

Catchment description

The Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment lies immediately to the north of Hamilton city. The catchment extends from Horotiu in the south, northwards along the Waikato River to Ohinewai, north of Huntly, and west to the coast. The catchment comprises the townships of Huntly and Ngāruawāhia as well as smaller settlements along the Waikato River and the surrounding rural area. Much of the rural area in the western part of this catchment is remote and access can be challenging. The local iwi are Waikato Tainui and Ngāti Hauā. The catchment falls within the Waikato District.

Census 2018 data shows population growth of 19.3% from 2013 to 2018, which is the largest growth of any local authority within the Waikato Education Region. This growth equates to an overall population increase of 12,240 people across the district.

For the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment, Census 2018 data shows population growth of 16.7% since 2013, with an additional 3,096 residents. Between 2013 and 2018, the number of children living in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment under the age of 15 increased by 642 people, this was an increase of 13.2%.

The Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment is situated north of Hamilton on the banks of the Waikato River and is well known for being the home of Te Kīngitanga (Māori King Movement). The Waikato Expressway runs through this catchment, connecting Hamilton to Auckland providing an essential transport connection and the opportunity to commute to either city.

As well as the main industries of horticulture and agriculture, other employment opportunities in the area have grown substantially with the establishment of the business park at Horotiu, which covers 109 hectares of industrial-zoned land. There is also significant industrial development planned at Ohinewai such as the Sleepyhead factory relocating its manufacturing base from Ōtāhuhu. The industrial development at Ohinewai and Horotiu will include housing development to support the growing population expected to move to the area for employment. There is also significant housing development currently underway in Ngāruawāhia and Taupiri, which will result in student population growth across this catchment.

What's influencing the education system in this catchment?



Changing population profile

- The Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment has a high proportion of young people with 25% of the total population aged under 15 years, compared to the national average of 20%. Current Statistics NZ population projections forecast steady growth in the school age population to 2030, followed by a stable school age population out to 2043. We will continue to monitor local school rolls and population change in the catchment.



Recent roll growth funding

- In recognition of the growing demand for Māori immersion education in this catchment, we have recently provided additional teaching spaces at Te Wharekura o Rakaumangamanga in Huntly and Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Bernard Fergusson in Ngāruawāhia. We are currently working with both schools to deliver these spaces.
- Funding has been allocated for additional teaching spaces at Horotiu School, and we are working with the school to deliver these spaces. We have also delivered additional teaching space at Taupiri School.



Leadership and governance

- School leadership and governance is variable across this catchment. Several schools have some form of additional support in place including principal recruitment allowances, student achievement practitioners and governance support in the form of specialist advisors, commissioners and limited statutory interventions.
- The remaining schools have stable leadership and governance. Many schools are members of a Kāhui Ako and benefit from the professional learning and development funding they receive to support school leaders and teachers to grow their teaching and learning capabilities across a range of topics. Involvement in Kāhui Ako from the early childhood sector is limited across this catchment.



Network management

- Six schools in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment currently have enrolment schemes in place. The schemes provide a tool for managing the rolls at these schools and supporting the network of schools in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment.
- Spare capacity in the local network and at some schools in Hamilton City has resulted in fluctuating rolls at many of the schools in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment. The proximity to Hamilton means that many families in this catchment opt to enrol students at non-local schools, and as a result some school rolls are well below capacity. We expect that as the population of Hamilton City continues to grow, the ability for schools within Hamilton to enrol students from outside of their local catchment will reduce. As a result, we are planning for a significant increase in the number of students enrolling at their local school in addition to the increased population growth we expect through housing developments across the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment.



Māori learners/ākonga

- Census 2018 data shows that 63% of tamariki aged between 0 – 14 years who live in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment identify as Māori. This correlates with the significant and increasing demand for Māori medium education options. In 2021, there were 598 ākonga engaged in immersion learning through the Māori medium at the one kura and one wharekura in the catchment. However, given the close proximity to Hamilton there are also a number of students living in this catchment who opt for enrolment at a kura or wharekura in the city.

- The demand for Māori medium education in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment continues to grow. We are planning additional capacity at the existing kura to meet these demands.



Secondary-tertiary pathways

- Huntly College, Ngāruawāhia High School and Te Wharekura o Rakaumangamanga are establishing connections with local employers to strengthen the transition from secondary school to tertiary education and employment.
- Huntly College and Ngāruawāhia High School are both involved in STP programmes.
- Te Wharekura o Rakaumangamanga will be piloting a police workforce programme which has been specifically designed for wharekura. This programme aims to support secondary students transitioning into employment opportunities with the NZ Police and related services.



Learning Support

- The Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment received funding for two Learning Support Co-ordinator roles, one to be based in Huntly and the other in Ngāruawāhia. The Tainui Kāhui Ako were allocated four learning support co-ordinators. It is expected that one of these will be based in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment.

