



BRIEFING NOTE: Visit to Tuahiwi School, to discuss the Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunches and Ikura | Manaakitia te whare tangata, free period products on Thursday 24 February 2022

To:	Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Date:	18 February 2022	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1281820
Drafter:	Vanessa Goodwin, Manager Education	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Coralanne Child – Director of Education for Canterbury, Chatham Islands	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose

This briefing note provides information to support the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern's visit to Tuahiwi School to discuss the Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunches programme and Ikura | Manaakitia te whare tangata, free period products in schools' initiative on Thursday 24 February 2022.

- a **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

Agree / Disagree



Jann Marshall
Pouwhakarae | Te Pae Aronui
Associate Deputy Secretary | Te Pae Aronui

18 / 02 / 2022

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

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Tuahiwi School (Te Kura o Tuahiwi) (#3563)

Contact Name: Melanie Taite-Pitama
9(2)(a)

Address: 206 Tuahiwi Road
Kaiapoi

Key People

Presiding Member: Rebecca Stevenson
9(2)(a)

Principal: Melanie Taite-Pitama
9(2)(a)

Ministry Official: Coralanne Child
Director of Education for Canterbury, Chatham Islands
9(2)(a)

COVID-19 compliance requirements for the visit

- 1 The following requirements will be in place for all involved in the visit:
- a) All visitors need to scan in using their COVID-19 tracer app, or sign in manually.
 - b) Visitors, students, and staff are required to wear masks.
 - c) Social distancing will be in place.

Background information about Tuahiwi School

Profile Information

Authority	State
School Type	Full Primary (Year 1-8)
School Gender	Co-Ed
Education Medium	English
Decile	6
Electorate	Waimakariri

- 2 The July 2021 breakdown of roll information is shown below:

July 2021 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	130	(76.4%)
European/ Pākehā	30	(17.6%)
Pacific	9	(5.9%)
Other	1	(0.1%)
Asian	0	(0.0%)
International	0	(0.0%)
Total	170	100%

Impact of COVID-19

- 3 The school has worked hard to ensure students are attending with clear and reassuring communication with whānau on the importance of attendance and the health and safety measures the school has in place.
- 4 The school includes many students from lower socio-economic backgrounds. A number of whānau have lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19 and are having to live with extended whānau. During this period the school noticed an increase in students coming to the office for food. The school has always provided food for children who need it, and the Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunches Programme has been beneficial in supporting the school to continue to do this.
- 5 The school applied for the Urgent Response Fund and \$25,810.00 was approved on 22nd September 2020.
- 6 The application was for the entire school, supporting approximately 150 learners at the time, relating to social, emotional, and behavioural needs. It has funded a variety of initiatives including a whānau attendance advisor, Whakamana Tamaiti, counselling, a junior boy's social group, and a Mana Ake playground initiative.
- 7 The combination of these initiatives aimed to provide a wide variety of short and long-term benefits including active participation in a positive Kaupapa, increased level of engagement and attendance, stronger connections with friends and whānau and an increased appreciation and respect for learning.

Anything else of note about the school

- 8 The school has a very strong relationship with Ngāi Tūāhuriri and is situated 100 metres from Tuahiwi marae.
- 9 Learning frequently takes place on the marae and ākonga often support mana whenua to prepare the marae for tangi or events as well spending time with kaumātua talking and learning from them.
- 10 The school sees itself as a Pā school and is committed to the revitalisation and retention of Te Reo Māori and the educational aspirations of Ngāi Tūāhuriri.
- 11 Of the school's population, 75% are Māori and 40% of the roll whakapapa to Ngāi Tūāhuriri and other hapū of Ngāi Tahu.

- 12 The school roll has been steadily growing. It has a current roll of 161 and is likely to have at least 190 learners by October 2023.
- 13 Due to the roll growth the Ministry started discussions with the school in 2021 about how growth can be managed. Both the development of an enrolment zone and the option of applying to be a designated character school were discussed.
- 14 At the end of 2021 the school began considering whether to remain a regular state school that offers a bilingual education option or apply to become a Designated Character school specialising in providing bilingual education. They have consulted with their community and Ngāi Tūāhuriri and have decided to apply to become a designated character school under section 200 of the Education and Training Act. We expect to receive this application before the end of Term 1.

Teacher/student or school achievements

- 15 The school offers two different immersion streams: Whitireia as Level 1 (81-100% Te Reo Māori) and Puaka as Level 3 (30-50% Te Reo Māori).
- 16 In Level 1 classes tamariki learn in Māori contexts following Te Marautanga o Aotearoa. Te Reo Matatini (Literacy) and Pāngarau (Mathematics) are taught in Te Reo Māori.
- 17 In Level 3 classes, tamariki follow the New Zealand Curriculum with literacy and mathematics being taught in English. Kaiako use Te Reo Māori and teach this with a focus on listening and speaking.
- 18 The school uses collaborative and Māori pedagogical practices throughout the school.

