



**PROSPECTUS**

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# Welcome to Rukuhia School

Rukuhia School is the hidden gem in the Waipa.

A true Country School, only minutes from the Glenview shops, we provide a quality education experience for Year 1 to Year 8 students.

We have a dedicated and dynamic teaching team, who are committed to providing a stimulating and safe learning environment for their students.

Our programmes cater to the diverse strengths, interests, needs and learning styles of individuals.

While we have a strong focus on reading, writing and maths, we provide a positive balance between academic, physical, social and cultural opportunities.

Rukuhia School has all the latest technology, devoted teachers, and small class sizes.

We pride ourselves on a truly collaborative relationship between our students, their teachers and their families, as we recognise the importance of the home-school partnership in the promotion of school achievement.

In welcoming you to the Rukuhia family, please feel assured that we have a genuine interest in your child's wellbeing and educational success.



# Vision

"Developing Independence Through Learning."

E wāhi hari kia akongia - Where learning is fun.

# Mission

We acknowledge New Zealand's unique heritage and our global community.

We involve our community and respect our environment.

We have a "Can do" attitude.

We are becoming leaders.

We are true to ourselves.

We are learning to learn.

We display friendship and trust.

We go flat tack and give it everything.

We will become active citizens of this world.



# Values

At Rukuhia School we hold firm beliefs regarding ways in which people should think and act. We encourage by word and action the importance of being a member of the “Rukuhia Family” who lives by the values of:

**Respect:** Valuing ourselves, others and the rights of all living things.

**Excellence:** Giving your all, 100%.

**Attitude:** Thinking positively and choosing our mood, being prepared to go the extra mile or do the hard yards.

**Leadership:** Guiding and inspiring others through leading by example or positive leadership.



# Principles

Rukuhia Principles are at the core of our school curriculum.

The principles guide students to achieve academic and social success through:

Experiencing success and striving for personal excellence.

A curriculum that provides engaging, logical and relevant experiences.

Culture and languages, recognising the Treaty of Waitangi and celebrating the success of our Maori students.

A curriculum that challenges and creates active and confident learners and that develops innovative thinkers.

A community that engages and supports development in a local, national and global sense.

## School Hours:

8.30 am	Classrooms open
9.00 am	Classroom tuition starts
11.00 am	Morning Tea
11.30 am	Classes Resume
12.45 pm	Lunchtime
1.40pm	Afternoon tuition resumes
3.00pm	School concludes



