

TE PĀ O RĀKAIHAUTŪ
Whānau Handbook



TE PĀ O RĀKAIHAUTŪ HANDBOOK

Ko Rākaihautū te takata

Nānā i tīmata te ahi ki ruka i te whenua.

Koia koraparapa koia te kaihautū koia te takata,

He tipua he taniwha he tipua he takata Tīhei mauri ora.

This handbook provides general information about Te Pā o Rākaihautū (Te Pā) including our special character, history and information that may be useful. Your tamaiti attends Te Pā at an exciting time. You have a real opportunity to help us reshape education as we knew it and normalise Māori succeeding as Māori. For many of us, succeeding at school meant leaving being Māori at the gate. For even more of us, school was to be endured not enjoyed. It is our aim to make it better for our tamariki by operating less like a school and more like a pā; a pā where everyone is whānau and really do care; where being Māori is something to be celebrated; where learning comes alive; a place our whānau want to come to; a place where success is an everyday event.

We have been operating at full capacity on our current site (260 pononga from Yrs 0-13) for some time now with a growing and significant waiting list. Te Tautarinui (our board of trustees) are still working to secure a new site and build the world's very first purpose-built pā wānanga with the capacity to double our roll. It is also working to lay the foundations for long-term financial sustainability. This will be important as we continue to push the boundaries of what education looks like in a 21st century pā wānanga.



We are fortunate to be surrounded by a committed and passionate team of kaiārahi and kaimahi and a visionary board who all work well above and beyond what might be expected in a “school” because the kaupapa is so much bigger. It really is a village dedicated to educational success for our whānau. We remind ourselves everyday how fortunate we are to have a real opportunity to make the educational experience of our tamariki so much better than our own. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our team should you wish to discuss any matter pertaining to information contained in this handbook or about Te Pā generally.

Terina Tahau

Kaiurungi

Tamaiti akona i te pā, tū ki te ao, tau ana

A child educated to be strong in their identity will stand confident in the world.

Our Special Character

Te Pā o Rākaihautū is a unique 21st century pā wānanga (learning village) committed to educational success for the whole whanau, from early childhood, primary and secondary schooling to tertiary education, on the one site.

Te Pā opened in January 2015. It is a Sec 156 designated character school that has set out to redefine how, where and when the best learning happens for our whanau. Te Pā does this by restoring culture, connection and identity as a foundation to educational success; reconnecting our whanau with place, our communities; our whakapapa and our stories; reigniting a passion for learning; and pushing the reset button on Māori educational achievement.

In 2020 we turned five. We have experienced rapid growth since opening with a roll of 75 in January 2015. We have an enrolment cap of 260 for the site we are on and have been operating at capacity for past few years. Nōku Te Ao, our onsite Early Childhood Centre is also operating at capacity with over 70 under five's enrolled across our two sites.

We are a composite school that offers classes from years 1- 13 and we have our own ECE service on-site licensed for over two's. In line with our vision of providing seamless life- long learning we also offer a range of community and whānau driven after-school activities and classes that ensure high whānau engagement and support. Collectively these mean that Te Pā is a very busy village.



Our Back Story

Te Pā o Rākaihautū was established by Te Ahikaaroa Kapa haka, a Christchurch based kapa haka that started in 1993 with strong roots in our Ngāi Tahu communities. Members of the group share a common passion for kapa haka, whānau and education. In 2002 Te Ahikaaroa opened its own early childhood centre, Nōku Te Ao, which literally means "the world is mine!".

Based in Ōtautahi, the centre has established a reputation of excellence, quality and innovation in Māori medium education, winning the national Prime Minister's Excellence Award for Governance in 2014 and Te Tohu Matauranga 2015 at the Te Taura Whiri Maori Language awards for innovation in Māori medium education.

In response to community demand and the persistent and substantial Māori under achievement in our education system, Nōku te Ao decided to expand by opening a second centre and extending its operations beyond early childhood. A committed team of parents sought to:

Reframe the problem - shifting the focus from:
"How do we build a better school" to "how can we achieve better learning outcomes".

