# Supporting school issues through a whole-school approach

Responsible citizens

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| Police district | School name | School demographics | Submitted by |
| Auckland | Name withheld | Contributing school Urban Decile band 1–3 | Const. R. Kennerley School Community Officer |

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| Summary | Preventing graffiti and burglaries in and around the school grounds. |
| Issue | This school was being damaged by graffiti on a daily basis.  It was burgled twice between June and November 2014. |
| Identification and prioritisation | Willful damage and burglaries were identified by Police Intel, the school and the Ministry of Education. |
| Short-term goal | To increase school community awareness about the offences.  That the school community takes more ownership of the school. |
| Long-term goal | The school will remain graffiti free.  The school will have no more burglaries. |
| Prevention activities | Activities that occurred within a whole-school approach included:  School ethos and environment   * Security lighting around the school was improved. * Security patrols and signage were established at the school. * All graffiti was removed as quickly as possible (within 24 hours).   Community connections   * The area was identified as a ‘hot spot’, which resulted in increased patrols by Police. * The local business association kept a close eye on the school and informed the Neighbourhood Policing Team of any concerns. * Police Dog Section exercised dogs at night at the school if they were in the area and had time.   Curriculum teaching and learning   * Students came up with ideas to help prevent the vandalism. * Years 5 and 6 students made posters and put them around the school to stop people damaging their school. |
| Impact | Graffiti has now become non-existent at the school.  There has been only one burglary since January 2015, and the offender was apprehended at the time of the break-in. |
| Next steps | The school will continue to make the awareness of taking ownership of the school an active part of student learning.  The Ministry of Education is installing a perimeter fence around the school. |
| Obstacles | As most of the incidents stopped after the students displayed their personal anti-vandalism posters around the school, we didn’t do as many targeted lessons with the students as we thought would be necessary. |
| Improvements | As the intervention worked so well, we won’t change anything at this time. |
| Conclusion | The school is proud of the students for taking ownership, and that the short term goal was reached so quickly. |