



Briefing Note: Visit to Oranga School on Tuesday, 27 July 2021, to open new classrooms

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Cc:	Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister		
Date:	16 July 2021	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1262611
Drafter:	Rebekah Harman Senior Education Advisor	DDI:	09 6329573
Key Contact:	Corinne Peters Manager Education	DDI:	09 6329369
Messaging seen by Communications team	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose

- 1 This briefing note provides information to support the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern's visit to Oranga School to open new classrooms, on Tuesday 27 July 2021 (9am to 10.30am).
- 2 **Agree** that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree



Jann Marshall
Associate Deputy Secretary
Network and School Delivery
Sector Enablement and Support

16/7/2021

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

___/___/___

Oranga School (1403)

Contact Name: Bridget Lummis (Principal)
09 5794189

Address: 21 Rangipawa Road
Onehunga
Auckland

Key People

Presiding Member: Paul Ruediger
9(2)(a)

Principal: Bridget Lummis
Confidential: 9(2)(a)

Names of other notable people attending: Hon Priyanka Radhakrishnan,
Member of Parliament for Maungakiekie

Ministry Officials: David Bos - Regional Asset Manager
09 632 9575

Bernard Cheng - Delivery Manager
09 638 0241

Amanda Still - Regional Property Advisor
09 632 9364

Danielle van Sambeek -
Senior Engagement Advisor
09 632 9326

Alternative contact: Corinne Peters
Manager Education
09 632 9369

Background

- 3 Oranga School was established in February 1949. It is a co-ed, decile 3 contributing (Year 1-6) state school on the southern slopes of One Tree Hill.
- 4 Over the past three years Oranga School has received funding to renovate existing classrooms and build a new classroom block.
- 5 The school has implemented a new enrolment scheme.

Visit and event information

Runsheet

- 6 Oranga School are expecting you to arrive at 9am for a one-and-a-half-hour visit.

Time	Activity
9am	Powhiri
9.15am	Principal's message and introduction of Prime Minister
9.20am	Prime Minister's message
9.25am	Kapa Haka performance
9.30am	Samoan and Tongan Performance Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and Priyanca Radhakrishnan (MP) cut ribbon
9.35am	Walkthrough new building
9.45am	Te Whenua students talk to Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern about their new space
10am-10.30am	Kai, chat and farewell in staffroom

School Information

Profile

Authority	State
School Type	Contributing (Year 1 -6)
School Gender	Co-ed
Education Medium	English
Decile	3
Electorate	Maungakiekie

- 7 The school's combined staff is approximately 40 and as of July 2020 roll was 372 students:

July 2020 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	43	11.6 %
Pacific	137	36.8 %
Asian	47	12.6 %
Other	13	3.5 %
European/ Pākehā	132	35.5 %
International	0	0 %
Total	372	100 %

Enrolment Scheme Update

- 8 In 2019 the Ministry worked with Oranga School to implement an enrolment scheme.
- 9 The Ministry is currently working with close neighbour Te Papapa School to develop an enrolment scheme. Te Papapa School has proposed the Ministry amend the zone of Oranga School so there is no overlap between the two.
- 10 We expect to consult with the school's community, including neighbouring schools, on the proposed amendment in Term 3, 2021.

Education Review Office

- 11 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in May 2018. ERO reported that:
- Achievement information for 2015 to 2018 indicated that many students achieved at curriculum expectation for reading, writing and mathematics.
 - Achievement data indicated that Māori students achieved well in comparison with other students in reading and writing.
 - Pacific student data for 2015 to 2018 indicated an upward trend of improvement in mathematics and writing achievement. However, data also indicated that, while there has been some reduction of disparity for Pacific boys, a pattern of disparity remains.
 - Students benefit from an inclusive environment that celebrates difference and supports their confidence in learning.

Impact of COVID-19

- 12 COVID-19 has impacted staff and students. **9(2)(a)(i)**
[REDACTED] Parents and teachers have expressed concern around the loss of time and learning during lockdowns and the impact on children.
- 13 Post the COVID-19 lockdowns, attendance rates dropped slightly, averaging in the mid 80%. After the October 2020 lockdown, attendance increased to 80 to 90% (around the usual rates for the school). The school reported hesitancy of some families to return to school immediately after the August 2020 and March 2021 lockdowns. The attendance data for Term 1 2021 shows a return to regular attendance by the end of the term.
- 14 The school has started implementing a mindfulness programme this year. The SENCO and a teacher aide are working with a small group of teachers who will implement the learning programme with their own classes. The school has decided to start small and make sure the programme is successful before implementing mindfulness across the school.

