

ST MARK'S SCHOOL TE KURA O HATO MĀKA



ANNUAL PLAN 2026

The St Mark's Board of Trustees is developing a strategic plan for implementation, as mandated by the Ministry of Education. Senior staff at school develop, publish and implement an Annual Plan in support of that strategy. Staff, students, clergy and members of the parent community collaborate on special projects to enhance our school in its educational mission.

School Values

Huatau Grace

Through grace,
we act with
compassion
and humility

Hiranga Excellence

to achieve
excellence,
using the potential
of our God given
talents and gifts.

Māiatanga Courage

This gives us the
courage to act to
bring about change,

Piriponotanga Faithfulness

as we show
faithfulness to God
and others.

ST MARK'S SCHOOL TE KURA O HATO MĀKA

ANNUAL PLAN 2026



The Annual Plan has three key areas: **Teaching and Learning, Anglican Special Character and Community.**

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teaching and Learning Excellence

- **Literacy Advancements:** We have fully embedded **Structured Literacy** into our curriculum. To ensure every child succeeds, we have appointed a dedicated Literacy Support teacher starting in Term 1. Mrs Hastings has worked with small groups of people in Mōkihi throughout Term 1. Mrs Wellbourn has done the same in the senior school.
- **Mathematics Refresh:** The **Oxford Maths** curriculum has been refreshed and is now a core component of our classroom programmes, providing a modern and robust approach to numeracy.
- **Professional Growth:** Our staff's Professional Growth Cycle documentation has been thoroughly reviewed and updated to align with the latest educational standards.
- Opportunities for extension exist in two new trial programmes in our senior school. **Year 8 Ethics and Philosophy** (led by Miss Yonetani) and **Afternoon Power School** (Year 6 and 7) led by Mr Rennie, Mr Davis and Mrs Morgan, aim to provide wider extension opportunities in critical thinking and problem solving.

Innovative Systems and Tools

- **The SMART Tool:** Following extensive work by Mrs Learman, staff are introducing and implementing the **SMART tool** across our entire staff to enhance our data-driven decision-making. Mid year academic progress reports to parents are likely to look a little different as we transition and adopt Ministry of Education guidelines.
- **Tracking Learning Needs:** We have overhauled and simplified our internal systems to more effectively track and respond to individual student learning needs. Miss Simpkins has streamlined these records and systems.
- **Reporting Updates:** We are currently reviewing our reporting to parents to ensure whānau receive clear, meaningful, and timely feedback on your child's progress in line with Ministry of Education guidelines.

Student Wellbeing

- **Behaviour Mentoring:** A comprehensive Behaviour Mentoring Plan has been formulated and implemented school-wide. This initiative includes clear guidelines for staff, a simple record keeping approach, regular reporting to the Board of Trustees (BOT) to track student behaviour and to ensure a safe

and supportive environment for all.

ANGLICAN SPECIAL CHARACTER

Community and Faith Partnerships

- **Parish Engagement:** We are excited to expand our partnership with the local parish through a series of "good works" initiatives, strengthening our service and presence within the Opawa community.
- **Anglican Schools Music Festival:** Our students will have the wonderful opportunity to showcase their talents and connect with the wider church network at the upcoming Anglican Schools Music Festival. Mrs Morgan is leading this new event which will be an opportunity for St Mark's performers to share their passion in the unique setting of the Transitional Cathedral. There is an open invitation to other schools to participate.
- **Religious Education:** To ensure our teachings remain relevant and engaging, our Religious Education (RE) programmes have been further refined for the new year. Mrs Learman and Reverend Simon have worked hard to formalise our RE programme and to provide a much needed framework for staff. These programmes enhance and support our special Anglican character.
- Our school is based on the Anglican Five Marks of Mission. A project is underway to establish a visual record of the Five Marks in our playground.

Charity and Stewardship

- **Charity Register:** To provide transparency and focus for our fundraising efforts, we have established a formal Charity Register to manage and track our school-wide contributions to worthy causes. Our Year 8 students are committed to serving the wider local community in this way.

COMMUNITY

Cultural Partnership and Attendance

- **Attendance Stewardship:** Supported by **Te Rūnanga o Ngā Maata Waka**, we are conducting a comprehensive review of our attendance records and procedures to ensure we are supporting our students' presence and engagement in a culturally responsive way. Families can expect closer communication with school leadership as we work to boost attendance rates in line with MOE targets.
- **Matariki Celebrations:** We are delighted to be **enhancing our Matariki celebrations** this year, creating more meaningful opportunities for our school whānau to come together and honor the Māori New Year.

Community Engagement and Fundraising

- **Parenting Connect:** We are excited to initiate the opportunity for parents to engage with a speaker on navigating the digital world with children.
- **PA Funding Goals:** As this is a **School Fair year**, our Parents' Association (PA) is working to establish a specific funding goal to ensure the proceeds from this flagship event directly benefit our students' environment and resources.
- **School Fair:** The Fair is an amazing opportunity for our school community to come together to contribute to, and enjoy, an incredible school event.