



## The Modern Day Village Approach

Implementing Check & Connect from a Kiwi - Pacific Island perspective





# Introductions

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- **Afa Mui**
- New Zealand born Niuean.
- Parents are from Alofi, Niue
- Raised in Ranui, West Auckland
- Celebrating 5 years of marriage to Rik-Elle
- 2<sup>nd</sup> eldest of four children.
- Currently graduated with a Diploma in Youth Work

# Introductions

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- **Daniel Noah Samuta**
- New Zealand born Fijian, Scottish
- Father from Raki Raki Fiji. Mother 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Kiwi.
- Raised and educated, West Auckland
- Married for three years to Jessica and we have a 11 month old named Boston.
- The youngest of 5 children
- Dream: to become a Educational Psychologist.



# Our current situation

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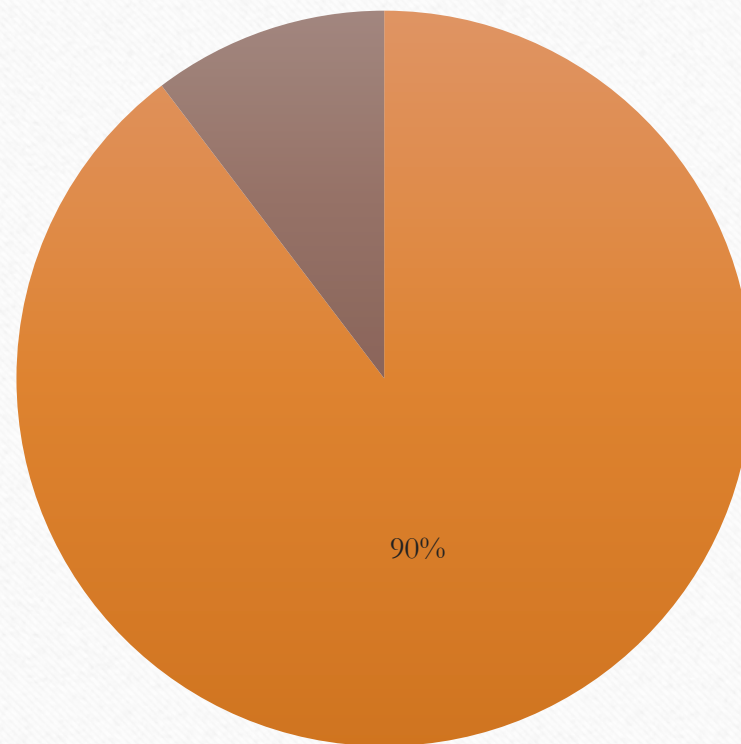
Contracted by the Ministry of Education under the PB4L branch for two years.

In two schools Massey High School and Waitakere College – based in West Auckland.

An over representation of Pasifika referrals to Check & Connect.



## Referral group ethnicity: Maori and Pasifika



■ Maori/Pasifika ■ Other





Weaving Check & Connect and the Village approach together.



# Strands

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- What is the “modern day Village approach”? And why use it with Check and Connect?
- Explore the past to understand how it impacts us today.
- Cultural Values:
- Connections and relationships
- Talanoa – Critical thinking and conversation (for all involved).
- Fakamalolo - strengths based and cultural sensitivity
- Challenges to our approach and practice.
- Q & A.



# What is the Modern Day Village approach?

Why use a village approach with Check & Connect?



