

# Education and Public Programmes Policy

**Purpose** To ensure we deliver high-quality educational experiences at the Museum.

**Scope** All Board members and staff.

**Review Date** September 2029

**Policy Statement** Canterbury Museum is dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of our cultural and historical heritage. We believe in the power of education and public engagement to make our exhibits and collection come alive for visitors of all ages. We will provide lifelong learning educational services, taking care to ensure a balance of coverage between various sectors of the community. We will also offer a variety of educational and public engagement activities tailored to accommodate multiple learning styles and demographics.

Our educational and public programming activities will:

- Provide enriching experiences that inspire and educate our community by sharing our rich human and natural history through engaging educational programmes connected to the New Zealand Curriculum, and public events
- Utilise the Museum's collections, stories and research as our primary resource in an accessible and imaginative way
- Embrace values of equity, diversity and inclusion, ensuring accessibility to a broad and diverse audience
- Establish Canterbury Museum as a vital educational resource and community gathering hub
- Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and information through collaboration with other organisations
- Maintain the safety and integrity of our collections and visitors
- Incorporate experiential learning and adapt to changing social priorities
- Embed Te Ao Māori perspectives in all our engagement work
- Include Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu in the planning of our exhibitions, education and public programmes where appropriate.

All Educators working directly with children will have a worker safety check every 3 years, as outlined in the Child Protection Policy. They will also have up-to-date first aid training, with a refresher course every 2 years.

The Education and Public Programmes Team will actively contribute to each stage of exhibition development to maximise the educational potential. The Educators will provide the interface between the staff and our education customers to coordinate the production of educational materials.

We aim to share knowledge and foster an understanding of the roles of museums within communities.

We are committed to continuous improvement through evaluation and feedback. We will regularly evaluate customer satisfaction with our services.

Policy adopted by the Canterbury Museum Trust Board  
on 9 September 2024 for immediate implementation