

A positive 'whanau vibe' with out-of-school care

There is "a great 'whanau vibe' with sKids," says Manurewa South School principal Tone Kolose, and this is due to their positive philosophy "around supporting families, and providing students with life skills and different experiences through the programmes they run".

sKids - Safe Kids in Daily Supervision - has been providing structured out of school care for Manurewa South School since 2012.

We chose sKids because "they were an established before/after school programme" says Mr Kolose. "Multi Site Owners Rose and Luke are awesome to work with and are a very special part of our school community. They are very accommodating, for example, when the school has had to close early for parent conferences they supervise students whose parents are unable to get them earlier," he explains.

"sKids also go above and beyond what you would expect from an Out of School Care Provider.



Not only do they provide our students with before, after school care and holiday programmes. but our kids also get opportunities to develop new skills through their specialty cooking programme 'FoodStorm' and music programme 'Jellybeans' and we ALL love these programmes - the kids because they have so much fun, and the school,

because sKids come in and deliver the programmes so we don't need to worry about finding extra staff."

In addition, sKids "give back in many ways to our community through their Charity Kiwi Kids Education foundation," Mr Kolose says.

"Through supporting students who

require care (before or after school), and making costs affordable for our families to attend, they always find ways to make things work financially, supporting the school with activities that relate to current learning programmes."

Feedback from parents and teachers is always positive, Mr Kolose says. And if there are any issues they are dealt with immediately and in a way where there is a win-win outcome."

Of particular importance is health and safety, where once again Skids gets a big thumbs up.

"The adult ratios are always what they need to be, whether they are based at school or on a trip during the holiday programme.

The quality of the programmes sKids offer are obviously working because their roll is booming."

If you're interested in learning more please contact sKids on 0800 274 172 or visit www.skids.co.nz. ▲