Cultural Responsiveness

- 15 Oranga School is committed to meeting Te Tiriti o Waitangi and recognises the importance and uniqueness of New Zealand's bicultural heritage. They promote tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori through the expectation that:
- all teachers integrate Te Reo Māori into their classroom programme
 - all begin the day with karakia and waiata.
- 16 Kapa Haka is promoted and available for students and whānau hui occurs each term. During school occasions and events tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori is incorporated where possible.
- 17 All cultures within the school are valued, appreciated, and celebrated. Teaching and learning at Oranga School promotes and values the traditions, histories and languages of those cultures within the school, community and New Zealand.
- 18 The school's strategic goals clearly align with the National Education Learning Priorities. Learners are strongly at the centre. The school is upskilling their staff to enact effective pedagogies for all learners in inclusive modern learning environments.

Kāhui Ako

- 19 The school belongs to Te Iti Kahurangi Kāhui Ako.
- 20 This is a progressive Kāhui Ako focussed on culturally responsive, inclusive curricula that respond to students' interests through authentic contexts for learning. They have a strong focus on implementing digital technologies and developing a truly localised curriculum.
- 21 The Kāhui Ako recently had a combined teacher only day on 7 April with a historical hikoi, this utilised Mana Whenua. The aims were to explore and experience the stories of our Maunga, Moana, and Mana Whenua, to support our local curriculum development, experience whanaungatanga between each of the schools and make new connections.
- 22 Oranga School is continually developing their home-school partnerships through Pacific fono and wananga days. A recent community consultation was held on the vision of the school and the school boasts a 90% engagement from whanau in student conferences.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 23 The school opted into the School Donations Scheme for 2020 and has opted in for 2021. The school will receive \$64,170 in 2021 based on the July roll return.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 24 The school is ineligible for the programme.

Access to Period products

- 25 Oranga School has opted into the initiative and has been able to order products from 1 June.

Learning Support Coordinators

- 26 The Te Iti Kahurangi Kāhui Ako has been allocated nine Learning Support Coordinators (LSCs).
- 27 The LSCs are employed to work across the Kāhui Ako. The LSC who works at Oranga School is based at Mangere Bridge School.

Creatives in schools

- 28 Oranga School did not apply for Round 1 or 2 of the Creatives in Schools projects.

Urgent Response Fund

- 29 In 2021 the school received 9(2)(i) from the Urgent Response Fund (URF). The application was for teacher aide support to implement literacy interventions and self-regulation programmes for students.
- 30 The programmes are having a positive impact on the school's most at-risk students. The school leadership reported to the Board in the middle of the year on the positive interim outcomes of the funded programmes.

Property

- 31 The Ministry has invested over five million dollars in
- a. the new teaching block (that has been positioned on the north eastern side of the school)
 - b. refurbishment of Block 2
 - c. the upgrade to Block 1
 - d. enhanced accessibility for students with mobility issues.
- 32 Property generally is in excellent condition due to the recent works completed. There has also been some external improvement works completed with landscaping and planting. With the two temporary teaching spaces provided to support roll growth to remain at the school, the school is in a comfortable position in terms of having capacity for future roll growth.

- 33 Students have been actively involved in the new build such as working on the names of the new buildings.
- 34 The new classrooms enable Oranga School to implement effective pedagogical practices in innovative learning environments. The school is receiving 150 hours of professional development to support innovative learning environments; the teachers are working with Mrs Sandra Jenkins who is a leader in the field of innovative learning environments.
- 35 Construction of the new block commenced in August 2020, and the relationship with the school has been positive and collaborative throughout the project, even with some initial project delays with the COVID-19 shutdown.
- 36 The new block has a simple form with design elements taken from the existing school such as brick, weatherboard cladding and metal roofing and a colour pallet to ground the new building into the site and create a coherent sense of belonging.
- 37 Large roof overhangs to the north have created a covered outdoor learning environment, with a reduction in unwanted summer solar gain and protection from prevailing rain and wind. The high windows bring natural light into the centre of the building and assist with natural ventilation.
- 38 The large sliding doors have created passive surveillance, visual connection and a smooth transition to the green field on the north and hard playing courts to the south. An interactive colourful rain screen on the west elevation has been added to the building structure.
- 39 Internally the teaching block has been designed in a way that enables collaborative and co-teaching practices within the five large flexible learning hubs. The breakout rooms provide quiet spaces for smaller learning groups, with glazed walls adding visual connection to the larger learning hubs. In addition, timber batten screens and window seating have created partial privacy and nooks for a student to tuck away into and read a book. Interactive play and learning are being encouraged through design features such as embedded jellybean wall seating, lego and peg walls.
- 40 The Fale acts as an anchor in the building. Raised off the ground, it has created a stage that will be used as a meeting hub for special assemblies. The interactive perforated sliding screens can transform the Fale into a small sensory space.
- 41 The colour scheme is derived from a harakeke kete. The block is a basket holding all the knowledge that will help the students grow and learn. The dark green colours represent young fresh leaves—each strand is a new student arriving into the classroom. As the students grow and learn, the kete ages and changes colour to golden yellow. The harakeke flower is also represented in the pops of orange furniture within the classroom. The carpet is laid in a basket weave pattern representing the kete that holds its bond as the students collaborate and share knowledge together. Design features such as the use of carpet tiles on acoustic surfaces, pinboard wall coverings and high-quality acoustic ceiling tiles enhance noise absorption. This ensures the building will provide a quality physical environment to support effective teaching and learning.

