

# RESEARCHED, TESTED & PROVEN



**bodyfurnsystem**  
a furnware creation



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# COMFORT = CONCENTRATION

As adults we expect to work in comfort – in fact it's required by law! We should expect the same for our children. How can you function when you're not comfortable?

Educational Professionals, researchers and school communities are continually searching for incremental gains in learning outcomes. Leadership, evidence based decision making, student centered focus and collaborative learning are now known to impact on school performance.

The physical environment and in particular classroom furniture – neglected in the past – are factors now recognised as having a substantial influence on learning outcomes.



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# BLOOD FLOW – WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

If there are barriers to circulation then certain physiological needs are not met. We become uncomfortable, concentration suffers, we lose focus and have to fidget to re-establish blood flow. Standard classroom chairs are a major cause of these problems.

## Positive movement

Movement is essential to blood flow and therefore concentration. Positive seamless movement is effective, subtle, and non disruptive. This is not possible with static furniture. To achieve it classroom furniture has to move with the student.



Learn how Bodyfurn®  
can deliver comfort  
and concentration to  
your school...

# FORWARD MOVEMENT



## Traditional Chair

This is an example of how we expect students to use traditional chairs. Notice the pressure under the thigh as he leans into his work. He will soon have to move to alleviate the discomfort.



## Student fix

This is the student's solution. This position provides relief from the leg pressure highlighted in the first image. However this is a potentially dangerous way to sit and transfers pressure to the lower leg.



## Bodyfurn® Solution

The dynamic seat of the Bodyfurn® chair moves with the student as he leans forward into his work. The seat provides a larger surface area delivering a comfortable, pressure free platform.

# LEANING BACK



## Traditional Chair

This is a very common position students adopt when in a listening or contemplative mode. There is considerable pressure under the leg and in the mid back from the edges of the chair seat and back. Lumbar support is absent.



## Student fix

As in the previous example this is a dangerous position for the student, his fellow students and the teacher. This also places stress on parts of the chair not designed to take such pressure (somewhat like the student).



## Bodyfurn® Solution

The independently pivoting seat and back of the Bodyfurn® chair allows the student to recline in comfort with no pressure points.

# CHAIR TOO HIGH



## Traditional Chair

Here, the student's chair is way too high. His feet do not reach the floor, therefore considerable pressure is applied to the back of his legs. The arteries located there are unable to distribute blood efficiently and the user will have to move and fidget to alleviate the pressure. Concentration is understandably affected.



## Student fix

Students will "tip toe" to release the pressure creating stress on the front of the lower leg. It is tiring, and the discomfort impacts on the ability to concentrate.



## Bodyfurn® Solution

The difference in heights of students in individual classrooms can vary significantly. The Bodyfurn® height chart system assists the student to select a chair and desk suited to his height. A correctly sized chair allows the feet to be placed squarely on the floor. Circulation is uninhibited allowing greater focus on the day's tasks.

# CHAIR TOO LOW



## Traditional Chair

The converse problem – a chair that is too low for the student – is highlighted by the gap between the seat surface and the student's leg. This focuses the weight on a smaller area of contact causing considerable pressure and discomfort.



## Student fix

To alleviate the discomfort, the student may sit on his leg, rest on the sides of his feet or adopt other positions that are equally damaging.



## Bodyfurn® Solution

Seated on a correctly fitted chair the student is able to be comfortable for long periods of time.

# DESK TOO HIGH



## Traditional Chair

The relationship between the seat and desk heights is very important for comfort and back health. In this image the student's shoulders are forced upwards. Not only is it uncomfortable and tiring it also makes writing difficult.



## Student fix

This is a typical outcome to having a desk that is too high. The student is almost lying on his desk to relieve the pressure on his back and shoulders. This strains the eyes and further stresses the shoulders and back. Some students will kneel on their chairs to elevate themselves to the correct height, others will dispense with the desk altogether.



## Bodyfurn® Solution

Here when the student is seated at the correct height desk, the arms and shoulders are relaxed. Concentration levels will increase, handwriting and presentation will immediately improve. If materials are required to be stored, the new Bodyfurn® side desk storage system relocates them safely to the side of the desk.

# SPACE SAVING



## Access

The legs of the desk are offset to the rear of the frame, and the chair has no front legs. These two factors combined provide a clear path for the student to get in and out. There is less disruption and the room overall is much quieter.



## Space Saving

The Bodyfurn® space saving desk/chair system provides the additional benefit of larger work surfaces without the need for a bigger room. Even with this larger desk top the overall space required is less than that taken up by traditional desks and chairs.



## Storage

When stored on the desk the chair is safe and stable, allowing easy access for cleaning without placing dirty chair legs on the desk surface. As well as delivering comfort and concentration, Bodyfurn® chairs have been built to exacting standards. Tested to severe level - AFRDI AS/NZS 4610.2:1999.



# THE BODYFURN STANDARD

## 1. Developed from Research

Bodyfurn® begins in the school, not the factory. Furnware's ongoing research programme into the learning environment highlights where new thinking is needed. A Bodyfurn® product begins with extensive research, during which opportunities for improved learning outcomes are identified.