Redefine how, where and when learning happens best for our whānau.

Redesign or "Learn-scape" the whole learning experience and environment by translating our goals, stories, learning philosophies and values into learning experiences, buildings, facilities and learning spaces that will bring our pā wānanga to life.



Our Back Story

Intergenerational Learning. It takes a village to raise a child and in Te Pā we will be drawing on the strengths, talents and passions of the whole whānau. Everyone is a learner and everyone is a teacher in line with the concepts of ako, tauira and tuākana-teina. At times whānau will learn by age group and at others by common kaupapa. We encourage our pononga to move through their schooling at their own pace and not according to their year of manufacture.

Hautututanga – Discovery Learning. It is our goal to re-ignite the fire in the puku of our pononga. We want our pononga not only engaged in education but passionate about learning, excited by discovery, and undaunted by challenge. Discovery learning is about learning by doing. It is about encouraging our pononga to explore and determine their own pathways as they discover their strengths and passions.

Hautūtanga - Growing Leadership. Every person in the Pā will be supported to discover their own true talents, skills and passions so that they are able to confidently navigate their own waka as they explore the world around them. Growing a culture of leadership is important in Te Pā. The curriculum will create many experiential and practical opportunities for pononga to grow their leadership capacity so that by the time they graduate they can confidently navigate their way in the world.



OUR VISION

Tū ki te ao, tau ana!

Our vision is to send out into the world the next generation of explorers, navigators and leaders who stand confident in the world and, like Rākaihautū, are able to:

Wero(hia): Think, challenge and explore all that the world has to offer and in this process discover their own life purpose, passions and pathways.

Whakairo(hia): Take action, pick up the ko (digging stick) and confidently carve out their own worlds understanding that it will require vision, hard work and persistence.

Whakarangatira: Take a lead; master their craft; and be chiefly in all that they do.

Nōku Te Ao

Imagine a world where learning is exciting, challenging and meaningful; where our marae, our whenua and our moana are the classrooms; where our kaupapa, stories and knowledge are central to the curriculum; and where our whānau of all ages can learn side by side.

Imagine a world where academic success does not mean compromising your culture and identity; where Māori is the language of choice in the playground; where academic, sporting and cultural brilliance is the norm. Imagine a world where every pononga (student) is able to take up their “kō” and confidently carve out new worlds for themselves, just as Rākaihautū did!



OUR MISSION

Kia Matatū, Kia Matatau, Kia Mataora!

Kia Matatū refers to “Aoraki Matatū”, a well-known proverb in Te Wāipounamu. It reinforces the importance of culture and identity as a foundation to educational success. It speaks to our connection to this land, our people and our stories. It calls on our whānau to stand with pride and confidence and to raise their sights to the highest peaks.

Kia Matatau urges our whānau to strive for academic, cultural and sporting excellence; to find their passion and become experts and leaders in their chosen fields.

Kia Mataora highlights the critical importance of nourishment and strengthening of the mind, heart, body and soul for achieving success.



Our Goals

RESTORE Cultural Foundations. There is a wealth of research that supports our belief that restoring culture, connection and identity are foundational to educational success for our whānau. In Te Pā the cultures, language, heritages and experiences of our whānau will be validated and deeply embedded in their learning. Traditionally the pā provided a rich environment for learning. In designing our 21st century pā wānanga we will draw on 'Knew Knowledge', our own traditional knowledge, language, learning pedagogies, values and practices and blend in contemporary learning practice and 'New Tools' to cater for the learning needs of our 21st century whānau.

RECONNECT to our land, people and unique stories. Our curriculum has been designed so that our whānau will have the opportunity to reconnect with our people, our places and our stories as we retrace the footsteps of Rākaihautū through Te Waipounamu. Reconnecting with our land will deepen our physical and spiritual relationship to Papatūānuku (Mother Earth), restoring the balance and inter-dependence of tangata (people) and whenua (land). At our new site we are aiming to be the first ever 5-star green Pā.