**Traditional**

**VS**

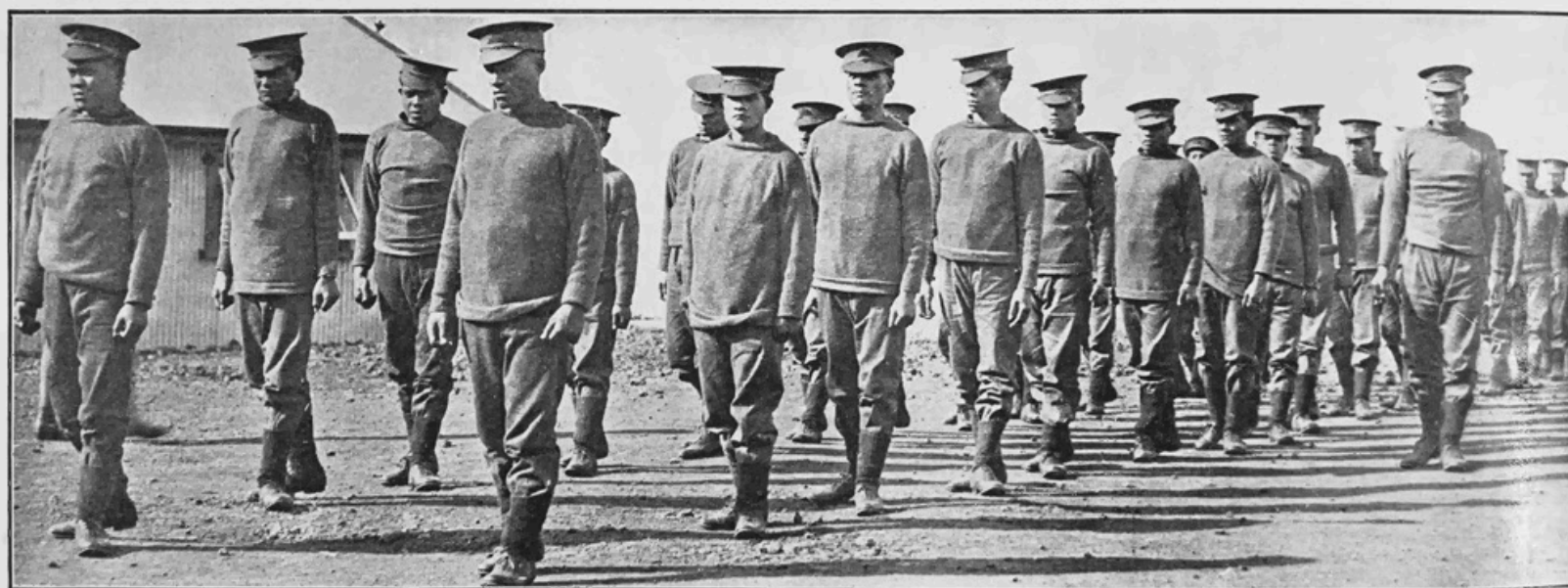


**Modern**



# Exploring the past

A story of our journey



STURDY NIUE ISLAND RECRUITS, WHO ARRIVED LAST WEEK IN AUCKLAND; SOME OF THE MEN WHO ARE NOW IN TRAINING FOR THE FRONT IN THE NARROW NECK CAMP.

Photo from; [nzhistory.net.nz](http://nzhistory.net.nz)

Cook Island and Niuean soldiers relaxing at a beach in New Zealand after the war



Photo from; [nzhistory.net.nz](http://nzhistory.net.nz)



Processing fish in Auckland – 1960's



Photo from; [nzhistory.net.nz](http://nzhistory.net.nz)

Newspaper clip over deportation confusion



Photo from; [dawnraidsnz.weebly.com](http://dawnraidsnz.weebly.com)



Polynesian Panther Movement protesting against sending Pacific Island soldiers to the war in Vietnam.