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



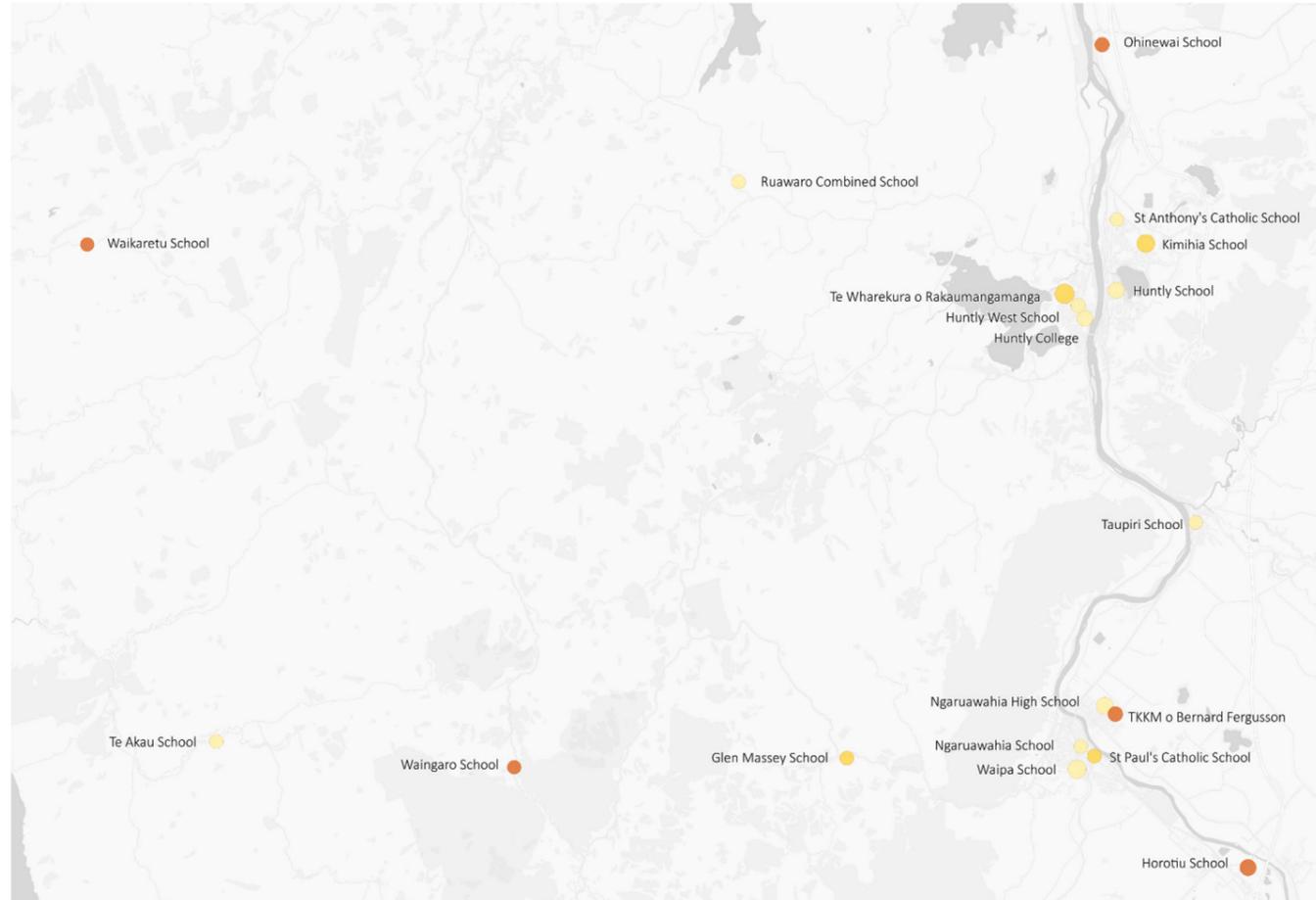
- Pukemiro School closed at the end of Term 2, 2021 due to continued declining roll numbers.
- We have initiated enrolment scheme discussions with several schools in the catchment to support the management of their rolls.



- We are investing in the redevelopment of Ngāruawāhia High School including removing and rebuilding many end of life buildings. The redevelopment will increase the school's capacity by 320 student places.
- Huntly College is included in Phase 1 of the National Schools Redevelopment Programme (NSRP). Redevelopment will involve rebuild of aging building stock at the current school site, with appropriate flood mitigation measures in place.

Huntly Ngāruawāhia: Steady Growing

Education Network Plan



The **Huntly Ngāruawāhia Catchment Plan** will meet the needs of New Zealand's changing schooling network, benefiting an estimated **4,500 learners/ākonga** each year over the next decade to 2030. There are 19 schools/kura in this catchment.

July 2021	Primary	Composite	Secondary	Specialist	Total
Number of schools	16	1	2	0	19
Total funded roll	2,277	425	512	0	3,214
MME Level 1 & 2	173	425	0	0	598
ORS-funded roll	9	4	2	0	15
Māori roll	1,412	421	401	0	2,234
Pacific roll	102	4	23	0	129

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 Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment:

Network management

- We will continue to monitor school rolls in the catchment and work with the community to understand the role of each school in providing quality future-focused learning environments. This will inform our future decision making about investment allocation across the catchment and provide the community with clarity about long-term planning.
- We will consider the use of enrolment schemes to support management of school rolls and make best use of the schooling network.

Population

- We will continue to plan for ongoing and accelerated population growth in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment, and the potential implications of this on school property investment.

School property

- As a result of the property developments and population growth we are anticipating in this catchment, we anticipate that additional teaching spaces will be required at several schools in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment before 2030. We will monitor school rolls in order to determine when and where the teaching spaces are required.

Strengthening the Māori medium pathway

- We are developing a regional plan for Māori medium education provision in the Waikato. The goal is to provide for a connected pathway across the rohe for all ākonga.
- Engagement with iwi, communities, whānau and the education sector will inform the demand and opportunities in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment for expanding provision of immersion pathways, and the associated property implications.

Relationships with external agencies

- We will continue to develop relationships with iwi, Council, the tertiary sector, employers, early childhood education providers and other government agencies to align our work in the Huntly Ngāruawāhia catchment.

Educational support mechanisms

- We will continue to assist schools to strengthen governance, leadership and teaching capability, to improve engagement and student outcomes.