# Contact Us

Rukuhia Primary School

58 Rukuhia Road

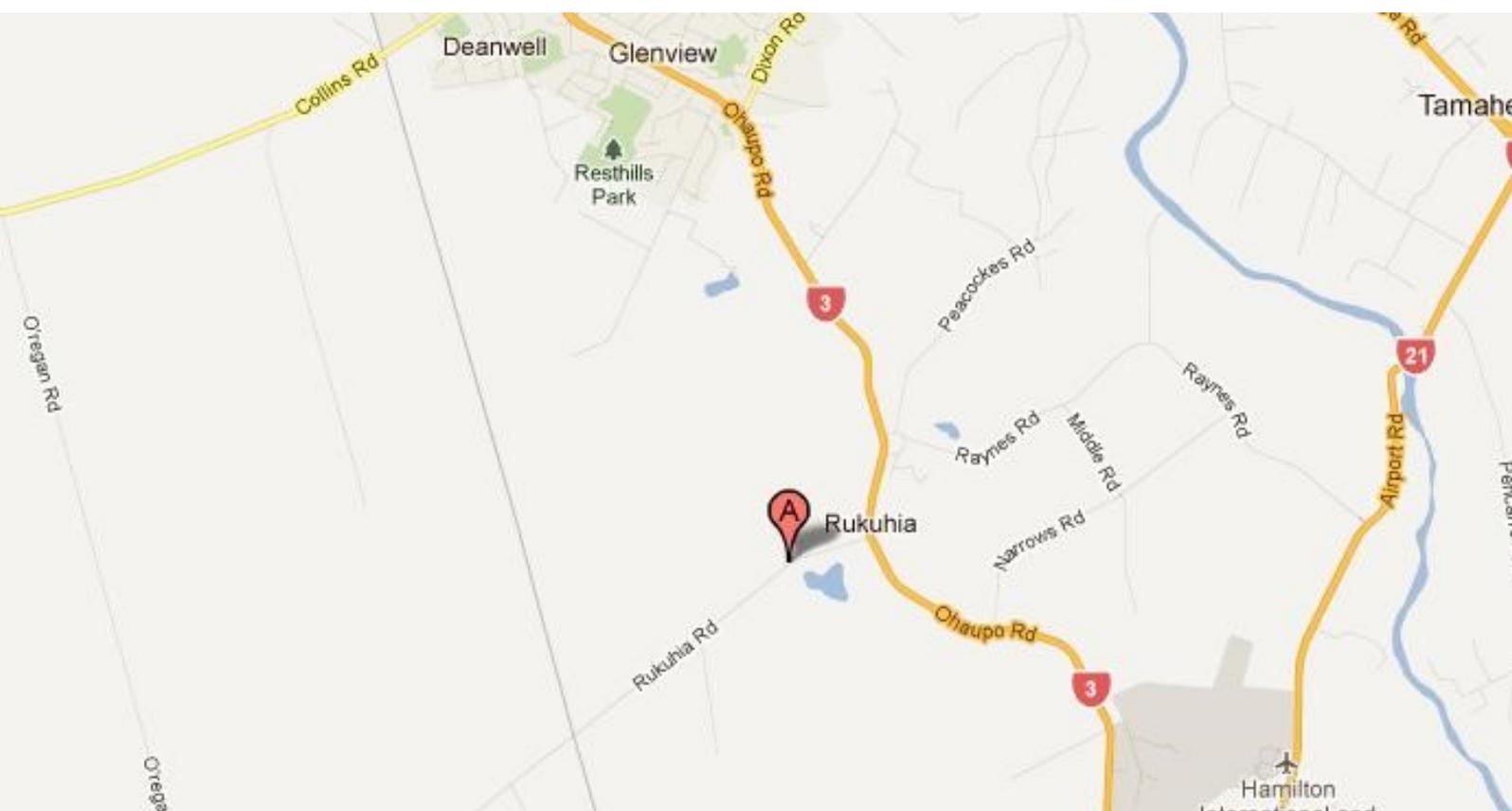
RD2

Hamilton

Phone: 07 843 6967

Website: [www.rukuhia.school.nz](http://www.rukuhia.school.nz)

Email: [office@rukuhia.school.nz](mailto:office@rukuhia.school.nz)



# Enrolments

Rukuhia School runs an enrolment scheme. As part of the enrolment process, there are two scenarios. If you are in our Home Zone, you will be eligible to enrol at any given time. If you are outside our Home Zone, you will need to complete an Expression of Interest form.

All information regarding the zone is available on our school website ([www.rukuhia.school.nz](http://www.rukuhia.school.nz)) with relevant dates, procedures and forms. On enrolment, you will be required to provide your child's birth certificate. For all new entrants (5 yrs. old), an immunisation certificate is also required on admission. For children not born in New Zealand, we require copies of residency status.

# New Entrants

Children who are enrolled for the New Entrant room have the opportunity to attend morning sessions as an introduction to school before starting. We generally recommend two or three sessions. Please contact the Junior Class Teacher, Ms Jane Coles ([jane.coles@rukuchia.school.nz](mailto:jane.coles@rukuchia.school.nz)) to organise these.



# Community - Staff

Principal		Kevin Drury principal@rukuhia.school.nz
Deputy Principal		Jane Coles jane.coles@rukuhia.school.nz
Assistant Principal		Leanne Adam leanne.adam@rukuhia.school.nz
Teachers	Room 1	Rachael O'Brien rachael.OBrien@rukuhia.school.nz
	Room 2	Olivia Andrew olivia.andrew@rukuhia.school.nz
	Room 3	Leanne Adam leanne.adam@rukuhia.school.nz
	Room 4	Tyler Hogg tyler.hogg@rukuhia.school.nz
	Room 5	Steve Jepsen steve.jepsen@rukuhia.school.nz
	Room 6	Jane Coles jane.coles@rukuhia.school.nz
Office Manager		Robyn Day office@rukuhia.school.nz Office Hours (8.30am to 3pm)
Teacher Aide		Monique Goodson ta@rukuhia.school.nz

# Community - Board of Trustees

The school is governed by an eight-member Board of Trustees. The Board consists of five elected parents, our school Principal and a staff Representative. Elections are held once every three years.

The Board holds monthly meetings in the school staffroom and parents and members of the wider community are welcome to attend. The dates of these meetings are advertised in the school newsletter and on the school website. The minutes of each board meeting are available to you on request.

Current BOT Members:	BOT@rukulia.school.nz
Parent Representative:	Lisa Gifkins
Parent Representative:	Monique Mulhern
Parent Representative:	Tom Cave
Parent Representative:	Paul Ingram
Parent Representative:	Paul Holloway
Principal:	Kevin Drury
Staff Representative:	Jane Coles

## