

**A unique  
education at  
Oropi School**



SINCE 1899

**Oropi  
School**

be all you can be | whaia te matauranga



## Mission Statement

“Inspiring our students to believe in themselves and realise their potential within our rural community, so they can move forward as confident members of society.”

“Toi tu te mana, Toi tu te whenua, Toi tu te tangata”



# Welcome to Oropi School



“Toi tu te mana, Toi tu te whenua, Toi tu te tangata”

We are a semi-rural school in close proximity to Tauranga City, with a strong focus on ‘learning through play’ and guided self exploration of the school environment and beyond.

With a roll of less than 350 children we offer a wide range of educational opportunities and programmes, enabling all children to opt into experiences that will broaden their educational horizons and lay strong foundations for their developmental advancement.

At Oropi School we offer a unique, individually responsive, environment for our children to be a part of because:

- Children are in a peaceful rural setting, with many places and opportunities to explore, get close to nature and be creative
- Our community is very supportive, which offers and facilitates a truly diverse range of resources and learning opportunities related to the local environment and New Zealand culture
- We provide modern and dynamic learning environments with excellent resources
- We deliver an exceptional one-to-one English language program
- We offer truly innovative ‘play based’ learning opportunities.
- We have a range of extra programmes in place, outside of daily classroom activities, to enrich your child’s education. Examples of which are; swimming lessons, instrumental and vocal music tuition, camps from year 3-8, summer and winter sports options, Junior and Senior Discovery Shed programmes, Kokako Garden projects and leadership opportunities.
- We proudly support an award winning ‘Garden to Table’ programme, teaching students to grow their own produce in the schools Kokako Garden. They then transform this produce into delicious meals in our purpose built school kitchen, helping to not only expand their gardening and cooking knowledge but their taste buds too!

We welcome visitors to our school and would love the opportunity to show you around. We have regular guests from around the globe and throughout Aotearoa. We love to share our innovative programmes and unique points of difference. We have strong connections with the local cluster of schools in Tauranga and work closely together to provide children, across the district, with the best possible educational opportunities available in our area and beyond.

Kind regards

Andrew King  
Principal



## Our point of difference

We are a rural school set in a small village 10 minutes from the city center in Tauranga. We have fantastic facilities for educational opportunities outside the classroom.

Teaching and learning at Oropi School is dynamic, contemporary and creative. We pride ourselves on our innovative and effective practices and cater to all learning levels, styles and abilities.



The Kokako bird is a significant icon for us because it is our school mascot and is renowned for clarity and its distinctive characteristics. As a

school we pride ourselves on offering something unique to our children. The school operates like a large family environment that caters for 5-13 year olds, who work and play together. All children are known as individuals and the older children look after the younger ones.

We offer special leadership opportunities for our Tamariki (children). All Year 3 to 8 classes are involved in an annual camping event and we deliver a wide range of other educational experiences throughout the year, which are highlighted overleaf.



# Our Values

Ako, Manaakitanga, Whanaungatanga, Kaitiakitanga, Rangatiratanga, Whakaaro

- Relating, Caring & Respect (for others and the world)
- Leading, Self-Managing and Responsibilities
- Belonging
- Thinking and Creativity



## Our unique educational resources

- Modern classrooms
- Up to date and creative use of Technology resources
- Individualised English language programme
- Discovery and play based learning
- Language Learning – Mandarin (Chinese) and Maori
- Strong programmes in Reading, Writing and Mathematics based on contemporary professional research and Ministry of Education initiatives.
- Kokako Garden projects (school gardens) and the Garden to Table initiative
- Native gully play area for free exploration
- Senior & Junior playgrounds, both with age appropriate equipment & flying fox
- Hut building native bush area
- Sandpit and water play
- Swimming pool
- Astroturf courts
- A wide range of sporting opportunities: Tennis, Athletics, Gymnastics, Flippa Ball, Touch Rugby, Rippa Rugby, Netball, Hockey, Swimming lessons
- Music lessons: Voice, keyboard, guitar, recorder, music theory
- Calf Club Day
- School and Cluster based swim sports, athletics and cross-country
- School-wide cultural events, such as the Matariki Breakfast Assembly and learning celebration opportunities

# Core Curricular and Extra Curricular

## Te Reo Maori, Mandarin and Spanish

All children in the school from years 1-8 are involved in learning Level One Te Reo. This instruction is integrated into all learning areas, alongside whole class 'Language Bites' sessions with our specialist Te Reo Maori Language Teacher.

