



## Education Report: Application to consult on the proposed establishment of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine

<b>To:</b>	Hon Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)		
<b>Cc:</b>	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	13 September 2023	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1317651
<b>Drafter:</b>	s9(2)(a), Senior Adviser, Hawke's Bay – Tairāwhiti	<b>DDI:</b>	s9(2)(a)
<b>Key Contact:</b>	Daniel Murfitt, Director of Education for Hawke's Bay   Tairāwhiti	<b>DDI:</b>	s9(2)(a)
<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose

This report seeks your approval to consult under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act) on the proposal by Te Āhuru Mōwai o Rongomaiwahine that you establish Te Kura Kaupapa Māori Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine as a Kura Kaupapa Māori in Opoutama, Te Māhia. This application is supported by Te Rūnanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa.

### Summary

1. In December 2022, we received a renewed application from Te Āhuru Mōwai o Rongomaiwahine seeking agreement to establish a full primary kura, offering Year 1-8 education for Rongomaiwahine iwi in Wairoa. Te Rūnanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa (TRN) is supportive of the establishment.
2. Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine currently operates as an off-site class of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ruamata, a composite, Year 1-15, Kura Kaupapa Māori in Rotorua.
3. The class is currently based on whenua at Ruawharo Marae, Māhia Peninsula, within a Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust owned building. It has Year 1-8 ākonga.
4. All ākonga in the off-site class whakapapa to Rongomaiwahine iwi and the off-site class provides an education which aims to foster the culture of connection to the language, tikanga and histories of Rongomaiwahine. There is currently no other educational pathway available for ākonga to experience this provision.

5. This application should be considered within the context of the Crown's and Ministry's goal to increase participation in Kaupapa Māori education.
6. Under section 201 of the Education and Training Act (the Act), the Minister of Education may, when establishing a school, designate the school as a Kura Kaupapa Māori.
7. Before establishing a new school under section 190 of the Act, you are required to consult with the boards of all state and state integrated schools whose rolls might, in your opinion, be affected by the establishment of a new kura as required under section 209 of the Act. We would undertake this consultation on your behalf.
8. If you agree, once consultation has been completed, we will develop a report incorporating the consultation feedback, so any issues raised about the establishment of the kura can be considered as part of the final decision.

Proactively Released

## Recommended Actions

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The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **note** that the Ministry has received an application from Te Āhuru Mōwai o Parehuia asking you to establish a Year 1-8, full-primary, Kura Kaupapa Māori in Opoutama, Te Māhia;
- b. **note** that before establishing a new school, under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020, you must first consult with the boards of all state and state integrated schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment; and
- c. **agree** that the Ministry undertake consultation on your behalf with all state and state integrated schools whose rolls might, in your opinion, be affected by the establishment of Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine.

☒ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**

If you agree, you are asked to:

- d. **sign** the enclosed letter to the applicant (Annex 1) and local Members of Parliament informing them of your decision;
- e. **note** that following the consultation, a further report about the establishment will be provided for consideration; and
- f. **agree** that this education report be proactively released in line with your expectations. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

☒ **Proactively Release** ☐ **Not release**



Jocelyn Mikaere  
Hautū | Deputy Secretary  
Te Mahau | Te Tai Whenua

13/09/2023



Hon Kelvin Davis  
Associate Minister of Education  
(Māori Education)

18/09/2023

## Background

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1. In April 2019, the Ministry received an initial application from Te Āhuru Mōwai o Parehuia asking that a Kura Kaupapa Māori, providing education for Year 1-8 ākonga be established. Due to Covid pressures, the Ministry was slow to progress this application. In December 2022, the applicant contacted the Ministry with their renewed application.
2. Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine currently operates as an off-site class of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ruamata in Rotorua, providing Kaupapa Māori education for Year 1-8 ākonga. The class is based in a Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust owned building which is situated on whenua at Ruawharo Marae, Māhia Peninsula.
3. Prior to this current off-site arrangement with Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ruamata, Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine operated under a similar arrangement with Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Kahungunu o Te Wairoa, Wairoa. As Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Kahungunu o Te Wairoa had financial, governance and leadership challenges at the time, it was considered that the off-site class should access another kura tuākana.
4. In 2020 a teacher from Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine (who had a Limited Authority to Teach) was appointed Tumuaki, and currently still holds this position.
5. In July 2022, the roll of the off-site class was 12 ākonga and 100% of the roll identified as Māori. As of July 2023, this has increased to 15 ākonga.
6. All ākonga in the off-site class whakapapa to Rongomaiwahine iwi and there is no other Kaupapa Māori educational pathway available for ākonga to experience an education specific to this iwi.

