

### Catchment description

This catchment incorporates schools in a cluster of smaller settlements surrounding the Kaipara harbour and Wairoa River. The topography of the area means that there are three distinct schooling networks – Mangawhai, Otamatea, and Dargaville. There are two Kāhui Ako operating in this catchment.

Agriculture, forestry, and fishing are the key industries in the area followed by social services and tourism (Mangawhai). Government has recently invested in a number of key infrastructure projects in the district through the Provincial Growth Fund to support these key industries.

Census 2018 data shows the population of the Kaipara district is almost 23,000, with 19% of them aged under 15 years. About 40% of under 15 year olds identify as Māori with ethnic makeup becoming increasingly diverse, including particular growth in residents who identify as Pacific and Asian peoples.

### What's influencing the education system in this catchment?



#### Changing population profile

- Census 2018 data shows an increase in the proportion of the population that identifies as Māori. The proportion of under 15 year olds that identify as Māori has increased from 32% to 40% between 2006 and 2018.



#### Māori learners/ākonga

- There is a strong desire from whānau and the education sector for more choice and more access to instruction in tikanga Māori and te reo Māori across the entire Tai Tokerau region. There is one kura in this catchment, Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngaringaomatariki, the roll of which has significantly grown over the last 3 years to nearly 40 tamariki in 2021. This kura is currently operating from a temporary leased site.



#### School buses/transport

- Enrolment at local schools, particularly at the primary level, is affected by historically designed direct resourced bus routes. This is a particular issue in the east of the catchment where transport is not available for intermediate-aged children to attend their local school.



#### Differing population growth profiles within catchment

- Recent population growth within the catchment is concentrated in the east, while the western and rural areas are projected to remain stable or even decline in places. This has led to the allocation of roll growth funding to schools in the Mangawhai area for additional teaching space. In contrast, potential rationalisation of surplus teaching space is being considered in other parts of the catchment.



#### Learning support

- Te Manawa Tahi Learning support hub is located within the communities across the Kaipara, providing specialist support and easier access for whānau. A significant number of children travel long distances each day to attend the Blomfield Special School base site in Whangārei.



#### Leadership and governance

- Two schools in this catchment are being supported around their leadership and governance, as well as the quality of teaching and learning, and wellbeing and achievement of ākonga. This catchment has a high proportion of teaching principals which places extra pressure on them to lead as well as teach.



#### Remote and isolated schools

- Four of the schools in this catchment are geographically isolated. As a result, it is more difficult to attract and retain quality teachers, to attend professional learning and development opportunities, and to manage maintenance of school property.



#### Secondary transitions

- Pathways for secondary students towards vocational training or tertiary education are important. There is no secondary provision at Mangawhai, and these children attend either Otamatea High School or Rodney College. There is a community desire for local secondary provision, however current analysis of projected demand supports the continuation of the Otamatea and Rodney pathway for secondary students.

### Here's what is already underway to help us manage education provision in this catchment:



- Learning support coordinators have been appointed in each of the two Kāhui Ako.
- Te Manawa Tahi Learning Support hubs are scheduled in the community



