

A photograph of three students, two girls and one boy, sitting outdoors in front of a large tree with long, green, blade-like leaves. They are all wearing school uniforms consisting of a black polo shirt with light blue and yellow trim on the collar and sleeves. The student on the right is a boy with a short haircut, smiling broadly. The two girls on the left are also smiling. A teal rectangular box is overlaid on the bottom right of the image, containing the school's name and the title of the handbook.

# WAIMAHIA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Parent Handbook



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# PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Kia ora koutou katoa, talofa lava, kia orana, malo e lelei, fakaalofa lahi atu, bula vinaka, namaste, malo ni -

## WELCOME TO WAIMAHIA!

Waimahia Intermediate School students are proud of who they are and who they come from. Students at our school know that who they are as a person is valued, encouraged and enhanced here at school.

We believe that success is more than reading, writing and maths. Success for our students also encompasses their character and their readiness to take on challenges after they leave our school. To achieve success for your child our committed team of teachers and support staff strive to provide a positive, safe environment in which quality teaching and learning occurs.

We look forward to meeting each of you and working with you to equip your child for the next part in their learning and life.

Soifua ma ia manuia!

Melini Fasavalu  
Principal



"Our vision is for young people to be positive in their own identity..."

NZ Curriculum p. 8

# OUR VISION AND VALUES



## VISION

Our Vision Statement is taken from one of King Tawhiao's sayings;

### MAAKU ANOO E HANGA TOOKU NEI WHARE.

*We shall fashion our own house.*

At Waimahia this means that we will 'determine our own destiny'.

We believe that our students will leave Waimahia equipped with the knowledge and ways of thinking that will enable them to be **engaged, achieving and confident in their identity.**

## VALUES

Our values are the three pou of our whare or fale.

### MANA

Ownership, self-belief, identity, integrity. **We will empower ourselves and others.**

### MANAAKITANGA

Respect, service, inclusiveness, care. **We will embrace and engage ourselves and others.**

### MĀTAURANGA

Inquiry, creativity, innovation, enterprise. **We will educate ourselves and others.**





# OUR LEARNING

Intermediate schooling is about bridging between primary and secondary schools. Intermediate schooling is also about supporting early adolescents to start thinking about who they would like to be as a learner and as a person.

As an intermediate school with smaller class sizes, teachers are able to build learning focused relationships with each student in their class. This allows teachers to provide responsive teaching programmes that cater to students' individual needs.

## AT WAIMAHIA OUR CURRICULUM PROVIDES:

- Literacy and maths teaching to cater for students' individual needs
- Meaningful project-based inquiry learning where students practice and apply their literacy and maths skills
- A specialist Arts and Technology programme
- Opportunities to learn about and share their cultural identity and that of others
- Opportunities to experience and compete in a range of sports
- Education Outside the Classroom programmes
- Opportunities to grow leadership potential
- Opportunities for extra-curriculum learning after school
- Individual and collective support to ensure learning will occur



# STUDENT-LED LEARNING

In order to determine their own destiny, our students need to have the skills, mindset and courage to take charge of their own learning.

## ACTIVE LEARNER TRAITS

Students at Waimahia learn what an active learner looks like and how they can be more active in their learning. Active learner capabilities are linked with Positive Behaviour for Learning and Life. These skills are constantly reinforced by all teachers across all learning areas.

## STUDENT VOICE

Student voice plays an important part in maintaining the quality of our teaching. Teachers consistently ask students to evaluate if teaching actions support their learning.

Student voice also plays an important part in the projects we undertake. All projects are high interest and meaningful for students.

Students are given multiple opportunities to lead at Waimahia. They serve the school by leading assemblies, cultural groups, sports teams, and school events.



# BILINGUAL EDUCATION

## WHAT IS IT?

Bilingual education is where teaching happens in two languages and students work towards becoming biliterate or fluent speakers, readers and writers in both languages by the end of their schooling. The goal is for our students to become biliterate and NCEA Level 1 ready by the end of their two years in our bilingual classes.

## OUR BILINGUAL CLASSES

Te Manukura Maia is our bilingual Māori whānau.  
Apolima Ipu o le Ola is our bilingual Samoan aiga.

Both classes cover the same format for learning as all our students. However, the projects and other contexts for learning will come from a 'te ao Māori' and 'faa Samoa' perspective. Projects will be chosen to provide opportunities for our bilingual learners to celebrate and expand their understanding of what it is to be Māori and/or Samoan in New Zealand.

There are timetabled sessions when teaching and learning is in te reo Māori or gagana Samoa and times where teaching and learning is in English. Specific language teaching will take place where students learn te reo Māori or gagana Samoa.

If you would like your tamariki or alo to learn in this bilingual setting, please complete the additional enrolment form.



