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## PARENT/CAREGIVER PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET: Primary

### Title of Project: Evaluation of Manaiakalani

Researchers from the Woolf Fisher Research Centre at The University of Auckland are investigating the effects of Manaiakalani on students. The research project is funded by the Manaiakalani Educational Trust and The University of Auckland. We want to find out whether Manaiakalani helps students become more engaged at school and increases academic achievement.

We would like to invite you and your child to participate in this research. It will begin in August 2012 and will end in May 2015.

The first part of the research helps us to understand better how families and schools implement the learn/create/share model through the use of netbooks. Based on these understandings, schools will be able to refine their programme to support children's learning further.

Your Principal has given us permission to collect information about student achievement at school. We will use this information to evaluate how well the schools are doing in terms of the children's learning.

We would like to collect a small amount of information from you and your child each year, over a period of three years.

Each year we would like to collect the following:

To gather information about how you and your child engage with the netbooks in the home, we would like to invite you to participate in a short paper-based questionnaire. The questionnaire will take about 15 minutes to complete.

To gather information about how the ways in which your child's teacher is engaging your child in class, we would like to invite your child to participate in a short questionnaire. The questionnaire will contain three questions, which will ask your child how they feel about the activity they are working on.

Your Principal and teachers have given us permission to watch four teachers from your child's school teaching a standard lesson for up to one hour. If your child's teacher is selected for observation, we might like to conduct a short interview with your child. The interview will take between 5 and 10 minutes. This interview with your child will take place at school but we need your permission to do these.

To gather information about the amount of time your child is using the netbook outside of school hours, we would like your permission to access the time stamp information on your child's netbook. We will only be collecting information about the time children spend using their netbooks and will not collect any information about how they are using their netbooks.

To gather information about your child's writing, we would like your permission to read your child's blogs.

In order to determine whether netbook use is associated with raised student achievement at school, we would like your permission to match your child's netbook usage with student achievement data received from the school.

If you agree to participate in this project, information about your child's learning will be tracked over each of the three years of the project, even if they change schools to another school involved in Manaiakalani during this time.

Your participation is voluntary, and you don't have to be involved. Your school agrees that your participation is voluntary and whether you do or don't participate doesn't affect anything else at school, including participation in Manaiakalani and access to netbooks. You or your child can withdraw from participating at any time. You can also withdraw any information that you or your child has provided at any time up until it has been analysed. This would be by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November in each year that the data has been collected. You do not have to give any reason for your withdrawal as your decision will be completely respected.

All the information (including questionnaires) will be collated into a database, de-identified, and analysed. The database and associated hard-copy files will be kept securely at the Woolf Fisher Research Centre for a period of six years, after which all copies will be destroyed and/or deleted. Any consent forms will be kept separately from the information. Reports, articles and feedback arising from this research will not identify the school or any individual participants as the source of the information.

Results of the research will be made available to your school and to schools in the area to help develop even more effective teaching in local schools. Results may also be published in journal publications, or presented at the Manaiakalani hui or in education conferences.

If you consent to participating in this project, please complete and sign the attached consent form and return it to the envelope available at the school office.

Thank you very much for your time and help in making this project possible. If you have any queries or wish to know more, please phone or write to any of us at the address below:

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Woolf Fisher Research Centre  
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The University of Auckland  
Private Bag 92601, Symonds Street  
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The Head of School is:

Professor Judy Parr  
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For any queries regarding ethical concerns please contact:

The Chair, The University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Research Office – Office of the Vice Chancellor, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142. Ph: (09) 373 7599 ext. 83711

Approved by The University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee on 7 September 2012 for three years. Reference Number 8294.



**PARENT/CAREGIVER CONSENT FORM**

**THIS FORM WILL BE HELD FOR A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS**

**Title of Project:** Evaluation of Manaiakalani

**Researchers:** Dr. Rebecca Jesson Senior Lecturer, Woolf Fisher Research Centre  
Aaron Wilson Senior Researcher, Woolf Fisher Research Centre

I have read the Participant Information Sheet and I understand the research and why I have been selected. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and to have them answered to my satisfaction.

I understand that I may withdraw myself and my child from this project at any time up until 31 May 2015, without having to give any reasons.

I understand that I may withdraw any information that I or my child has provided at any time up until the 1<sup>st</sup> of November of each year that information has been provided, without having to give any reasons.

I understand my own and my child's participation is voluntary and that my school has agreed that his/her participation or non-participation will not influence our relationship with the school or access to school services.

For each of the three years of the project:

**I agree that ..... (child's name) of ..... (child's class) may participate in this research.**

**I understand that my child's teacher may be observed during a lesson.**

**I agree / do not agree (circle one) that, if selected, my child may participate in a short interview with a researcher at the end of the lesson.**

**I agree / do not agree (circle one) that my child may participate in a short questionnaire during class time.**

**I agree / do not agree (circle one) that my child may allow researchers to access the time-stamp information from their netbook.**

**I agree / do not agree (circle one) that my child may allow researchers to read their blogs.**

**I agree / do not agree (circle one) to participate in a short questionnaire.**

**I agree / do not agree (circle one) to allow my child's netbook data (including time stamp and blogs) to be matched to their achievement data.**

I understand that information about my child will be confidentially collated and entered into a database by the researchers.

I understand that information about my child's learning will be tracked over each of the three years of the project.

I understand that, with the permission of the Principal, existing student achievement data will be collected from the school.

I understand that my child's, and my own, confidentiality and privacy will be protected at all times, and that neither his/her name, nor the name of the teachers, the school or myself will be identified in any publication or presentation that arises from the research.

I understand that the data will be stored securely at the Woolf Fisher Research Centre and will be destroyed after a period of six years.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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