## Consultation

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7. Before establishing a new school or kura, you must first consult with the boards of all state and state integrated schools whose rolls might be affected under section 209 of the Act.
8. If you agree, we will undertake this consultation on your behalf. The proposed list of schools and kura to be consulted is attached as Annex 2.
9. We will also consult with sector organisations such as TRN, and NZSTA, as well as local Iwi and Mana Whenua.
10. The applicant group have had discussions with the boards of local schools and kura in the Wairoa district, to ensure that further educational pathways are available for ākonga who graduate from the proposed kura after Year 8. This does not negate any future aspirations that the Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine whānau and community may have to establish a complete educational pathway for Years 1-13.
11. Once the consultation has been completed, we will develop a final report so the feedback can be included in the final decision to consider establishment of the kura.

## Application

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12. Under section 201 of the Act, you have absolute discretion to approve or decline an application to establish a Kura Kaupapa Māori. For a Kura Kaupapa Māori to be established, you must be satisfied it would meet the following requirements in section 201(3) of the Act:

- Te reo Māori is to be the main language of instruction at the school;
- the school is to operate in accordance with Te Aho Matua;
- it is desirable for ākonga whose parents want them to do so to get such an education;
- ākonga at the school are to receive education of a kind that differs significantly from the education they would receive at an ordinary State school.

### Ministry assessment

13. We believe this proposal meets the above requirements.

#### Desired by Whanau

- The Wairoa catchment plan in the National Education Network Plan confirms the high demand for ākonga to learn through Kaupapa Māori education settings.

#### Te Reo instruction and operation in accordance with Te Aho Matua

- The proposed Kura Kaupapa Māori would offer a holistic education in the Māori language that is designed to nurture the physical, emotional, spiritual, cultural and linguistic dimensions of all those who participate, ākonga and adults alike.

#### Different education

- One hundred percent of ākonga in the off-site class whakapapa to Rongomaiwahine Iwi. There is currently no other educational pathway available for ākonga to experience an education that specifically links to their identity, language and culture.

## Network Analysis

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### Kura Kaupapa Maori

14. Te Āhuru Mōwai o Parehuia intends to provide a Year 1-8, Kaupapa Māori educational pathway for Rongomaiwahine Iwi, providing an education which aims to foster the culture of connection to the language, tikanga and histories of Rongomaiwahine.
15. The applicant group have had discussions with the boards of local schools and kura in the Wairoa district, to ensure that further educational pathways are available for ākonga who graduate from the proposed kura after Year 8. However, at some time in the future we expect that Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine whānau and community may want to establish a complete educational pathway for Years 1-13.
16. All ākonga in the off-site class whakapapa to Rongomaiwahine iwi. There is currently no other educational pathway available for ākonga to experience an education that specifically links to their identity, language and culture.

## School size

17. Ministry guidelines for the establishment of a kura are that they have no less than 36 enrolled ākonga. We are confident that the demographic who the Te Āhuru Mōwai o Parehuia group represent, will be able to meet this roll number in due course.

## Māori immersion education

18. The proposal supports the Crown's and Ministry's goal to increase participation in Māori immersion education, and this will be considered within the context of this application.
19. The proposal also supports Maihi Karauna, the Māori language strategy, which is intended to foster increased participation and success for ākonga Māori through the advancement of Māori education initiatives. The application also aligns with Ka Hikitia and the National Education Network Plan to support Māori immersion education.

## Roll projections

20. The applicant indicates the following roll predictions for the next two years if the proposal is approved (acknowledging that these numbers are estimates prior to actual decisions made about property division and maximum roll):

	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	
2024	0	1	1	1	0	3	3	3	<b>12</b>
2025	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	3	<b>9</b>

## Property

21. The off-site class is based in a building owned by Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust situated on whenua at Ruawharo Marae in Te Māhia Peninsula. Ministry approval has been obtained to operate in the building which has a maximum capacity of 20 ākonga places.
22. The building is currently leased from Ruawharo Marae. A tri-partite agreement (between the applicant group, TKKM o Ruamata, and Ruawharo Marae) supports this arrangement.
23. The Applicant Group has indicated its aspirations to be located at the former site of Opoutama School (which is closed). The site is located approximately 250m from the off-site class at Ruawharo Marae.
24. The Opoutama school site property has been set aside by the Crown as a deferred selection property for treaty settlement claims. Rongomaiwahine Iwi as part of Tatau Tatau o Te Wairoa PGSE, settled with the Crown on 12 September 2018 with the aforesaid property being available for purchase by Rongomaiwahine Iwi from 1 December 2019. This process is currently underway.
25. Funding for any additional roll growth and non-teaching space at the Opoutama site would be sought in a future budget and would be subject to prioritisation against other needs across the Te Tai Whenua Takiwā.

