student’s academic abilities. The A.C.E. model allows the child to progress independently through the curriculum and not as a group. The conventional school model holds back the faster learner and forces all the students forward regardless of their “learning gaps”.

2. Diagnosis:

The child is given a diagnostic test to determine current academic ability and clearly identifies any learning gaps within all subjects. For example, the child’s English grammar may be above his/her grade level. However, their punctuation skills may be below grade level. The child is then placed in curriculum at his/her academic performance grade level in each subject and the learning gaps are then addressed.

3. Goal Setting:

The Students learn through setting daily goals and are challenged by marking their achievement. This key to learning allows the child to visualize and plan daily progress. This unique discipline of A.C.E. places responsibility and accountability on the student for learning, thus establishing a lifetime appreciation for goal setting and achievement.

4. Mastery:

The Biblical value of excellence in all things we do is translated into mastering subject content. This is the foundation upon which all future learning is built. The A.C.E. model reinforces honest achievement that results in advancement. Students must master a minimum of 80% of the material (90% in Word Building) before advancing to the next step.

A Complete Curriculum To Meet Your Needs

In answer to today’s educational dilemma, highly skilled personnel in the Product Development Division are constantly working on all phases of curriculum development at Accelerated Christian Education.

Drawing on their experience, expertise, and knowledge of how children learn, Accelerated Christian Education staff research and develop curriculum that is highly motivational and challenging. Editors and proofers, working closely with the writers, review and polish all manuscripts. After final approval, word-processing personnel typeset the content, and graphic artists enhance the text with interesting and colourful illustrations and photographs.

Before printing, all curriculum is checked by quality control personnel to assure the highest standard of accuracy and academic excellence. For additional verification, much of the curriculum is field tested.

In all steps of the development process, current technology provides the ultimate in productivity with the highest standard of quality. Every manuscript meets educational requirements and adheres to biblical precepts.

On a parallel track, Accelerated Christian Education develops various state-of-the-art multimedia products. The Instructional Design Department develops material for Accelerated Christian Education Interactive Multimedia courses. Software Development produces developmental tools, educational programs, and record-keeping software. The Accelerated Christian Education Management System is a complete database program for schools using the Accelerated Christian Education program. The Audio/Visual Department develops various videos, and audio cassettes for training, instruction, and promotional use. A technical support team assists with electronic engineering and telephone support. All of this expertise contributes to a complete educational program.

Qualifications

The International Certificate of Christian Education (ICCE) has been available for several years in this country and is now being accepted by universities, both in the UK and abroad, as an alternative to the usual GCSE and GCE route (see 1997 UCAS Handbook p.25 – N.B. this does not constitute accreditation).

The ICCE is only available to students using the School of Tomorrow curriculum although some credit may be allowed for work to those coming late onto the programme. The certificate is available at three levels and has been used by ACE students to gain entrance to many universities including Aberystwyth, Durham, Manchester and Oxford.

There are schools in both Australia and New Zealand that use this system of Education.

It is also New Zealand NCEA accredited, and is being followed in Lucky School Palmerston, and Imanuela Akatemia, Rarotonga. The Cook Islands Ministry of Education recognises the **Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) system of learning.**

Students also Learn:

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Contact person for more information would be Pastor Bobby Matapo, principal at Imanuela Akatemia.

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For Objective 1;

Pa Enea Student Accommodation

Many parents do not want to send their children to Rarotonga to further their studies as they are not happy with accommodation arrangements.

Has the government given thought to either: setting up hostels for students from the Pa Enea where they are looked after and supervised by paid adults who are police vetted and trained in looking after other people's children? This was an option in the past.

OR

Setting up homes (mini versions of the above) with House Parents who are trained and willing to 'stand in stead' of the parent. The CI government already owns houses, couldn't some of these be commandeered for the above.