

# Welcome to Kuratau School

---

Haere Mai te Kura o Kuratau  
Welcome to Kuratau School

We are a rural school and hold fast to our rural roots

We focus on environmental education and tell our children they are the Kaitiaki of these lands.

Maori kawa runs through our learning processes.

We have high expectations for each child in their learning pathway and are proud of our schools achievement against national Standards

Welcome to Kuratau School where happy teachers teach and happy children learn.

---

## **KURATAU SCHOOL** **A short history of** **Kuratau School and** **District**



Pukawa was the site of the first government school in this area of Lake Taupo.

Timber extraction involved the establishment of two schools in the early 1940's. These were Hauia and Otaranga. These sole charge schools served the milling communities for several years.

Mr J.A. Asher representing the owners of the bush on the Ponanga Saddle was instrumental in the negotiating of an exchange for the Kuratau Block and then negotiating with the Wanganui Education Board for the building of the Kuratau School on the same block.

In 1957 Both Moerangi and Rotomoho closed their doors - furniture, books, teachers and children moved into the new school.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1958 the school was formally opened by local MP Mr D Seath, and Paramount Chief, Hepi Te HeuHeu.

Kuratau literally means "Beautiful School".



We welcome your association with Kuratau School. This booklet is intended to inform you of how our school operates. It also informs you of what the school expects of its parents and pupils.

Kuratau School has a unique and special character. We encourage the Whanau (family) nature of our school at all times.

Kuratau School is an “Open School” - we invite you to come along and be involved in the Whanau of Kuratau School.

We would like to introduce you to our staff.

**PERMANENT TEACHERS**

|              |            |                   |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|
| PRINCIPAL    |            | Shirley BAILEY    |
| SENIOR       | Year 6,7-8 | Bronwyn HUNT      |
| INTERMEDIATE | Year 5     | Helen LISSAMAN    |
| MIDDLE       | Year 3-4   | Amanda-Jane LEITH |
| JUNIOR       | Year 1-2   | Belinda PYMAN     |
| NEW ENTRANT  | Year 0     | Clare SCHULTZ     |

**SUPPORT STAFF**

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| SCHOOL OFFICE | Rachel MACKEY |
| TEACHER AIDES | Lena TONGA    |
|               | Zoe ROSSALL   |

**SCHOOL CLEANER**

Kara THORBY

**SCHOOL CARETAKER**

Geoff HAWTHORN

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Under Ministry of Education regulations, elections for Board of Trustees are held every three years. The most recent elections were held in May 2019. The next election for all Board of Trustee positions will be held in May 2022. All parents / caregivers of children at Kuratau School are eligible to vote.

The Board consists of 5 parent-elected members, a staff representative and the Principal.

The Board may choose to Co-opt other members to fulfil specific roles, as they see fit.

## **THE 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| CHAIRPERSON     | Sarah WESTBROOKE |
| BOARD SECRETARY |                  |
| BOARD TREASURER | Brad PHILLIPS    |
| PRINCIPAL       | Shirley BAILEY   |
| STAFF REP       | Bronwyn HUNT     |

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| COMMUNITY LIAISON |                 |
| FUNDRAISING       | Sarah WESTBROOK |
| HEALTH AND SAFETY |                 |

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

These are held on the 3rd Monday evening of every month, unless otherwise notified. Minutes are displayed in the School entrance foyer. Any parent wanting to have a matter discussed by the Board, must have it included on the Agenda and will need to notify the school office by the Wednesday 1 week prior to the meeting.

## **SCHOOL POLICIES**

School has a number of policies in place, both for administration and curriculum areas. These policies assist management and board with the smooth and efficient running of the school. Policies are updated on a regular basis and are available for viewing online at [kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz](http://kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz). Username: kuratau Password: respect.

## **ERO**

School and the Board are subject to an effectiveness review every 3 years. This is conducted by the Education Review Office. To see the latest review visit [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz)

## **SCHOOL HOURS**

School is open for instruction from 8:30 am - 2:30 pm Monday to Friday. There are four terms per school year.

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| Period 1 | 8:30 am – 10:00am |
| Period 2 | 10:15am – 11:30am |
| Period 3 | 11:45am - 12:45pm |
| Period 4 | 1:30pm – 2:30pm   |

All pupils must attend school on a daily basis. If a pupil is to be absent, then school must be notified prior to that child being absent. If a child is absent on medical grounds, school must be notified. A medical certificate may be requested if the child is absent for an extended period.

### **ENROLLMENT SCHEME**

Kuratau School runs an enrolment scheme the purpose being to retain our school identity by keeping the roll within manageable teaching levels. Because of this we must retain places for children from our contributing zone.

Once our roll reaches 92 students any further (out of zone) enrolments will go on a waiting list.