A curriculum for Level One and Two Mandarin is established in the school and every class receives regular whole class lessons from our specialist Mandarin Language Teacher. Both specialist teachers also offer a variety of lunch time and out of hours cultural opportunities for our Tamariki to immerse themselves in.

Spanish is offered occasionally at stages throughout the year.

## Music & Performing Arts

Individual music instruction is provided in:

Piano & Guitar

Small group music instruction is provided in:

Keyboard, Guitar, Ukulele, Voice, Recorder, Marimba.

## Middle & Upper School Choir

Auditions are held annually for middle & upper school students to join the Oropi School Choir. The highlight of choir activities is the opportunity to participate in the Tauranga Primary Schools Music Festival at Baycourt Theatre.

## Kapa Haka

We have an active Kapa Haka group (Traditional Māori performing arts group). All children from years 4-8 are encouraged to attend.

## Gifted & Talented

Extension programmes are active in Literacy, Numeracy, Competitive sport & Science for children that are identified as Gifted and or Talented in these key areas.

## Annual School Camp Experience

Rich learning experiences are open to all children from Year 3-8 through our annual camp excursions, held at a variety of purpose built venues throughout the Western Bay of Plenty and beyond. The year 1 & 2 children are involved in a day trip experience during the same term.





### Ski Camp

We offer this experience annually to Year 4 to 8 children, for three days in July/August, at Mount Ruapehu.

### PE, Health & Life Education

We have a strong Health and PE programme established at Oropi School. Children are involved in a huge variety of experiences, within and outside of school, to foster a lifelong love of this aspect of the curriculum. The 'Life Education Mobile Classroom' visits our school annually, enhancing the learning opportunities for our students within the Health Curriculum and we roll out an annual Water Safety programme, in partnership with Omanu Surf Life Saving Team.

### Support Programmes

- Reading Recovery
- Talk 2 Learn
- Rainbow Reading
- ESOL
- Extension support for children on the Gifted and Talented Register
- Mathematics and writing small group programs
- One to one and small group Teacher Aide support in class
- Playground/Social & Emotional Teacher Aide support

### Assembly, School Sports & School Events

- Regular child led celebration assemblies, team and whole school.
- Mixed age group sports events, cooperative challenges and programmes.
- Whole school singing assemblies
- Te Reo & Tikangi Māori
- Whole school Athletics Day, Swimming Sports Gala and Cross-Country
- Cluster sports events
- Leadership programmes
- Senior School Ball
- Calf Club Day







# Sporting Involvement

## Competitive Play

Our school currently fields teams in the following sports: Netball, Indoor Basketball, Rippa Rugby, Miniball, Water Polo, Hockey, Volleyball & Touch Rugby

Our teams are coached and managed by staff and parent volunteers, and compete against other Bay of Plenty schools.

## KRSA

Oropi School belongs to the Kaimai Rural Schools Association. Along with Kaimai, Tauriko and Pyes Pa School, the four schools engage in sporting and cultural events which include; Swimming, Tabloids, Cross-Country, Winter Sports, Athletics, Competitive Speech Writing & Presentation, Einstein Challenges.





## **Our School Strategic and Annual Plan**

These can be viewed on our school website. The documents outline our many exciting plans and focus areas for development in our school over the next 5 years.

## **E.R.O's Perception of our School**

What does the Education Review Office say about our school?

Go to [www.oropi.school.nz](http://www.oropi.school.nz) and click the 'Our School' tab to see the latest report.





# The Intermediate Years (Year 7 & 8 at Oropi School)

## Why choose Oropi School for your child's Intermediate Education?

We provide a stable environment within which to address the learning and emotional needs of the emergent adolescent. We are a 'safe space' for senior students to develop and uphold a culture of independence and identity.

