



Funding support for our regions' learners

The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury has again shown their support for the region's learners and their families through the payment of grants to the Principals' Discretionary Fund of educators.

This annual funding to all primary, intermediate and secondary schools, plus not-for-profit early learning centres, kindergartens and playcentres in our area is granted so students are supported to achieve their potential and feel more connected and valued by the school by enabling all students to participate in educational opportunities with equity.

"The Community Trust values the knowledge and relationships held by local principals and centre managers" says CEO Liz Shea. "The needs based distribution of the available funding is therefore at the entire discretion of these community leaders". For example, individual students might receive assistance with the costs of exam fees, uniforms, meals, stationery, field trips or visiting performances, school camps, sporting or cultural activities, or entry fees to core activities such as swimming. In other circumstances the funding might be used to provide additional teacher aide time or resources for one or a group of students."



While kindergartens, playcentres and early learning centres each receive a fixed sum, the amount provided to each school is calculated using roll, equity and isolation index data (small rural schools also receive a larger, minimum amount than would be payable under a numbers-based formula). The overall Principals Discretionary Fund distributed this year is **\$348,056** to 67 schools, 23 kindergartens, 10 playcentres and 12 early learning centres.

The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury uses the returns from investments to fund its philanthropy. The Community Trust supports not-for-profit organisations and projects which contribute towards achieving a region of healthy, vibrant and caring communities. To learn more please visit www.comtrust.org.nz