

Teenage Parent Unit & ECE

Vision Statement

To provide a quality, educational institution, for the continuing education of young parents, or those about to become parents. A place where they can learn, in a safe and caring environment, with experienced and committed teachers.

Mission Statement

To provide a facility where young parents have the opportunity to complete or enhance their secondary education.

Aim

The aim of HB TPU is to break the cycle of benefit dependency and improve the life opportunities of both the young parent and their children. If young mothers are able to return into the education system they can develop the life skills, and gain the qualifications that will enhance their self esteem and future prospects for themselves, for their children and ultimately for society.

Special Character of TPU

The Hawke's Bay Teen Parent Unit is a facility for young parents or those about to become parents, to have a second chance to continue their education, in a safe caring environment. It is an attached unit to the host secondary school William Colenso College. Teen parent units provide specifically tailored educational support to overcome the barriers to learning for young parents.

The Teen Parent Unit provides for teen parents from Hawke's Bay including Napier, Hastings, Clive, Havelock North, Flaxmere and Bridge Pa.

It was originally opened in January 2000 and is situated on the grounds of William Colenso College, Arnold Street, Napier. The funding is through the Ministry of Education. The unit is open to all students and their families who were, or are teenage parents and have had their basic formal education interrupted due to pregnancy and the birth of a child. The unit has a maximum roll of 40 students. The unit is funded as a decile one school and staffed on a 1–10 ratio.

The Teen Parent Unit works in partnership with the Colenso Early Childhood Centre. An associated, licensed and registered early childhood centre caters specifically for the needs of the babies and children of the teen parents. The Ministry supported us in developing an Early Childhood Centre that opened in 2001 and has since been extended to a license for 37 places.

All students who are enrolled must meet the eligibility requirements for Teen parent units.

- Students who have had their education interrupted because of pregnancy or parenthood.
- Students who were unlikely to have returned to school without support.
- Students who are under 19 years of age or in their 19th year

The Teen Parent Unit works in partnership with William Colenso College, social services and agencies within the community providing a multi-agency service to the students and their families. The agencies we work with include Napier Family Centre, Dove, Plunket, Paft, WINZ, Housing NZ, DHB, Te Taiwhenua, Te Kupenga Hauora, Teen Parent Co-ordinator, Womens Refuge.