**Te Pā o
Rākaihautū**
— *Tū ki te ao, tau ana* —

RE - SET expectations. We are pushing the reset button on Māori achievement. Our whānau do not want to compromise their culture and identity for educational success - or vice versa. We want it all. We expect our students to succeed in education, to gain the qualifications necessary for them to realise their life goals AND we expect our students to confidently speak our language and practice our tikanga and values everyday AND we expect our students to move easily between te ao Māori (the Māori world) and te ao hurihuri (the changing world we all live in) AND we expect our students to pathway onto higher learning in their chosen field AND we expect our students to become leaders AND we expect to normalise Māori succeeding as Māori.

RE-IGNITE a passion for learning, discovery and challenge. In te ao Māori children's talents were identified and nurtured from an early age. In Te Pā learning plans will be individually tailored to help our students identify their inherent strengths, interests and passions and then engage them in the process of setting goals and designing their own learning pathways. Learning experiences will be purposeful, rich, authentic and relevant moving beyond the traditional boundaries of classroom walls, time, subject areas and age.



Learning in Te Pā (Our Curriculum)

Kia matatū, kia matatau, kia mataora. - Holistic Learning - In Te Pā we aim to feed the mind, heart, body and soul everyday. The day starts with mataora, physical fitness every morning followed by a healthy paramanawa and lunch that are cooked on site. We also provide a range of rich place-based and hands-on learning experiences and create multiple opportunities to feed the mind and passions in hautututanga time so that learning becomes both purposeful and fun!

Kia Matatū – Place-Based Learning - The importance of place is reflected in the name of our Pā. Our curriculum embeds the unique and rich histories of Rākaihautū and Te Waipounamu. By retracing the footsteps of Rākaihautū through our island learning happens beyond the walls of the classroom. Our marae, our whenua, and our moana are our classrooms and our mahinga kai sites are our science labs.

Individual Tailored Learning means every pononga will design their own individual learning plan, setting academic, physical and cultural goals and work with their kaiārahi to build their learning programmes to achieve these goals.





Te Pā o Rākaihautū opened its doors in 2015 and is set to play an important role in the rebuild of Christchurch city. Māori education was in crisis before the earthquakes. We have an unparalleled opportunity now to rebuild not what was, but what can be in a 21st century city. It is in this context that we believe the timing is right for what we are doing.

Te Reo Māori me ngā Tikanga Māori. Te Reo Māori is not a prerequisite for entry into Te Pā but it will be the norm on exit from Te Pā. We aim to offer a number of pathways for learning te reo catering for all levels of fluency with the goal of normalising te reo in the playground. It is also important that te reo is learnt in the context of a pā and all the values and tikanga that comes with that. We are developing our own dual language model that will ensure that our graduates leave Te Pā proficient in Te Reo Māori and Te Reo Pakeha.

Kaiurangi (Principal)

Terina Ranginui Tahau

Noku Te Ao

Dyanna Stirling

Poutoko

Miru McLean

Kaihautu (Tau 1 – 8)

Ripeka Paraone

Kaihautu (Tau 9 – 13)

Detroit Stirling

Puna Hauaitū (Yrs 0–4)

Arama Cooper & Tava Shelley

Kaysei Halliday & Bella Carter

Lorri Robinson & Quentin Phillips

Ripeka Paraone, Matthew Brew &

Oraka Ataria-Asby

Puna Waimarie (Yrs 5–8)

Sally King-Hazel & Memphis Morgan

Ty Matika & Isley Tipene

Geri Richardson

Jason Timu & Jasmin Ngawai

Puna Karikari (Yrs 9–10)

Justine Pahau

Teina Anderson

Tyson Tangaroa

Waka Uruao (Yrs 11–13)

Detroit Stirling

Hera Takurua

Miru McLean

Maani Stirling

Dominee Morgan

Te Aho Phillips

Pūoro

Rawiri Poi

Mātaiao

Terina Te Karu

Toi Ataata

Suzanne Awatere-Mackie

Whakairo

Jodi Cameron

Maara Kai

Oliver Peryman

Kaiāwhina

Bronwyn Wilson

Shelley King

Lisa Cameron

Jodi Cameron

Oraka Ataria - Ashby

Bella Carter

Memphis Morgan

Edge Phillips

Quentin Phillips

Jasmin Ngawai

Isley Tipene

Tyson Tangaroa

Hineamaru Paraone

Te Tautarinui o Matariki (Board of Trustees)