Education Review Office

- 19 In 2019 the Education Review Office (ERO) found that:

The school is growing and developing a culture of internal evaluation, focusing on reflection and knowledge building to enhance school and teacher capability.

Key school leaders are experienced bilingual educators and fluent speakers of te reo Māori. Assessment and moderation processes have been strengthened in both English and Māori medium learning environments, with the support of external expertise.

Distributed leadership opportunities, linked explicitly to valued ākonga outcomes and targeted professional learning, are driving changes for improvement schoolwide.

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 20 The school belongs to Katote Kāhui Ako. Katote Kāhui Ako was approved to be a Kāhui Ako in November 2015 and includes nine schools and 14 early childhood providers located in North Canterbury.
- 21 The Principal at Tuahiwi School is the co-lead of Katote Kāhui Ako, sharing the role with the Principal at Kaiapoi High School.
- 22 There is a high level of commitment and collaboration within the group.

Visit and event information

Runsheets

23 The table below sets out the timetable for the visit

Time	Activity
11:00am	Coralanne Child and Melanie Taite-Pitama will meet the Prime Minister and guests at the front of the school.
11:05am	Welcome
11:15am	Tour of the school
11:30am	Meet and greet with CEO Ataahua Solomon of Lazy Lunches, the Healthy School Lunch Programme supplier
11:40am	Early lunch with a small group of children.
12:00pm	Media stand-up – this can occur on the school grounds.
12:30pm	Prime Minister and guests to leave.

Participation in government programmes

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 23 Tuahiwi School joined the Ka Ora, Ka Ako programme on 13 September 2021. The school had a pre-existing relationship with a small local supplier that was well connected to their community. The school wanted to support this family-owned small business to join the programme and provide their ākonga with lunches.
- 24 The name of the supplier is Lazy Lunches. Lazy lunches specialise in making lunches for families with children from pre-school through to high school. Prior to the programme, they had been providing lunches on a smaller scale for approximately a year. The Director of Lazy Lunches is passionate about nutritious meals that sustain children and don't require the use of plastic packaging.
- 25 The school has provided feedback that the programme started with great success, and everyone is enjoying the lunches. There has been a high uptake of lunches and no leftover meals. They are very happy with the supplier Lazy Lunches and the community is very grateful.
- 26 Lazy Lunches have three employees, they also make lunches for Karanga Mai Teen Parent Unit.

Ikura | Manaakitia te whare tangata, period products in schools' initiative

- 27 The school has opted into the period products initiative and has ordered product. The next phase of the rollout will enable them to have access to a wider variety of product, as well as educational resources.
- 28 To start, educational posters will be made available to the school during Term 1, 2022, with more of these available throughout the year.

Learning Support Coordinators

- 29 The school is part of the Katote Kāhui Ako, which has been allocated six Learning Support Coordinators.
- 30 The school has one Learning Support Coordinator that is shared between Tuahiwi School and its neighbouring school Clarkville School.

Creative in Schools

- 31 Tuahiwi School applied for Round 1 (2020) of Creatives in Schools and was successful.
- 32 The name of their Round 1 project was "Aroha ki te Tangata, te Tuahiwi ki te Whai Ao", and their creative was Lisa Harding.
- 33 The school did not apply in Round 2 and 3.

Property

- 34 The general condition of the existing facilities is good. The school's current 5 Year Agreement allocation is \$173k and the Principal has led a significant amount of work to refurbish and improve classrooms.
- 35 The school is also managing two small School Investment Package projects which will see the construction of two sheds from their allocation of \$97k.
- 36 Rolls have grown significantly in recent times, in particular since the current Principal's appointment.
- 37 Two new roll growth classrooms are being delivered, through our offsite modular building programme, to accelerate delivery timeframes. Design has commenced and we aim to have the classrooms ready for occupation prior to the start of Term 4.
- 38 The school is facing capacity pressures and are using the library and resource space for teaching while the roll growth project is completed. The shortfall in teaching space will be addressed by the delivery of the new classrooms.
- 39 We are also planning for further roll growth expansion works in the near future.
- 40 The school has a shortfall in non-teaching space and the current multi-purpose space is not fit-for-purpose. The school has expressed frustration about this with the Ministry and may raise the matter with you on the day. We are considering rebuilding a multi-purpose space to address the shortfall as part of the future expansion project.
- 41 The school ordered a CO2 monitor and toolkit on 14 February, and this was despatched soon after. At this stage, the school has not contacted the Ministry for ventilation advice or to raise any specific concern about building ventilation.