"Research highlights that becoming biliterate is the key to academic success."

Prof. Stephen May  
University of Auckland



# OUR CORE CURRICULUM

## PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Project Based Learning starts with a real-life and relevant problem or opportunity as the catalyst for Inquiry. Students learn and use research skills to explore the possible solutions that solve a problem, make the most of an opportunity, or take an informed stance on issues they feel strongly about. PBL requires our students to be researchers, designers, problem solvers and evaluators.

## LITERACY

Literacy programmes are designed to meet student individual needs. Literacy is purposefully integrated into all learning. Students have multiple opportunities to learn and practice the literacy skills and knowledge needed to successfully complete learning tasks across the curriculum. Learning tasks in PBL, Specialist Programmes and other programmes provide real purpose for reading and writing.

## MATHS

Mathematics is purposefully integrated across the curriculum within a problem solving framework. Students will have multiple opportunities to learn and mathematical skills, knowledge and language needed to successfully complete learning tasks across the curriculum. All strands of the Mathematics curriculum are taught, however there is an emphasis on Number and Algebra.





# SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY

## S.T.E.M.

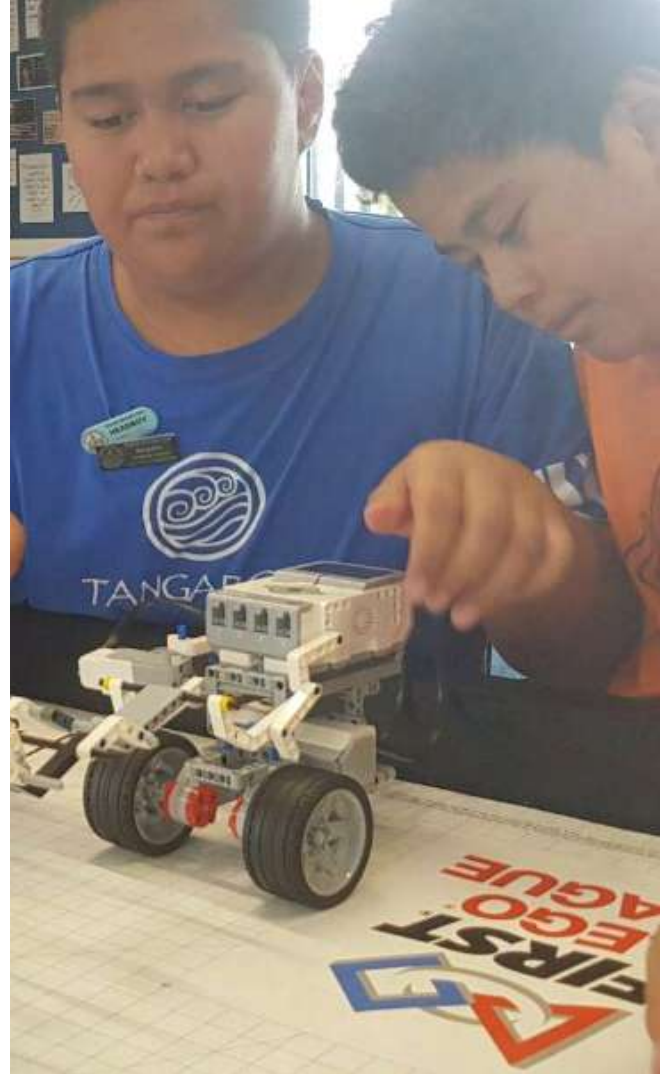
STEM projects focus on the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math skills needed to complete a project from design to production. STEM provides opportunities for our students to be designers, thinkers, makers, & creators. STEM projects are deliberately hands on and require problem-solving. STEM includes what used to be known as Hard and Soft Materials technology.

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Food Technology focuses on the cooking, math, literacy, hygiene and safety needed when cooking for ourselves, our family, our community. Students work towards completing a mini catering challenge for real taste-testers who provide feedback on their dishes.

## ROBOTICS

Focus is on the skills and dispositions needed to build and program robots capable of completing a series of mini-challenges. Successful programmers understand the big picture of the challenge and have the attention to detail needed to program specific actions.



# SPECIALIST ARTS

## MUSIC

Students explore elements of music with a variety of instruments, including voice, keyboard, guitar and body percussion, to represent sound and musical ideas. They learn to make music with others and respond to live and recorded music while exploring the various purposes of music in our lives. Students work towards an end of term performance.



## VISUAL ARTS

Students learn a range of visual art techniques that are important across multiple art mediums. Creativity requires our students to be courageous, take on feedback and show perseverance and focus as they work towards an exhibition at the end of the term.