Reihana Parata - Aumaria

Rangimarie Parata Takurua—Presiding Member

Terina Tahau

Gayle Brislane

Dy Stirling

Tini Winiata

Kay-Lee Fiso-Jones

Rulon Nutira

Karuna Thurlow

Kaitautoko

Saraya Solheim – Kaiwhakaora (Kihini)

Mihi Piripi – Kaitunukai

Keith Murphy – Kaitiaki Whenua

Bailey Peryman – Ko mahi, Ko ora (Maara)

Dennis Ngaha – Mau Rakau, Kaitiaki Whenua

Te Rito (office)

Tina Epiha Netana – Kaitakatū (Executive Officer)

Dalice Simmons – Kaimanaaki (Secretary)

Emma-Jane Wood – Kai Pūtea (Accounts)

Tessa Moon – Kaihakinakina (Sports Coordinator)

Tāua & Poua Programme

Kuia April & Koro Steve

Maternity Leave

Grace Rihari – Kaiarahi

Natasha Piripi – Kaitakatū

RAKAIHAUTŪ



Rākahautū was the ancestor who lit the fires of occupation on this island. With his kō (digging stick) he carved out the lakes and rivers in Te Waipounamu. Rākahautū shaped our world. Like Rākahautū we encourage our whānau to ultimately take up their kō and confidently carve out new worlds for themselves.

Communication

Te Mokihi



Our fortnightly newsletter that is full of information about what is happening in Te Pā. This is emailed to all parents who have a registered email with us and is available through our Skool Loop App and Facebook Page.

Puna pānui



Information specific to each Puna is normally emailed and/or sent home in hard copy with your tamaiti.

Facebook



Te Pā has a number of Facebook pages and we encourage whānau to join our public page, Te Pā o Rākaihautū and also the Ngā Mātua o Te Pā o Rākaihautū private page that is managed by our parents. This is a great way to keep up to date with things that may be of interest and meet other mātua. Each Puna has its own facebook page and kaiārahi post regularly so that you have a window right into your tamaiti's puna and can support their learning journey in real time. The Te Pā page is a public page but all the other pages are closed pages which means you must request membership.

School App



Te Pā also has a School App that can be downloaded for free. It is useful for receiving alerts about sports cancellations, late bus arrivals, events, important dates coming up and sending in absent notices.

To download simply search "Skool Loop" on the App Store or Google Play.

Search for "Te Pā o Rākaihautū" once downloaded.





Kakahu (Uniform)

Our kakahu is supplied by NZ Uniforms. Orders can be placed at <https://tepaorakaihautu.nzuniforms.com/> otherwise they have a store at 455 Blenheim Road, Sockburn.

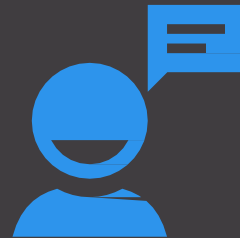


Dental, Vision, Hearing Services

Dental, Vision and Hearing care for Te Pā o Rākaihautū is provided free of charge by the CDHB. The mobile dental van and vision and hearing nurse will visit annually and check every child's teeth, eyes and ears.



Other Useful Information



Absences

Notify Te Rito of any absences by 8.30am, use the Te Pā App to email an absence message or leave a message on the landline.

Notify your child's Kaiārahi of any appointments where your tamaiti needs to leave Te Pā grounds or be late for school. All pononga need to be signed out by parents at the front desk if they leave Te Pā during school hours. All unexplained absences are followed up by a text notification or a phone call. If you are unable to phone, please email tepa@rakaihautu.com.

Whānau Contribution

(fees, koha, donation)

Te Pā o Rākaihautū has opted in to be part of the Donation Scheme for 2021 and beyond.

What is the 'donation scheme'?