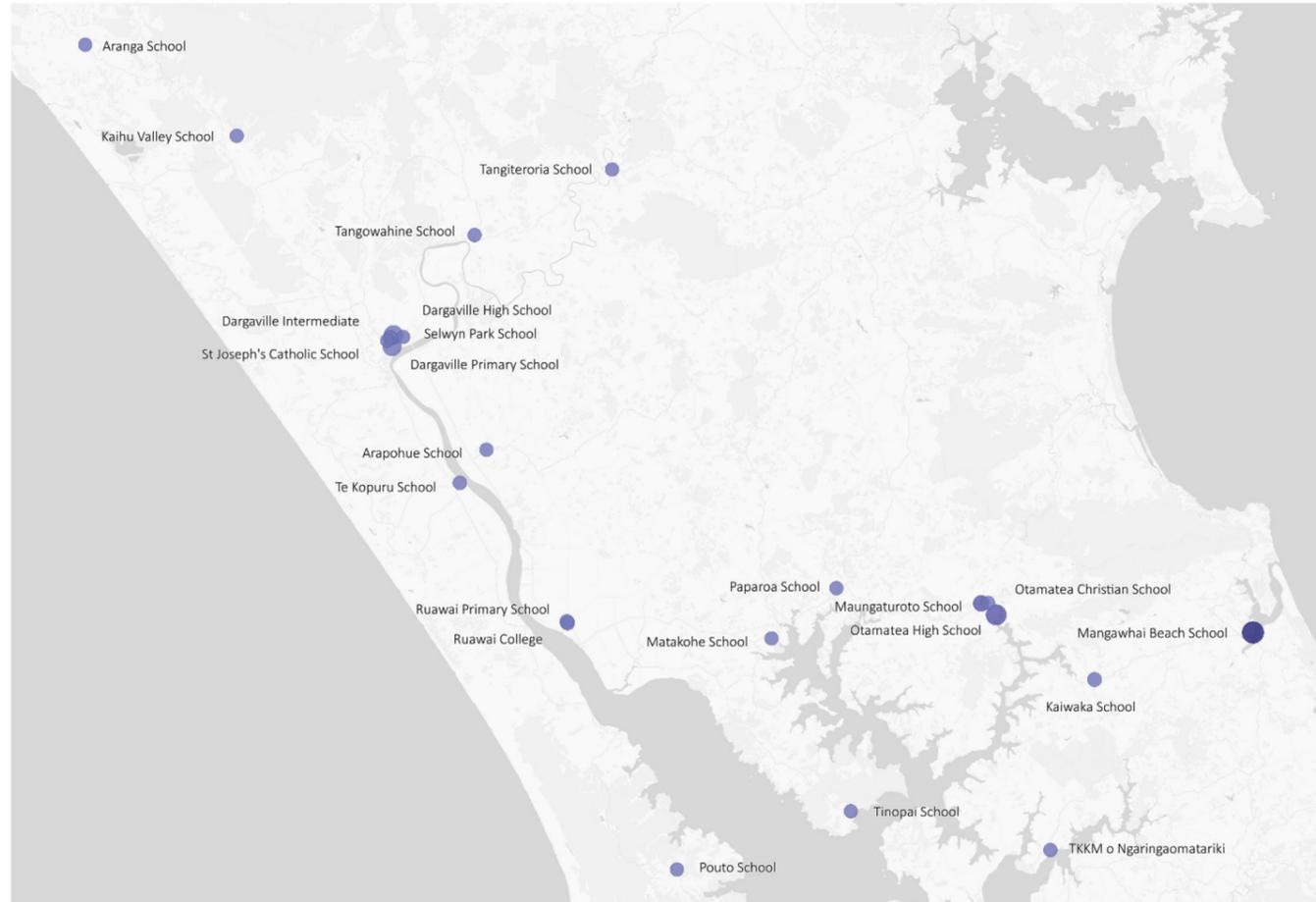
- We are providing additional teaching spaces at Mangawhai Beach School (11 new teaching spaces) and Maungatūroto School (1 new teaching space) to address roll growth pressure.
- Funding has recently been announced for additional teaching spaces at Blomfield Special School. Planning has started for a satellite unit at Selwyn Park Primary School in Dargaville.



- We are working with Kaipara District Council in their long-term planning for population growth at Mangawhai. We will continue to monitor population projections and roll growth.



- Redevelopment of Dargaville High School is being considered to address ageing building infrastructure and surplus property issues.
- We have acquired a site for the relocation of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngaringaomatariki as a new kura onto a permanent site in Kaiwaka.



The **Kaipara Catchment Plan** will meet the needs of New Zealand’s changing schooling network, benefiting an estimated **3,200 learners/ākonga** each year over the next decade to 2030. There are 23 schools/kura in the Kaipara catchment.

July 2021	Primary	Composite	Secondary	Specialist	Total
Number of schools	19	1	3	0	<b>23</b>
Total funded roll	2,199	32	1,016	0	<b>3,247</b>
MME Level 1 & 2	38	0	0	0	<b>38</b>
ORS-funded roll	32	0	9	0	<b>41</b>
Māori roll	907	10	436	0	<b>1,353</b>
Pacific roll	96	0	35	0	<b>131</b>

**Map key:**  
% roll change over 10-year period  
 ● Opened in last 10 years  
 ● High growth  
 ● Moderate growth  
 ● Low growth  
 ● Stable/decline

Note: Roll growth at schools indicated on this map is based on a percentage change in roll numbers over a 10-year period, and may indicate higher (or lower) roll growth than absolute numbers suggest.

### Potential responses to shaping a stronger education system across the Kaipara catchment:

#### Educational support mechanisms

- Assist the Kāhui Ako to provide more collegial support in relation to professional learning and development of staff across the catchment.
- We will continue to assist schools to strengthen governance, leadership and teaching capability, to improve engagement and student outcomes.

#### School Property

- The proposed redevelopment of Dargaville High School will provide an opportunity to consider how to meet the demand for education through the Māori medium in this catchment.

#### Strengthening the Māori medium pathway

- Planning of Māori medium pathways is needed to understand what the demand is through all years of education, from kōhanga reo through to kura and wharekura.
- We are beginning work on a regional plan for Māori medium education provision in Tai Tokerau. There is an opportunity to explore options for future provision of Māori medium and dual medium education at both primary and secondary levels. This plan will assist with identifying the demand for qualified kaiako in Tai Tokerau, the lack of which is a key challenge in delivering Māori medium education.
- Engagement with iwi, communities, whānau and the education sector will inform the demand and opportunities for expanding provision of Māori medium pathways, such as through planned investment in schools.

#### Learning Support

- We plan to work with the sector and whānau to understand the future demand for learning support provision across the Tai Tokerau region, and how potential specialist school satellites in other parts of the region will impact on learning support provision. The proposed satellites of Blomfield Special School in Dargaville will support this.