## DRAMA

Students explore, learn and use drama techniques and elements to communicate their ideas. These elements include movement, space, language, voice, mood, role & character. Students create, evaluate, persevere and problem-solve their way towards a performance at the end of the term.





# SPORT AND E.O.T.C.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. units of learning are centered on the skills needed for the sports we participate in at the Counties Manukau tournaments. We are supported by Counties Manukau Sport and Kiwi Sport.

## SPORTS

We participate in multiple Counties Manukau sports tournaments each term. All students have the opportunity to trial for teams. Coaching usually happens at lunch times and after school. You will receive an information permission letter if your child is selected to represent our school at a tournament. We also provide opportunities for students to train for and compete at a yearly Sports Camp for intermediate schools.

## E.O.T.C.

Education Outside The Classroom includes local walks, day trips and camps. EOTC events are planned as part of a learning programme. In 2022 we have 2 camps:

- Rangatira camp - Term 1 for student leaders
- Year 8 Wellington Trip - Term 3 for all Year 8 students



# A SENSE OF BELONGING

## LEARNING FOCUSED RELATIONSHIPS

Teachers at Waimahia make it their business to build learning focused relationships with each of their students. Although your child will have multiple teachers, one will know your child's strengths, interests and needs. This enables the teacher to provide meaningful learning for your child.

## WHĀNAU

Every student belongs to a whānau – Mahuika, Papatuanuku, Tangaroa or Tawhirimātea. Students are proud of the whānau they belong to. Whānau programmes focus on our school values. Each whānau take turns to organise fortnightly assemblies. Inter-whānau lunchtime sports are hotly contested each week.

## CULTURACY

Our Culturacy Programme provides opportunities to strengthen and share their culture with others. Students also learn about others' cultures and have opportunities to make comparisons with their own. A strong sense of who they are gives them confidence for learning and life.

## LALAGA ~ MAKING CONNECTIONS

Every student belongs to a Lalaga group which runs twice a week. The purpose of Lalaga is to ensure that each student has good connection with at least 3 adults at Waimahia ~ their classroom teacher, their whānau teacher, their lalaga teacher. As a result every child in the school knows that they have adults who they can speak to, who has time for them, has their back and genuinely cares for them





# STUDENT SUPPORT

Everyone needs support from time to time when they are learning. As well as teachers who know them well, students also form learning focused relationships with their whānau teachers and peers. Extra student support is coordinated by our Deputy Principal, Jayne Irwin and draws on internal support from our Learning Assistants as well as external agencies.

## SUPPORT AVAILABLE AT WAIMAHIA

- **Learning Assistants**  
Group and individual programmes
- **Social worker**  
Group programmes
- **RTLB**  
Work alongside teachers to support individual and groups
- **Quick 60**  
Literacy programme
- **ESOL**  
Oral language programmes
- **Ministry of Education**  
Individual programmes
- **Mana Clinic Nurses**  
Onsite every morning
- **Other government agencies**
- **Other non-government agencies**



# FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

All students are given multiple opportunities to lead at Waimahia. They serve the school by leading assemblies, cultural groups, sports teams, and school events.

Our Rangatira group are student leaders within the school. Children can apply to be part of the group at the end of their Year 7 year. Our four Head Students are selected from this group at the beginning of every year.

## EXTRA-CURRICULA PROGRAMMES

At Waimahia opportunities for learning extend outside school hours. We provide a variety of after school programmes to enhance the learning and talents of our students. The programmes range from enhancing Writing and Maths to Sports to Empowerment and Leadership.





# GENERAL INFORMATION

## 2022 START DATE

Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

We start the year with a powhiri at 9am to welcome all new students, whanau and aiga. Please assemble on the astroturf.

## UNIFORMS

School uniforms can be purchased from *The Uniform Shoppe* at 1 Ronwood Ave, Manukau.

Whānau tees and bucket hats are available for purchase at the school office.

## STATIONERY

A stationery list will be available upon enrolment if you would like to take advantage of Back to School sales.

## FREE HEALTHY LUNCHES

We are part of the Ministry of Education's Free Healthy Lunches programme. Please ensure we know about food allergies and restrictions.

## SCHOOL HOURS

School begins at 9am and finishes at 3pm everyday. Students have two breaks during the day at 11am and 1.20pm.

## ENROLMENT INFORMATION

2022 enrolment is open now. Enrolment forms are available from our school office, your primary school or can be downloaded from our school website. You can also complete an online enrolment form on our school website.

Our friendly office staff are available to help you with enrolment by phone or in person.

For a tour of the school or any other queries, please contact Jayne Irwin or Melini Fasavalu using the contact details on the back page.

We look forward to meeting .you and your child and getting to know you better. We look forward to providing quality teaching and learning for your child.

**ENGAGED, ACHIEVING, CONFIDENT IN  
OUR IDENTITY**



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