The Government will pay our kura \$150 per student per year on the basis that Te Tautarinui opt-into the scheme AND do not ask for any donations (gifts/koha), except for overnight school camps.

What are your obligations?

Donations are voluntary, no matter who asks for them.

You never have to make a donation to your school/kura, but you can give any size donation any time if you want to. If you choose to do this, GST is not payable on the donation and you can claim a tax credit.

What this means for our whanau?

Matua, Kaitiaki, Whanau no longer need to make a donation to Te Pā o Rākaihautū - this includes donations towards Kai and Curriculum based activities - except for overnight camps.

Optional activities

If you choose to have your child participate in optional activities such as weekend sports teams or after-hours cultural activities (extra-curricular), you may be asked to cover the costs of these activities.



Kai Oranga - Kai at Te Pā

Te Pā o Rākaihautū are part of the Ministry of Education, Ka Ora Ka Ako- Healthy School Lunches Programme - We provide a healthy breakfast and lunch and plenty of fresh fruit so that our pononga are well nourished and ready to learn. You are welcome to supplement our kai, koha is always welcome in our kitchen. However we ask parents to please refrain from putting lollies, biscuits, chippies, high sugar, high fat snacks and foods in their bags. We have a no fizzy/sugary drinks/ fast foods policy in Te Pā as part of our kai culture and encourage whānau to support our pononga to choose healthy options.

Other Useful Information



Sustainability

We work hard on reducing waste at Te Pā and ask that any packaging brought in to Te Pā be taken home.

Maara Kai - Our Gardens

We have many maara kai on site where we grow various vegetables that's available for whanau and also used in our kihini. Tamariki are encouraged to help plant and maintain our beautiful maara. We also have an impressive composting system that now takes almost all our waste in line with our goal to parakore by the time we build!





Sports

Here at Te Pā our pononga love their sports all year round and we have teams in a number of codes. There are fees associated with most sports codes and Te Pā is always looking to fundraise to make sure everyone can play. We are always on the lookout for coaches as well.

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

Matatū

Place-based learning is an important part of our special character with puna and kāhui regularly out and about on our marae and in our communities. We have developed risk management procedures in this area and parents will be required to carefully read and sign permission forms at the start of each year.



LOST PROPERTY

Lost Property – Kākahu Ngāro

Please ensure that all items of clothing are named including shoes. All named items are returned to the child's Puna. All unnamed property is stored in Te Rito.



Policies & Plans

All of our policies and key documents such as our Charter and Annual Plan are accessible online at <http://rakaihautu.schooldocs.co.nz/>

User name: rakaihautu Password: tepa



Mau Taiaha

If you are keen to do some taiaha we have a Whare Tū Taua programme here at Te Pā on Saturday mornings from 10 – 12pm and Monday evenings run by Aaron Hapuku and Gina Coatsworth. To find out more about these sessions go to <https://www.facebook.com/Te-Whare-Tu-Taua-ki-Waitaha-40871.../>

Other Useful Information

Whānau Room

At Te Pā we know that it takes a village to raise a child and we welcome your support. If you are at Te Pā please feel free to make yourself a cup of coffee or tea in the whānau room (just off Pūmanawa). It is a great place to catch and meet with other whānau. In the Whānau room we also have meeting room facilities. Talk with our kaimahi in Te Rito if you would like to book time in there for whānau hui.



Digital Citizenship

All pononga and parents are required to sign up to Te Pā's Digital Citizenship agreement before pononga can use any devices. This agreement sets out the expectations and standards of behavior around using technology, computers, internet and social media.



For further information not included here,
please contact Te Rito (our office)

Te Pā School Hours

Monday - Friday 8.30am–3.00pm

Te Rito (Office) Hours

Monday - Friday 8.30am – 3.30pm

Contact Numbers

Te Rito (Office) 03 381 0899

Noku Te Ao ki Te Pa 0272694125

tepa@rakaihautu.com

Physical Address:

7 McLean Street
Linwood
Christchurch 8062

Postal Address

PO Box 27131
Shirley Christchurch