We do not enrol Year 7/8 students who are out of our contributing zone.

### **TERM DATES 2022**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Term 1</b> | Tuesday 8th February to Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April<br>Waitangi Day Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> February                                   |
| <b>Term 2</b> | Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May to Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July<br>Queen's Birthday break Mon 6th June<br>Matariki Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June |
| <b>Term 3</b> | Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September<br>Mid-term Break Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> August                        |
| <b>Term 4</b> | Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October to Tuesday 20th December<br>Labour Day Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October                                    |

### **SCHOOL EVENTS INVOLVING PARENT PARTICIPATION**

School Events involving parent participation are currently on hold due to 'Red Light' Covid restrictions. While our community remain in red we will endeavour to continue to hold school events but are unable to have parents on site.

### **KAITIAKITANGA**

One of Kuratau's big goals is to develop in all our students the concept that they are the stewards of the land (Kaitiaki). Consequently we have a strong focus through our curriculum on environmental education. This can be witnessed through:

School Orchard  
Beehives  
Vegetable garden  
Wetland (The school wetland is a huge focus for Kuratau School)

We value science and see it as a key curriculum to develop this environmental stewardship. Consequently, we budget strongly and focus on science as one of our key curriculums.

### **TRUANCY**

Without regular attendance children fail to make educational progress. By law all children must attend school. Teachers forward a list of absentees to the office where caregivers are contacted. If a child is absent a phone message is most appreciated. A formal process is enacted in the case of regular truancy this involves meetings, letters home and the involvement of Truancy officers and Turangi Police.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

All property is collected up each day and placed in a storage bin outside the library. Any clothing left remaining at the end of each Term is removed permanently. Please label your children's clothes.

### **SCHOOL FEES**

We do not charge school fees. Parents are, however, expected to assist with all aspects of fundraising and with any working bees that may be held from time to time.

### **SCHOOL STATIONERY**

Stationary Packs are provided to all students at the beginning of each year. These are invoiced directly to parents/caregivers and include all the necessary items for your child's use throughout the year. It is not recommended stationary is purchased elsewhere as the school provides very competitive prices and the packs provided ensure your child has all they require for successful learning.

### **SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS**

School newsletters are sent via Skool Loop fortnightly on a Thursday/Friday. They are also posted on our website. [www.kuratau.school.co.nz](http://www.kuratau.school.co.nz). Please contact school if you do not have access to Skool Loop and would like to receive a newsletter in hardcopy. Please make a note of reading these newsletters, as they are our most important medium for communication with parents. If you wish to have anything placed in the newsletter, please contact the school office by the Tuesday prior.

### **DO YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT?**

We welcome constructive criticism and hope that all caregivers make use of our "Open Door Policy". School has a complaints policy in place. Please ensure you follow the procedure as out-lined in this policy. This can be found on our School Docs website: [kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz](http://kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz). Username: kuratau Password: respect.

### **PARENT HELPERS**

We love to see parents involved with school life!

If you wish to help at school on a regular basis - Please see one of our teachers who will be happy to discuss your future involvement in class.

### **SCHOOL BIKE DAY**

This is our major fundraiser for the year. It depends on the support of all parents. This will be held in June/July. Keep an eye out for dates as they are yet to be confirmed.

### **PUPIL BEHAVIOUR**

Kuratau School expects a high standard of behaviour from all Kuratau Students. At Kuratau School we do not accept bullying. We work closely with parents in addressing behavioural issues. A range of agencies are available to assist us in addressing individuals learning or behavioural issues. We encourage Tuakura Teina activities in all aspects of learning and see our senior students as role models for others

### **SWIMMING POOL**

The school have invested in a pool upgrade. We now have a new solar heating system and new filtration system.

Consequently we swim every day so children must have their togs at school through Term One and early Term Two and Term Four (weather permitting)

### **SCHOOL BUS SERVICE**

A school bus service is provided by the Ministry of Education. Our present contractor is: Go Buses phone 0800 462 871.

### **BUS TIMETABLE**

There are two bus runs at Kuratau School

#### **Run 1. Kuratau**

A ministry funded service with no charge to parents. This service covers our catchment area from the Waihi hill to Te Putu road on the Western access. Children living beyond these points are eligible for transport assistance

#### **Run 2. Turangi**

This run is a user pay run. It services out of zone students. Cost per day is \$4.00 per person.

Parents are encouraged to pay on line into **ANZ BANK 06-0471-0055454-00**. Please ensure you include your child's name and BUS as a reference.

#### ***Morning runs***

Turangi - depart Go Bus depot at 7:20 am. There is a \$ 4.00 per day charge for all children that live beyond the Waihi hill. Those catching the Turangi Bus are invoiced for the use of the bus each Term.