Photo from; [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)



State housing in Auckland's low socio economic areas

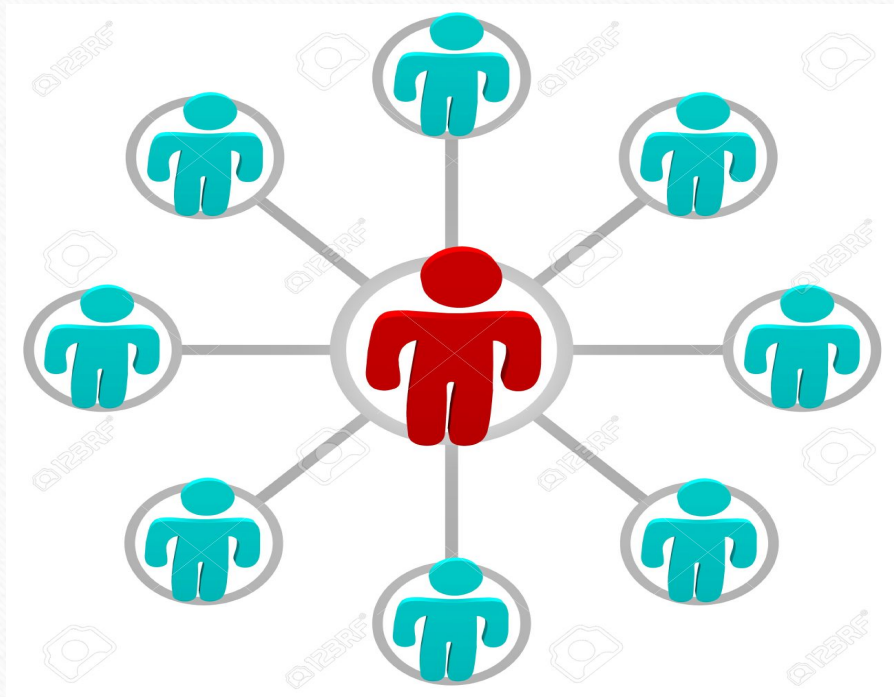


Photo from; [www.teara.govt.nz](http://www.teara.govt.nz)



# Connections/ Relationships

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- In the context of Check & Connect:
- Students desire to belong and feel accepted to something.
- Connection between family and school increases likelihood of school completion.

# Student Focus – Double Trouble

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# Talanoa

Critical thinking and conversation



- In the context of Check & Connect:
- Encourages collaboration
- Simplifies language for everyone to understand.
- Listening and advocating.
- Challenging students to think critically and reflect on life choices.

...Mike Tyson...

