

## **Classroom Listening Meeting**

**This is an outline of the restorative classroom process that we use at Bream Bay College. Before the meeting seating is arranged in a semicircle with a desk between 2/3 chairs. Thought is given to who is working with who in these pairs or small groups. Students are met at the door and shown to pre-arranged seats. If a class is finding relationships are especially difficult then it may be necessary to have a dean or senior manager in the room to support respectful interactions.**

## The Bream Bay Way: Classroom Listening Meeting

Today we are having a classroom meeting to hear how some problems have been affecting us all. This is your opportunity to say how things are in the class in terms of Respect. We are here today to focus on Respect, not all the problems, just Respect. For a start there are some group rules.

Group rules.....(*Have these written up*)

- When someone is talking you listen.
- Each person will have a chance to speak.
- You may pass turn but then you have lost your chance to speak.
- Speak Respectfully (No Put Downs)
- Name the problem not the person

First Round.

What are the problems that are disrespectful of you or others. What things do people do that show a lack of respect. I don't want to know the names of people but I do want to know the names of the problems that are affecting you. I will write these problems on the board.

Break into small groups of 2/3...one person scribe...one person feedback.....When reporting back the appointed speakers will speak, others in their group are asked if they have anything to add. (*Depending on the class and the available time you may write answers up or collect written sheets at the end*)

2<sup>nd</sup> round.

What effect do these problems have on you, your friends, your family and your teachers.

3<sup>rd</sup> round

There are two questions here.

When do these problems not occur, There will be certain classes or places around the school when these problems do not occur, where are they?

What is great about being in this class? ( Write these up).

I know that this is the sort of class that we all want to have. Does anyone have any suggests that might help these things occur more often. Some suggestions may not be possible but we welcome any suggestions at the moment (All listen to them).

I would now like you to nominate two people to be part of a small group who will work on these suggestions of how best to make this a better class (*students write nominations down, when selecting the group try and ensure that each student has a nominee in the small group*)

Finally I need to know whether you want a follow up meeting in 2or 3 weeks time. We want to see more of the class being respectful and we may invite

others who are not able to be part of today's meeting to be there. We may want to let parents know about the progress that has been made.

Thanks for coming to this meeting..

## Meeting 2

Write up all the things that are great about the class and the times/places they occur.

Write up rules

We have been trying to focus the class on a new direction. The purpose of this meeting to see how much progress has been made on this new direction. We can see what of class we all want and the places and times the class has been like this.

### Round One

What do we need to add to the list of what is great about this class and when the class has been like this.

### Round Two

(if there are still major problems then.....ask I want to know when problems have stopped the class being as good as they are able. What are the problems and most importantly what have you seen people do that fix or lessen the problems.....these solutions become the plan that you circulate to all teachers/students to remedy the problems)

If however the class is significantly better then

### Round two

Choose the five things that are great about the class that you most agree with. Write these five things on the letter home. Write your name in the middle of the page. When someone gives you a strength card write it on your letter.

Arrange it to ensure that everyone gets several strength cards. When they give the card the person needs to clearly say why they are giving the person the card. Students and teachers take part.

Get students to address the envelopes and post them home.

Dear parents / caregivers

Today we held a classroom meeting to remind ourselves what made our class such a great place to be in. The things that are great about our class are.....

We all contribute different things and what .....contributes to this class is.....

We hope that you appreciate knowing these things. If you want to know more please be in contact with the classes dean Mrs Gardiner or the guidance counsellor Mr Davison.