



Whenuakite School

Takakawe i ngā wā katoa 'At all times we will endeavour'

SCHOOL STATEMENT OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT – DECEMBER 2024

Whenuakite School is a Year 1–8 full primary school with a current roll of approximately 160 students. The school has seven classes, with children who are predominantly New Zealand European, with around 10% of the students who are as Māori or Pasifika.

Situated in a rural setting approximately 30 kilometers from Whitianga, Whenuakite School serves a diverse enrolment zone that includes the communities of Whenuakite, Hahei, Cooks Beach, Hot Water Beach and some of the Coroglen area. The local community reflects a wide range of occupations, including farming, orchard work, laboring, tourism, and small business ownership.

Whenuakite School is the school of choice for many families in the area, recognised for its welcoming and supportive learning environment. It is serviced by two school bus routes and parents who drive their children to school. The school enjoys high levels of parental involvement and participation across all aspects of school life.

Since the Education Review in 2022 there have been a number of significant achievements, some of which are highlighted below.

The school continues to review its systems for curriculum delivery, teaching and assessment. This is demonstrated through the development of achievement statements for literacy and numeracy against which pupil progress can be measured, the development of sequential curriculum overviews, policy development through School Docs, development of school-wide assessment and reporting procedures, collection of school-wide data for reporting to parents, Board of Trustees, Ministry of Education and wider community.

We continue to develop tikanga and te reo Māori in line with the National Education Learning priorities. Undertaking **Te Puna Reo Māori for Schools** has helped the teaching team with their development. Gaining help and professional leaders/tutors has supported the development of Te Reo and Tikanga Maori/Pasifika and has revitalized our Kapa Haka group and ti kanga and te reo programmes.

A continuation of the Better Start Literacy (BSLA) programme has given us a strong foundation in the junior school

The school's new website www.whenuakite.school.nz has been developed and the library is fully updated with the new accessit programme to allow more use of the library.

An area of strength for the school is the performing arts, speeches and student agency. The high caliber of performance and professionalism is due to the combined efforts of students, staff, parents and community members. Growing student capability to understand and increasingly take ownership of the learning process has promoted a learning focused partnerships and community networks that benefit students.

Special needs programmes have been reviewed and improved for a more inclusive approach. The teaching team have adapted the curriculum so that all children are able to experience success at their level within the context of class programmes. A range of current teaching strategies to encourage higher thinking skills have been introduced through the schools inquiry approach, Individual Education Plans, Action plans, use of teacher aides and extension and enrichment programmes are being developed.

Achievement information based on December 2024 School Wide Assessment results

Reading Results

- **70%** of all our students are reading at, or above their chronological age.

Writing Results

- **65%** of all our students are at, or above their chronological age for writing.

Mathematics Results

- **80%** of all our students are at, or above their stage in the Numeracy

Trends

Overall, Māori and Pasifika students are achieving at or just below the levels of other ethnic groups across the school. Encouragingly, there have been increases in the percentages in both writing and mathematics.

Overall, boys are performing below girls, except in mathematics. However, there have been increases in the percentages in both reading and mathematics.

Future Actions in 2025

All teachers are gaining training in the Ideal – Literacy programme to follow on and strengthen the work already completed the junior school BSLA programme.

Professional development in structured mathematics to develop teacher pedagogy.

Accelerating Learning In Maths - ALIM has been set up for five teachers that will run accelerated programmes for their class and for 12 students in a group setting

Curriculum responsibilities shared, Teacher In Charge of areas, Professional Growth Cycles and the development of benchmarking/moderation procedures, including the collection of exemplars through the Kahui Ako – Community of Learners.

Our “**Teacher as Inquiry**” on the Growth of teacher collective capacity to promote and strengthen the enactment of the local curriculum - ”ERO 2022” is well underway.

Cohorts for focus

Reading – Year 5 and 8 are our control groups to monitor progress and achievement

Writing - Year 4, 6 and 8 are our control groups to monitor progress and acceleration.

Mathematics – Structured maths through Oxford Maths text books

Alim Year 3 – 8 on basic facts development and problem solving strategies

Gary Veys - Principal

Ray Van Beynen - Presiding Member Board of Trustees