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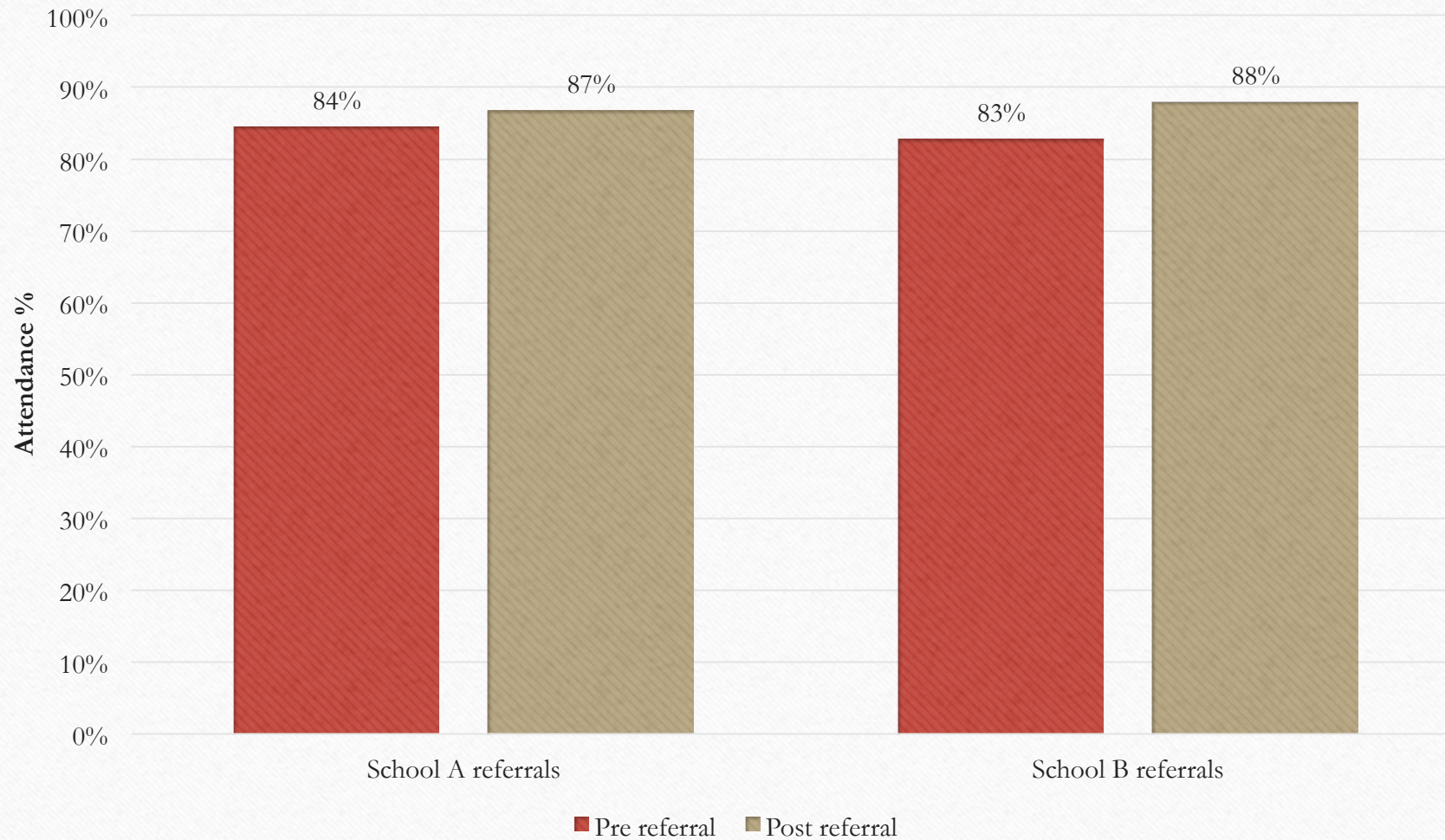
# Fakamalolo