## 2. Designed to Perform

A Bodyfurn® product emerges from an exhaustive design process. At every step we challenge ourselves to find the very best solution: a product that works, that looks good, and will go the distance in the demanding school environment.

## 3. Tested and Proven

New Zealand's classrooms are our laboratories. Before a Bodyfurn® product is released, we test it with teachers, students, administrators and property managers. Only when they say the product is delivering the benefits they are looking for do we start the manufacturing process.

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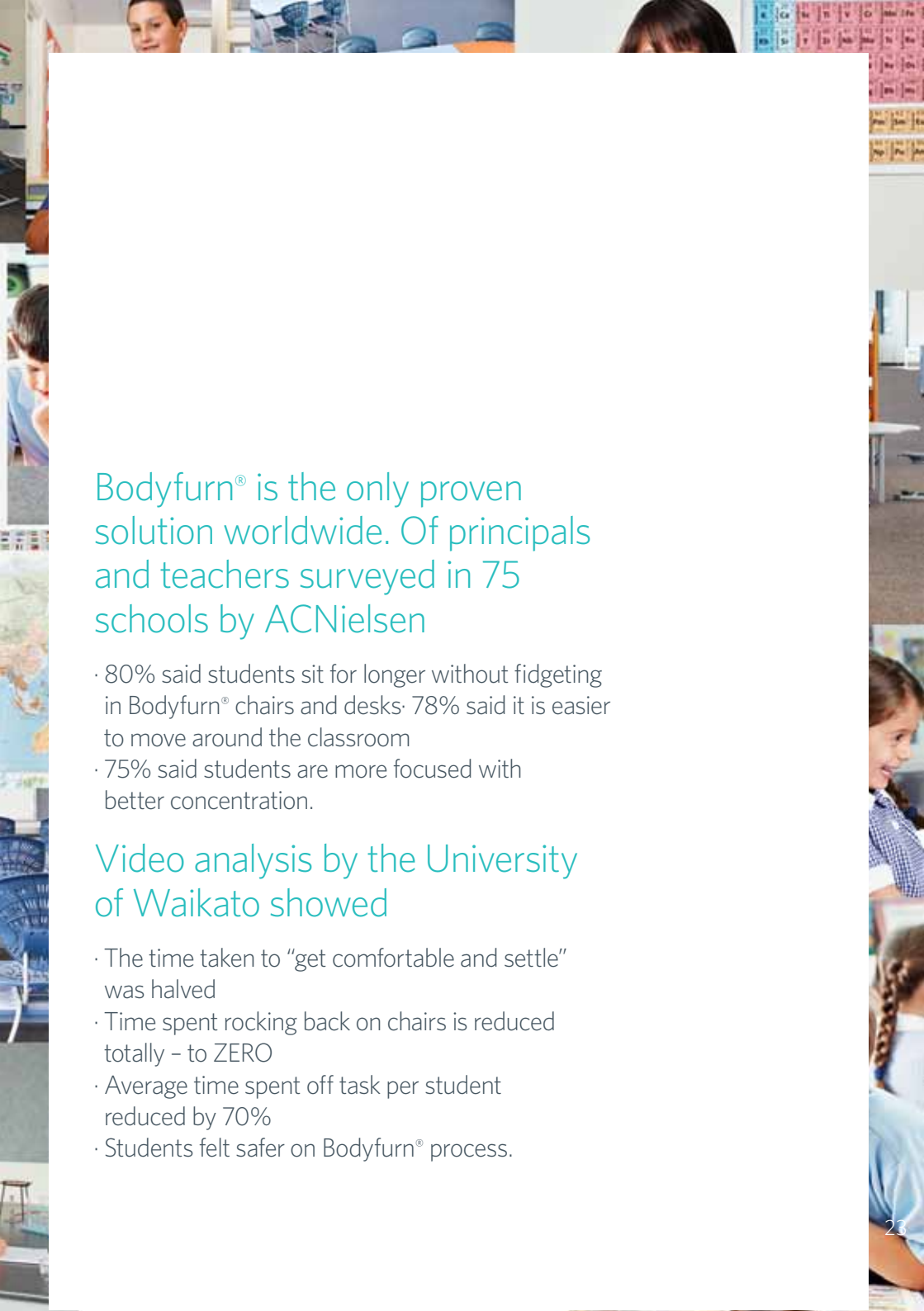


# ESTABLISHED FACTS

96% of students in traditional desks and chairs are using furniture that does not fit them.

Teachers, parents and schools have been unaware of the problem.

Ill fitting and uncomfortable furniture used during school years is a major contributing factor to child back health problems. 20-40% of children have back pain or musculoskeletal disorders, thought to be caused in part by poor school furniture and also thought to lead to problems in adulthood.



## Bodyfurn® is the only proven solution worldwide. Of principals and teachers surveyed in 75 schools by ACNielsen

- 80% said students sit for longer without fidgeting in Bodyfurn® chairs and desks· 78% said it is easier to move around the classroom
- 75% said students are more focused with better concentration.

## Video analysis by the University of Waikato showed

- The time taken to “get comfortable and settle” was halved
- Time spent rocking back on chairs is reduced totally - to ZERO
- Average time spent off task per student reduced by 70%
- Students felt safer on Bodyfurn® process.

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