- 42 In addition to the new teaching block, a project to refurbish and convert the interior of Block 2 an old eight teaching space block into a modern learning environment has been delivered with the school contributing its five year agreement, School Investment Package funding of \$264K and funding from the Accelerated Modernisation Scheme to complete the project. We removed underutilised hallways and incorporated them in the teaching space, created breakout rooms, and reading nooks. The roof has been replaced with new insulation, acoustic wall, floor, and ceiling coverings provided to ensure the refurbished teaching spaces are warm, dry and comfortable learning environments. Accessibility for students with mobility issues has also been enhanced with a separate learning support modification project.
- 43 Further upgrades have been completed in Block 1 that also accommodates two satellite units for Central Auckland Specialist School. This included an electrical upgrade, an upgrade to heating, and a replacement roof. The school also has a building on site that houses staff for the main Reading Recovery cluster for local schools. 9(2)(g)(i)
- 44 The contractor, Astley Construction, has as a surprise for the school, a refurbished piece of rimu timber from an old door frame in the refurbished block. The plaque has been etched with the words Titiro Whakamuri Kokiri Whakamua which mean "You can't move ahead without looking behind". This will be presented to the school at the opening.

Proactive release

- 45 We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be redacted in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annex

Annex 1: Talking points for the opening of Oranga School's innovative new spaces

Proactively Released

Annex 1: Talking Points for the opening of Oranga School's innovative new spaces

- Tēnā koutou kātoa and thank you for welcoming us today. It is a privilege to be here with you to celebrate the opening of your innovative new spaces.
- I'd like to acknowledge the Tumuaki / Principal Bridget Lummis, Presiding Member Paul Ruediger and other Board members.
- We have invested over five million dollars in the new building and refurbishing an existing block, which took around eleven months to complete.
- Together with the two temporary teaching spaces provided to support roll growth now to remain at the school, the school is in a comfortable position in terms of having capacity for future roll growth.
- The new building contains five large flexible learning classrooms, which have been designed in a way to enable collaborative and co-teaching practices.
- The chosen colour scheme is derived from a harakeke kete. The block is a basket holding all the knowledge that will help the students grow and learn. The dark green colours represent young fresh leaves – each strand symbolises a new student arriving into the classroom.
- As the students grow and learn, the kete ages and changes colour to golden yellow.
- The harakeke flower is also represented in the pops of orange furniture within the classroom.
- The carpet is laid in a basket weave pattern representing the kete that holds its bond as the students collaborate and share knowledge together.
- This investment will support your school to provide learning environments for students that are warm, comfortable and fit for purpose.
- I congratulate the Board and faculty for their part in making this project a reality.
- Thanks goes to everyone else involved too - contractors and designers – but a special mention goes to the students, who've shown great resilience to stay focused during the disruption which comes with construction.
- Oranga School, like many around the country, have also shown great resilience in supporting students, and whānau, to continue learning during COVID-19 and the national and regional lockdowns.
- Measures such as the COVID-19 Urgent Response Fund have helped Oranga School, and many other schools, kura and clusters around the country, to support students to re-engage in their learning where needed.

- I know you deliver a very responsive local curriculum here at Oranga School, and you have a strong school and community culture, and are part of an active Kāhui Ako.
- I am delighted that the new block, and other infrastructure improvements, provide the environment that's so important for you to continue to promote and value the traditions, histories and languages of the cultures of your learners, your community and across New Zealand.
- This redevelopment is delivering on our commitment to ensure all students and teachers can learn and work in quality environments.
- We need property to last and serve generations of students and teachers, instil pride in their local communities, and help schools attract and retain students.
- Thank you for having us here today and letting us share this exciting milestone with you.

The contractor, Astley Construction, has a surprise for the school. They refurbished a piece of rimu timber from an old door frame in the refurbished block. The plaque has been etched with the words Titiro Whakamuri Kokiri Whakamua which mean "You can't move ahead without looking behind". This will be presented to the school at the opening.

9(2)(g)(i)