Being strong and resilient

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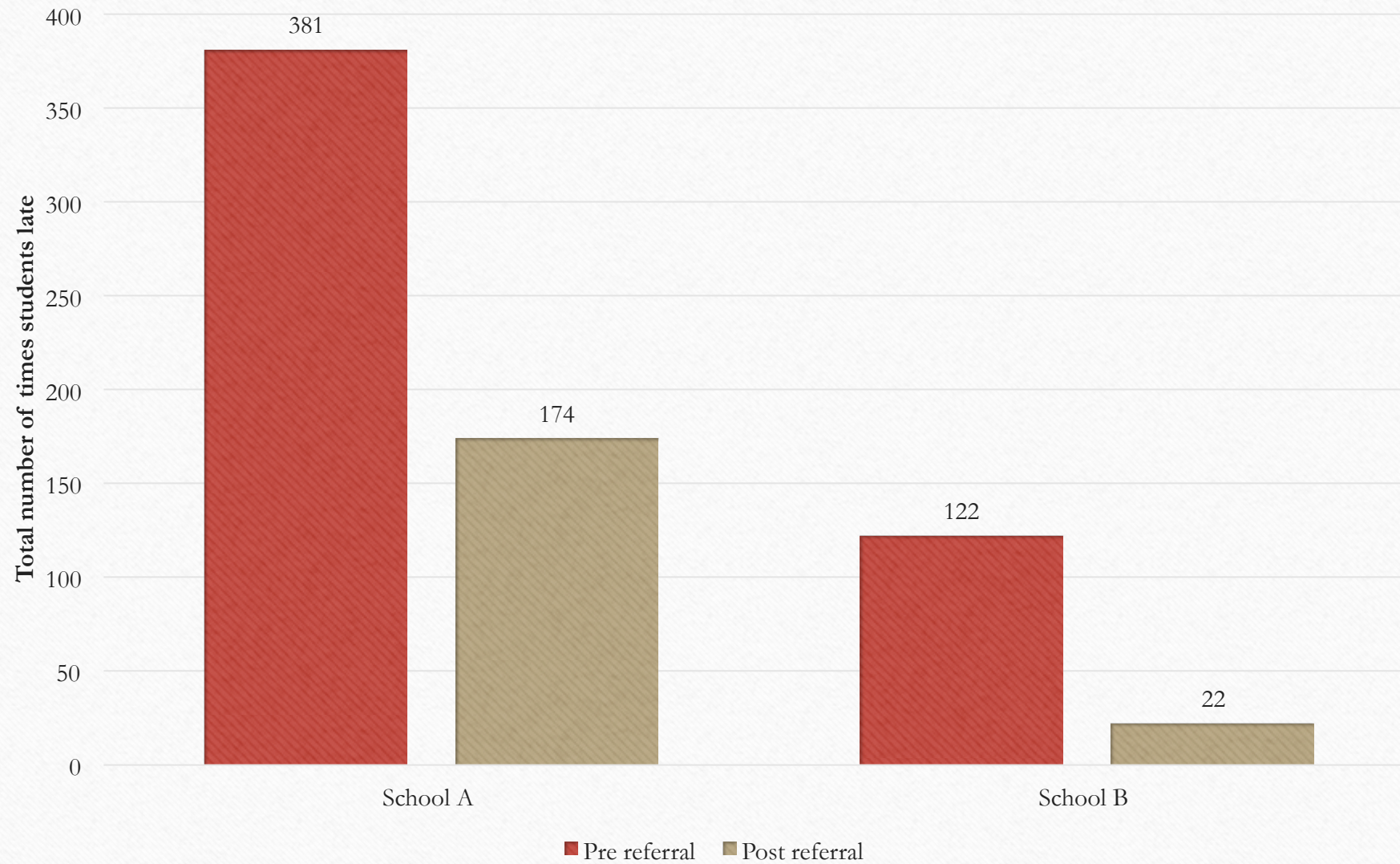
- Fakamalolo – “be strong” (Niuean).
- Fa’amalosi (Samoan), Loto lahi (Tongan), Fakamalolosi (Tuvaluan).
- Cultural clashes
- Cultural confusion (blending cultures)
- Low Self esteem.
- How do we build resilience?
- Time + Consistency = Significant relationship.
- Goal setting
- Reviewing attendance and behaviour.
- Conversations with teachers, parents and Champions