## Transport

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26. Akōnga attending the Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine off-site class are currently funded under Māori Medium School Transport Funding that their base kura, TKKM o Ruamata, receives.
27. If the proposal is approved, Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine would become eligible for Māori Medium School Transport Funding itself.

## Financial Implications

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28. Based on current ākonga numbers and future roll projections of the off-site class, the estimated operational cost to the Crown (including staffing and Operations Grant funding) is in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Estimated cost to the Crown for the proposed establishment of Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine as Kura Kaupapa Māori (Operations Grant and Staffing)**

Year	Roll	Staffing	Operations Grant (GST incl)	Estimated Salaries	Total
2024	16	1.3 FTTE	\$151,493	s9(2)(a)	s9(2)(a)
2025	15	1.3 FTTE	\$147,361	s9(2)(a)	s9(2)(a)

## Conclusion

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29. We recommend you agree to consultation for the following reasons:
  - The Wairoa catchment plan in the National Education Network Plan confirms the high demand for ākonga to learn through Kaupapa Māori education settings.
  - There is currently no other educational pathway available for ākonga to experience an education that specifically links to their identity, language and culture.
  - This proposal aligns with both national and regional plans to increase participation in Māori immersion education.

## Next steps

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30. If you agree to initiate consultation on the proposal, please sign the letter to the applicant and local Members of Parliament in Annex 1.
31. We will consult with all state and state integrated schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment of the kura. We will also consult with education sector bodies, local iwi and community groups as appropriate.
32. Following consultation, we will prepare a final report for final consideration and a final decision.

## Proactive Release

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33. This education report will be proactively released in line with your expectations. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

## Annexes

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Annex 1: Letter to applicant and local Members of Parliament

Annex 2: A list of schools and kura to be consulted.

Proactively Released



Proactively Released

# Hon Kelvin Davis

MP for Te Tai Tokerau

Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

Minister for Children

Minister of Corrections

Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)



s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your application, proposing that I establish Te Parehuia o Rongomaiwahine as a Year 1-8, full primary, Kura Kaupapa Māori. Before I may establish a new kura I must first consult the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected, under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020.

I have agreed that consultation be undertaken on the establishment of a Year 1-8 Kura Kaupapa Māori. The Ministry of Education will conduct this consultation on my behalf.

As part of this consultation, the Ministry will advise you of replies and provide an opportunity for your response to them.

When consultation is complete, the Ministry will develop a final report giving details of the feedback and providing advice on the proposed establishment of the kura. It will then be appropriate to make a final decision.

Please contact Sa Raihania, at the Ministry's regional office, by email at [sa.raihania@education.govt.nz](mailto:sa.raihania@education.govt.nz) if you have any questions about this process.

Heoi anō

**Hon Kelvin Davis**

Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)

cc Daniel Murfitt, Director of Education for Hawke's Bay | Tairāwhiti

# Hon Kelvin Davis

MP for Te Tai Tokerau

Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

Minister for Children

Minister of Corrections

Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)



Hon Stuart Nash  
Member of Parliament for Napier  
Parliament Building  
Wellington

Tēna koe Stuart

I have received an application proposing that I establish a new Kura Kaupapa Māori in Opoutama, Te Māhia.

Before I approve the establishment of a new school, under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020, I must first consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment. I have agreed that the Ministry of Education can conduct this on my behalf.

Once consultation has been completed, a final report will be developed including the feedback that has been received, and a final decision will be made on the establishment of the kura.

Nakū noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Kelvin Davis'.

**Hon Kelvin Davis**  
Minister of Education (Māori Education)

# Hon Kelvin Davis

MP for Te Tai Tokerau

Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

Minister for Children

Minister of Corrections

Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)



Hon Meka Whaitiri  
Member of Parliament for Ikaroa-Rāwhiti  
Parliament Building  
Wellington

Tēna koe Meka

I have received an application proposing that I establish a new Kura Kaupapa Māori in Opoutama, Te Māhia.

Before I approve the establishment of a new school, under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020, I must first consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected by the establishment. I have agreed that the Ministry of Education can conduct this on my behalf.

Once consultation has been completed, a final report will be developed including the feedback that has been received, and a final decision will be made on the establishment of the kura.

Nakū noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Kelvin Davis'.

**Hon Kelvin Davis**

Minister of Education (Māori Education)

Annex 2: A list of schools and kura to be consulted

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Schools and kura to be consulted
Frasertown School
Kotemaori School
Mohaka School
Nūhaka School
Ohuka School
Putere School
Putorino School
Ruakituri School
St Joseph's School (Wairoa)
Te Māhia School
Tiaho Primary School
TKKM o Ngāti Kahungunu o Te Wairoa
Wairoa College
Wairoa Primary School
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ruamata