Western Access – 2.6km beyond Karangahape Road depart at 7:30 am

***Afternoon runs*** The Western access and Omori bus runs alternate departing times each term For example: Western Access run may depart school first in terms 1 & 3, Omori departs first ***in*** Terms 2 & 4

Turangi - depart school at 2:40pm

Western Access- Karangahape Road - depart school at 2:40 pm

N.B. Unless a written note or phone call, are delivered to the school office children will always be delivered to their home address.

### **TRANSPORT ALLOWANCE**

Forms are available from the school office and must be completed on enrolment. You will qualify if you are more than 3.2kms from the nearest bus stop and your child is under 10 years of age. If your child is over 10 years of age, you must be 4.8km from the nearest bus stop.

### **CURRICULUM DELIVERY**

Kuratau School provides children with a balanced coverage of all the essential learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum.

### **LIFE EDUCATION TRUST**

Harold the giraffe and his helper visit yearly. They hold classes in their mobile classroom.

### **TEACHER AIDE**

We have two full time teacher aides employed by the school. Our teacher aides work with small groups and/or individual children who require assistance in specific learning areas. The teacher aides work under the supervision of the classroom teacher.

### **R.T.L.B.**

Kuratau is part of the Turangi cluster group of schools with one Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour. Our RTL B is Alison Lindup. She is available for extra advice and assistance to schools and families that identify children with learning or Behavioural difficulties.

### **REAP FUNDED PROGRAMMES**

Staff members fill out request applications regarding funding for “special” programmes. REAP assist by providing funding. These courses can cover a variety of activities including art, craft, music, Maori culture etc.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

All Year seven and eight children travel once a week to Tongariro School. There they receive instruction in Technology and Home Science. Currently technology is held on Tuesday mornings from 9:00am to 11:00am

### **SOCIAL WORKER IN SCHOOLS**

We are fortunate in sharing this resource person with the Turangi schools. The Social Worker is available to assist families of our children.

### **MAORI LANGUAGE**

Kuratau School is not able to offer bi-lingual or full emersion programmes. Our school policy on Maori language is based upon the rationale that Maori are Tangata whenua of Aotearoa and their language and culture are a living part of NZ society. Our schools special character is based around whanautanga. Maori culture is evident in all aspects of school life. E.g. Instructional Maori language, whanau sports, Buddy reading, Writing.

All students participate in Kapa Haka /Tuwharetoa Festival.

## **OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

We see the unique outdoor environment of the Central Plateau as an integral part of our school. Therefore, we place emphasis on outdoor experiences and skiing in our school programme.

## **SPORT**

Sport is an important aspect of our school programme. Individuals compete in local rugby, soccer and netball competitions.

We combine with other local schools (Tongariro and Te Kura O Hirangi) for a variety of sports exchanges.

Annual school sporting events include: -  
Cross Country  
Athletics  
Triathlon  
Swimming Sports

## **SCHOOL REPORTS / PARENT INTERVIEWS**

Parent / Teacher interviews (Learning Conversations) are held in May. A report is sent home two weeks prior to interviews.

We are happy to discuss your child's progress at any time, an appointment to see teachers can be made through the school office.

## **SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE**

The Turangi based dental nurse visits school annually for a 3 week clinic held at school. All children have free access to dental care. The dental nurse is based at Tongariro School. Please contact her phone 386 8690 if there is any concern regarding your child's teeth.

## **SKIING**

We run a ski squad in Term 3.

Being a local school we ski at a discounted price – Being approximately \$25.00 per person which covers the hire of skis, boots, poles, lift passes and lesson, + \$10 travel.

## **WEBSITE**

Please visit our website at [www.kuratau.school.co.nz](http://www.kuratau.school.co.nz)

On opening the website you can go to

Events

Calendar

Snow Squad

Health Information

Staff and Board of Trustees

Downloads – Newsletter, Prospectus, and Charter.

Annual Bike Day information

## **SCHOOL TRIPS**

All school trips are self-funding. Caregivers are expected to include payment with permission slip. Arrangements can be made to run an account. (Contact office)

## **2022 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

For information regarding our Strategic Objectives please visit:

**[kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz](http://kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz)**

**Username: kuratau**

**Password: respect**

## **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT INFORMATION**

The school fosters student achievement by providing inclusive teaching and learning programmes, and opportunities to achieve success in all areas of the national curriculum.

We collect information about individual student performance through formal and informal tests and assessments, and regularly report to students and parents/caregivers on student achievement and progress.

Assessment results are compared and analysed for student and school achievement goals and targets. We maintain assessment records on our student management system. Teachers maintain individual student achievement files.

We have internal procedures in place to monitor, moderate, and review our assessment practices and delivery of teaching programmes.

For further information please visit:

**[kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz](http://kuratau.schooldocs.co.nz)**

**Username: kuratau**

**Password: respect**