



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Opuia School.

This guidebook is designed to be a source of information, and is also intended to share the passion for learning that makes our school excellent.

The first part of your Guidebook should get you thinking about education. It is important that you have a clear idea of why our School Community Teaches and Learns the way it does and how we accomplish our goals day after day.

An outstanding learning environment doesn't "just happen". The working partnership and support between child, parent, and teacher is pivotal to our successes.

I hope you and your children enjoy your time at Opuia School as much as I love being Principal of it.

Roger Young

School Principal

PRINCIPAL: Roger Young

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: Margaret Lange

TEACHERS	ROOM	LEVEL
Jenny Antunovic	1	0-1
Karen Young	2	1-2
Linda Worthington	3	3-4
4 Barbara Shortland	4	5-6
Margaret Lange	5	7-8

SUPPORT STAFF	DUTIES
Janet Sharman Bannatyne	Tutor
Julie Davis	Teacher Aide
Denny Ututaonga	Caretaker
Daph Smith	Violin tutor

ADMINISTRATION STAFF: Maree Caswell Admin

DAILY ROUTINE

Arrive at school between 8.30-8.55 Class starts 9.00

Learning Block 1 9.00-11.00

Sit down eating 11.00-11.07 Playtime 11.07-11.30

Learning Block 2 11.30-1.00

Sit down eating 1.00-1.15 Playtime 1.15-2.00 Learning Block 3 2.00-2.55

Duties, Pack up, Sharing 2.55-3.00

Home Time 3.00

Term Dates for 2010

Term 1 Tuesday 2nd February—Thursday 1st April 2010

Term 2 Monday 19th April—Friday 2nd July 2010

Term 3 Monday 19th July—Friday 24th September 2010

Term 4 Monday 11th October - Friday 10th December 2010

MISSION STATEMENT: *“Opua School will provide a caring and sharing environment that will educate and equip the child for life.”*

Welcome to Opua School. When children are enrolled we like to enrol the whole family. We believe that education is something shared by the family and school.

Vision: Working together to be lifelong learners with strength in Thinking & Learning Values Attitude Communication Leadership This is how the mission can be achieved. We feel that Parents, Students and Teachers working together is a big key to success. To elaborate on the other aspects: Numeracy & Literacy are priorities in Thinking and Learning. We focus on core Values like respect and courtesy, and on positive Attitudes such as perseverance. Communication encompasses the ability to present capably in written, oral and visual forms. We explore the array of qualities and actions that lead to excellent Leadership throughout the year. Motto: ‘Manaakitanga me te Awhina’ (Caring and Sharing) Opua School is a wonderful learning community with supportive parents, hard working teachers, and great children. The Top 9 foundations of our TeachingWe are all learners. ? The working partnership of child, student and parent is critical to success. ? Strong values and a positive attitude are critical to learning success. ? We want to recognise individual needs and develop strengths. ? We are a learning community that uses teamwork to recognize and solve problems. ? Developing sophisticated levels of thinking and questioning is a focus ? Having strength in Numeracy, Literacy, and Communication is important in our community. ? We want to prepare our children for the world today and in the future so they feel great about themselves as people and their sets of knowledge and skills. ? We want our learning experiences to be authentic, interesting, and meaningful. ?

The Framework for our Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

We discuss with students the “Learning Goals”. What are we learning and why? Ú Together we develop the “Success Criteria”. “How will we know when we’ve achieved?” Ú We provide models and samples so that all students can understand what is required of them. Ú We give students time to learn. Ú We expect students to provide evidence of their learning. Ú We help learners develop their own feedback on their work. Ú We provide feedback specific to the student’s Learning Goals. Ú Students should be able to say where they are at with their learning, their next learning steps, and how they will get there.

Actions and Attitudes Positive Behaviour

The children at Opua School are very well behaved, and we have high expectations of them. Many of our children have leadership roles. All are encouraged to take part in as many activities as possible

and to give things a go. We encourage and reinforce positive behaviour, and expect that children will be self-motivated to do the right thing.

Personal Management

In order to encourage positive behaviour in our students we can all help by: · Having clear expectations · Being positive role models in words and actions at all times · Being observant of signs of distress or suspected incidents of bullying · Reporting any bullying incidents to the class teacher immediately, using the concerns procedure · Finding out all sides of the story before coming to conclusions reinforcing the idea that we are responsible for our own behaviour · Encouraging children to be independent and to socialize well · Reinforcing strategies for children to work through when they have a problem

Behaviour Management

At school our continual focus when managing children is to encourage and reinforce positive behaviour. Verbal praise, special mention in assemblies house points, and 2 weekly trophies are some ways in which we do this.

Careful management of inappropriate behaviour is important. We aim to be fair and consistent. The solutions vary depending on the situation. Our aim is to work positively towards improvement for the individual. Generally we will work with the child independently first. If positive change is not happening we will inform the Parents/Caregivers. A meeting of Parent, Child, and Teacher would be the next step. We have found that this three-way partnership has great results, therefore we promote being in touch with Parents early.

OPUA PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM

After a parent-led initiative and extensive consultation with the school community the implementation of the Opuia School Uniform was decided upon.

This uniform became compulsory from February 2008 and must be worn for all activities, including class lessons. The reasons for establishing a uniform were: For identification purposes. To avoid inappropriate clothing. To include clothing that does not hinder or limit learning e.g. in physical education lessons.

The uniform is:

Approved red tee-shirt with Opuia School monogram.

Black shorts/culottes/skorts (length – just above the knee or longer) Or long black pants – no labels, no patterns, no colours, no white.

Black vest or sweatshirt with Opuia School monogram In cooler weather children may wear a red tee-shirt or long sleeved red skivvy under their red Opuia Tee-shirt.

The sports uniform is:

White Opuia School tee-shirt Black shorts – no labels, no patterns, no white, no colours. Suitable footwear must be worn for school performances and when appropriate. Sun hats must be worn outdoors during terms 1 and 4 Bathing caps must be worn in the school pool

We have looked around for the best prices as well as quality; this is the best deal we can find.

The school makes no profit off these items.