



# WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE

30 October 2012

To Whom It May Concern

**Re: StrengthsQuest Programme at Whangaparaoa College**

I am writing in support of the StrengthsQuest Programme operating at Whangaparaoa College.

One of my responsibilities as Year 13 Dean is to work alongside the Prefects. This year all of our Prefects were put through the StrengthsQuest Programme at WGP College, facilitated by CYC Trust

We have found StrengthsQuest has helped our learners in their leadership responsibilities by:

- Increasing self-awareness.
- Deepening our student's knowledge and appreciation of others' talents. Our student leaders are encouraged to understand that teams with a diversity of talents achieve the best outcomes.
- Forming and maximizing teams. Participating in Strengths Quest has allowed our Learners to engage in conversations around others talents, allowing them to do 'team' in a way that honours the contributions each person can make. They are starting to develop their 'Team' skills to see a task from creative idea through to successful completion. Without this awareness of themselves and others we always tend to have the same Prefects doing all the jobs.
- Helping others to affirm, develop, and apply their talents. I have observed that as our learners increase in their awareness of their own talents and how to apply them productively, they can lead others to develop and apply their talents.

Students have been encouraged and excited about this process and have spoken with high regard about its outcomes. (Please find attached a number of their comments.) All of our Learners, who have had the opportunity to partake in this programme, have seen practical application and fruit from it within their current academic pathway. No doubt this learning and the skills obtained will be an asset to them as they move into the rest of their lives.

Yours sincerely

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## Students Comments

“I found Strengths Quest good, because I found that my identifies talents were very relevant to my life”

“It helped me to deal with the stresses of Leadership by understanding myself and my leadership style better” A. J

“The Strengths Quest Leadership has improved my leadership skills as a prefect. The programme has shown me who I am as a person & Leader. I found out what I can use to benefit my leadership throughout the school” J. B

“It helped me understand why I do things the way I do”

“Helped me write a CV”

“My strengths helped me understand myself better and feel more confident with my future career choice” P. W

“It helped me learn more about myself and others. It was different to any other personality Test because it didn't just tell me what type of personality I am but helped tell me what it meant for me and how I could use my talents to my advantage. It is almost always in the back of my mind” M. H

“Strengths Quest was very helpful for my pursuit of an apprenticeship. Most employers I spoke to recognized the course. My final employer was wrapped that I had completed the Strengths Coaching programme.” M. D

“the Strengths test and coach helped me so much with my leadership. It helped me to learn so much about myself, and I think that you can't properly lead anyone until you know yourself well enough. I really really enjoyed it and I think that it is so beneficial and a good opportunity for others.” Y. N