## Our Year 7/8 programme;

- Aligns with the intent of the revised New Zealand Curriculum.
- We offer personalised learning and the opportunity to interact with others in our Rural School Cluster and mixed age group interactions.
- Oropi school provides a gateway to a multitude of opportunities to pursue and develop individual interests and strengths. Experiences beyond the school environment are valued as much as those within.
- Digital learning is enhanced with the provision of Chromebooks and iPads, operating on a wireless network, for every student
- Our students do not get lost in the emotional upheaval of new surroundings and new relationships during the already challenging season of adolescence.
- With a smaller senior student roll our children are well known, throughout the school, by both staff and peers. Our children are not just a number but an integral part of our community.
- Senior students benefit from a seamless educational experience, without the usual plateau in achievement caused by adjusting to a change in learning environment at the end of Yr 6.
- Oropi senior students are coached to become strong, self-managed learners that strive for new opportunities. They are schooled to be physically and emotionally resilient and realise that in order to see results you must first take action.
- A strong culture exists that encourages and supports Year 7 & 8 students to 'step up' and become role models, mentors and leaders in the fields of academia, sport, culture and community.
- Smaller class sizes enable us to successfully meet individual learning needs, with extension opportunities for our Gifted and Talented students and extra support for those with special educational needs. Our in-depth knowledge of each student allows us to effectively support them in any area of difficulty.



## Tall Poppies

Along with 14 other schools, in the Bay of Plenty Region, our year 7 and 8 students belong to the Tall Poppies Cluster. The schools engage in academic, cultural and sporting events which include: Problem-Solving, Competitive Speech Writing & Presentation, Swimming, Athletics, Cross-Country, GATE programmes and dance experiences. This enables Year 7 and 8 students to establish friendships with others before moving onto college.

### Other programmes of learning specifically for Year 7 & 8 children

- Second languages: Introductory Mandarin (Modern Chinese)
- Careers Education opportunities
- Leadership opportunities and expectations (e.g attending Conference and roles in the school such as Head Girl/Boy, Sports & Play Leaders, Librarians, Environmental Leaders, and school event development and coordination.
- Yr 7/8 students attend Technology at a purpose built facility in Taumata Primary School (just a few kilometers away). Students have an opportunity to be involved in Food Technology, Hard Materials (Workshop) and Soft Materials (Textiles).

## The Transition to College

Oropi works very closely with the Year 9 Dean of each college to ensure that every Year 8 student has a smooth & worry free transition. In statements made by Tauranga colleges, our students are recognised throughout the system for; *their ability to complete a smooth transition, display a high level of self-motivation, exhibit well-developed work habits and time management skills, demonstrate a high level of independence, initiative and responsibility, interact positively with other students and adults, show active involvement, consistent effort and achieve success in academic, cultural and sporting components of the college programme because of this.*

**We are incredibly proud of our students and their achievements, and confidence in their ability to stand tall in any educational environment.**

## Personnel

**School Roll:** 350

### Senior Management:

**Principal**



Andrew King

**Deputy Principal/SENCO/  
International Manager**



Ayn Harris

**Deputy Principal/  
Korimako Team Leader**



Robert Lewis

Team Otanewainuku  
Korimako - Yr 7/8 Lead Teacher

### International Manager:

Ayn Harris

### Team Leaders:

Sarah Weston

Mana Rangatira - Team Mauao  
Kiwi - Yr 0/1 Lead Teacher

Nick Dowson

Mana Rangatira - Team Puwhenua  
Tui - Yr 2/3 Lead Teacher

### Office Administrators:

Kylie McHannigan

Executive Officer

Josie Third

Office Administrator

### Teaching Teams:

Team Mauao

Junior School

Team Puwhenua

Middle School

Team Korimako

Senior School

Te Kokako ō Otanewainuku

Bilingual

# General Information

## Enrolments

If you are interested in enrolling your children at Oropi School or finding out more about our school please book a viewing appointment with one of our Senior Management Team members. Further information about enrolments can be found on our website. We will advise you of requirements and procedures during a planned appointment or upon request of an enrolment pack from our administrative team.

## School Donations

Each year the Board of Trustees ask that each family pay a school donation, as outlined on the school website.

