

Tamatea Intermediate – Napier

School Background

Tamatea Intermediate is a decile 4 school in Napier, Hawkes Bay, with approximately 320 students. Roy Sye, the principal, introduced Peter Hunt, the school's technology teacher, to the Neighbourhood Engineers Award. Peter selected a group of ten year 8 students (7 girls and 3 boys) to participate in the Award, on the basis that they had previously displayed a very good understanding of technological practice, were able to work unsupervised, could listen to and follow instructions, enjoyed technology and were not afraid to take risks. The students named themselves the 'Tamatea Intermediate Technology Intelligence Team' (T.I.T.I.T).

The Project

The Team identified a need for a workstation for physically disabled/less mobile students so they could participate fully and work in the new biotechnology area. After a brainstorming session, and a visit from an occupational therapist, the Technology Intelligence Team developed several concept sketches. With the assistance of IPENZ, T.I.T.I.T enlisted the help of design draughtsman Ben Luders from Holmes Consulting Group, to help with the workstation.

The students developed prototypes, incorporating modifications and improvements before settling on a final design. Information was gathered on the materials needed for construction and, after product trials and further modifications, the workstation was produced.

"Working through the technological process and being involved in the decision-making, risk taking, taking ownership, planning, discussion groups, construction, and working as part of a successful team has given us all an added confidence and a sense of pride of being involved in such a worth while project" – The Tamatea Intermediate Technology Intelligence Team



The completed workstation