## Attendance: pre referral vs post referral

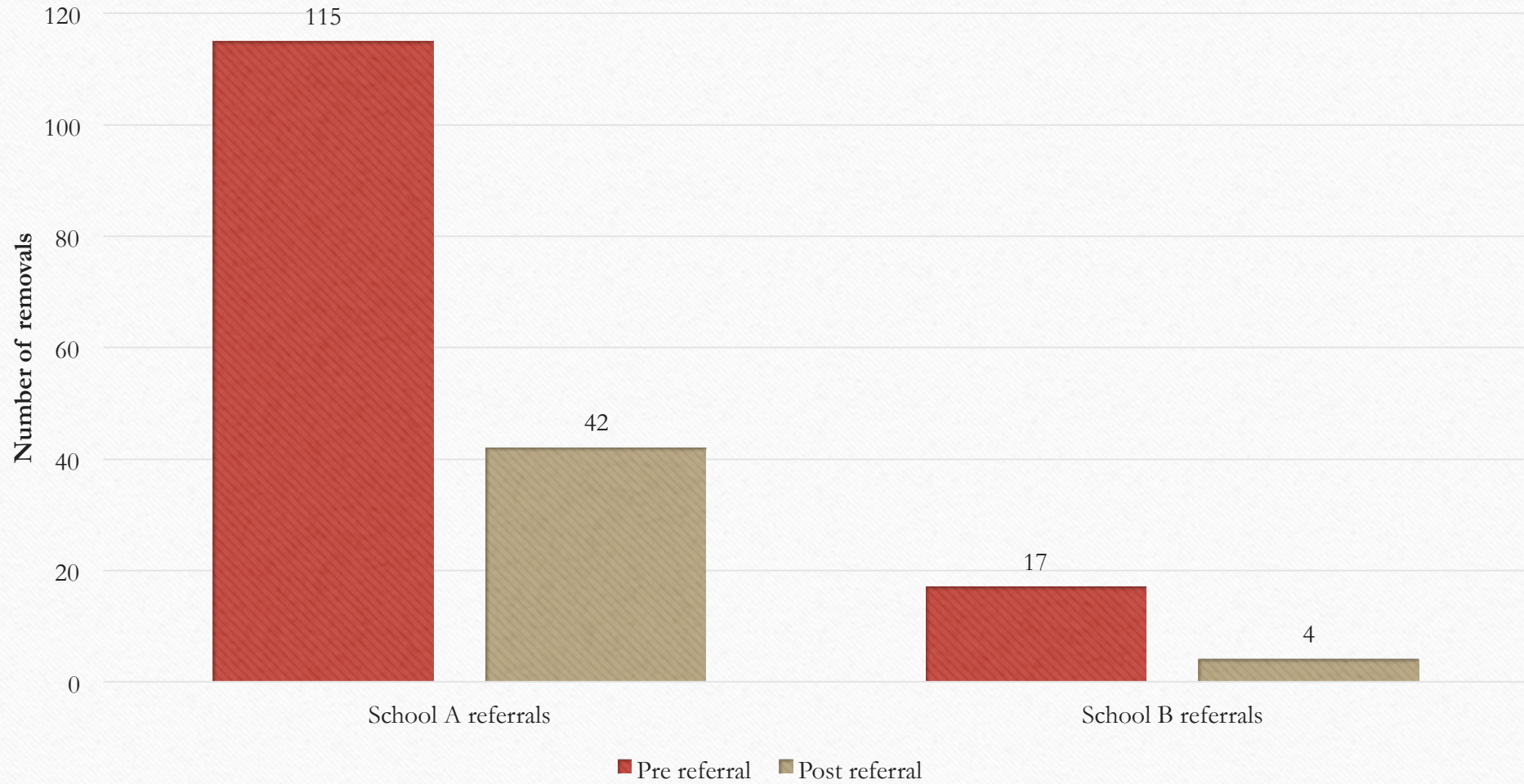




# Punctuality



## Total removals: pre referral vs post referral





# Interventions

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- Based on feed back from:
- Strengths and Difficulties Questioner forms.
- Feedback from parent, teachers and students.
- We feedback to the champion what the need is and they make the necessary arrangements.
- Our interventions include homework centres, referrals to counsellors, RTLB referrals, sport team referrals, classroom observations and motivational meetings.

# Challenges

to Check & Connect and the Village approach

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- How do we do enough without doing too much?
- Engaging with families
- Engaging with teachers
- Student referrals
- Language barriers
- Families engaging with school (and vice versa)



# Pasifika Education Plan

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- Aims to raise Maori and Pasifika Achievement with two objectives:
- **PRIORITY OUTCOME 1** Improving education outcomes for Māori learners, Pasifika learners, learners with special education needs and learners from low socio-economic backgrounds.
- **PRIORITY OUTCOME 2** Maximising the contribution of education to the New Zealand economy.

# ...QUESTIONS...

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- **Whakawhetai Kia Koutou (Maori)**
  - **Vinaka Vaka Levu. (Fiji)**
    - **Fakaue lahi. (Niue)**
    - **Malo Aupito. (Tonga)**
    - **Fa'afetai Lava. (Samoa)**
  - **Fakafetai. (Tuvalu and Tokelau)**
    - **Meitaki (Rarotonga)**
    - **Thank you. (English)**