## School Hours

08:55 – 14:40

Morning break 10:40 – 11:00

Lunch break 12:40 – 13:25

\*Please note: students are not permitted on site before 08:15hrs, this is a Health & Safety directive and must be strictly adhered to.

## Office Hours

Monday to Friday 08:30 to 15:30

## BOT

The Board of Trustees is the governing body legally charged with the responsibility of running and maintaining our school. Our Chairperson is Mark Weston and a full list of members can be viewed on the school website.

## Friends of the School

We have a very philanthropic parent support team who help raise funds for the school on a regular basis, throughout each term. They also

help facilitate school-wide events, so newcomers are always very welcome. If you wish to express an interest please call or contact Ayn Harris/Deputy Principal: ayn@oropi.school.nz

## Parent Support

We have a number of parents who assist with classroom programs during the week. Individual class teachers will outline areas in which additional support is required at the beginning of each term, should you wish to offer your help.

## Transport

We provide a private shuttle service for long stay international students and we have four bus runs available to all students.

To be eligible for school bus transport children under 10 must live 3.2 km from the school and children over the age of 10 must live 4.8 km from school. Further information regarding eligibility, 'Out of Zone' costs, pick-up and drop-off points and routes can be found on the school website

## Dress Code

If you would prefer your child to wear a school uniform we have several items available to purchase through the school office (refer to list below). We have no daily school uniform policy, however, there is an expectation that our students will attend school dressed in clean, weather appropriate clothing. We also advise that our students attend school with a spare set of dry clothes (wet play, puddle jumping & mud sliding is actively encouraged at Oropi School!). Parents will be advised via HERO if planned classroom activities require specific clothes to be worn.

## Sports Uniform, Hats and Sunscreen

Please be advised that students are required to wear a school sports uniform when representing the school in competitive and inter-school sport events, which consists of the Oropi School polo shirt and black shorts. It is compulsory for school hats to be worn outside of the classroom during Terms 1 and 4 and it is advised that sunscreen is liberally applied to your child/children every morning during these terms. Sunscreen is available at all times in every classroom but its use can only be encouraged, not enforced.

Hats	\$20
Polos	\$35
Shorts	\$35
Skorts	\$35
Student Hoody	\$65
Adult Hoody	\$75
Jackets	\$60

## Stationery

Stationary packs are ordered with OfficeMax My School. For further information please click the link on our website.



# Services:

## After School Care

We have a close link with Coast Kids After School Care providers, Coast Kids carers pick the children up from Oropi School or the school bus stop on Oropi Road. For further information please visit their website site [www.coastkids.net.nz](http://www.coastkids.net.nz).

## Bought Lunches

Bought lunches are only available on a Thursday. A Pitta Pit order can be placed via the Kindo App.

## School Library

Our school library has an excellent selection of books to borrow. In addition to individual class library times, our students have access to the library during the lunch break and can request to go during class time independently.

## Swimming Pool

We are fortunate to have a swimming pool which provides opportunities for all classes to swim on a daily basis for much of Term One and at the end of Term Four (weather permitting). We have professional coaches visit to teach class groups and private lessons can be arranged after school once a week, during Term 1.

## Book Club

Children are able to purchase paperback books through the school. Pamphlets are sent home at regular intervals detailing available titles and how to order them.

## Photos

Individual, family and class photos are usually taken in Term Three. Notice of which is posted on HERO and in our Newsletter.

## Dental Therapist

The mobile dental clinic visits the school annually.



# Communication:

## Visitors

Without exception, visitors must report to reception and sign the Visitors Register before proceeding to other areas of the school.

## Database

To facilitate rapid contact between school and parent/caregiver in the case of injury or illness our Student Database must be kept current. Please share changes in emergency contact details with the school expediently.

## Social Media

Website	<a href="http://www.oropi.school.nz">www.oropi.school.nz</a>
Facebook	Oropi School Oropi School Internationals
Instagram	oropischool oropischoolinternational

## International Pastoral Care

Any queries, concerns and complaints can be forwarded directly to the Orpoi School International Manager [ayn@oropi.co.nz](mailto:ayn@oropi.co.nz) or via our Kakao group chat (your International Manager will have further details).

## HERO App

Hero is an online sharing platform used to reflect the curriculum, vision and values of our school. At Oropi we use this for all communication with parents as well as our reporting system. The HERO parent app can be downloaded from the App store through Apple iOS or Google Play store.

## Kindo

Oropi School has partnered with Kindo to provide a safe and easy way to make payments to the school for everything from school uniforms, to donations, fees, food and events. Further information on how to create an account or link an existing account can be found on our website.

## Absences

In the case of absence please use the HERO Parent App or call the school directly with an explanation before 8:55 am on the first day of absence and every day thereafter. If you are aware your child is going to be absent for a period of 3 days or longer (whether for sickness or other reasons) please notify the school in writing via the HERO Parent App. You must also inform the school via phone or HERO if a child has to leave early for an appointment.

## Changes To Transport Arrangements

All children who travel on the school bus are checked off as they board the bus each afternoon and will be loaded onto their respective bus, unless the school has been notified otherwise. The school MUST be informed before 2:00pm if parents/ caregivers have made alternative transport arrangements. Changes can then be recorded on the bus checklist and the bus controller informed.

## Newsletters

A school newsletter is available to view on HERO & emailed out to families on alternate Fridays. In addition to celebrating our successes each week, these documents outline forthcoming events during the remainder of the term. Newsletters can also be viewed on our website.

## Open days

We schedule open days and pre-school visits for 4 year olds. Additional unscheduled visits can be made by appointment. We regularly have 'Learning Link' Hui's, where teachers share information to parents about aspects of teaching and learning and/or for community consultation.

## Lost Property

All items belonging to children should be clearly labelled. Lost property is displayed regularly during the course of each term. Unclaimed items are distributed to charitable organisations at the end of each term. Caregivers are invited to look with their children in the lost property bins (stationed throughout the school) at the beginning or end of school. Regular reminder notices will be given before any items are re-distributed.

## Reporting and Assessment

Term 1 Meet the teacher  
Parent - teacher interviews

Term 2 Mid-year report  
Learning Celebrations

Term 4 End of year reports  
Parent - teacher interviews

Parents are welcome to arrange a meeting at any time with their child's teacher to discuss aspects of their child's learning or social needs.

We regularly assess the children through a variety of methods to ensure we are doing the best we can to support their progress and achievement and to identify learning needs. We use the National Standards to inform our assessment practices. More information about how we assess is best discussed in person with teachers. The BOT are kept fully informed, regularly on student achievement data.

## Concerns and Complaints

- In the first instance ALWAYS contact your child's class teacher.
- Should the concern and/or complaint involve a child or children from another class details will be shared, with the relevant teacher/teachers, via the HERO App on your behalf and your child's class teacher will act collaboratively to deliver a satisfactory resolution.
- In the event that a satisfactory resolution is not successfully attained, please contact the Deputy Principal.
- Following this, should the matter remain unresolved, contact the School Principal.

Full complaints procedures can be found in the 'Board of Trustees Complaints Policy' document on our website.

As a staff, we welcome parent input and consultation.

Your feedback provides us with valuable opportunities to review, improve on and evaluate our best practices and service delivery, ensuring the needs of our tamariki are always front and centre of our policies, procedures and programme delivery.



# Class Configurations & Buildings:

Kiwi	New Entrants/ Year 1	Two-classroom pod
Piwakawaka	Year 1/ 2	Two-classroom pod
Tui	Year 2/ 3	Two-classroom pod
Kea	Year 2/ 3	Single-cell
Ruru	Year 4	Single-cell
Te Hokioi	Year 4	Single-cell
Pukeko	Year 5/ 6	Single-cell
Kotare	Year 5/ 6	Two-classroom pod
Korimako	Year 7/ 8	Two -classroom pod
Te Kokako o Otanewainuku	Year 3 to 8	Single-cell
		<b>Bilingual Unit</b>
The Kokako Gardens, Kitchen & Dining Area	All year groups	
Junior Discovery Shed	Year 1/4	
Senior Discovery Shed	Year 5/8	





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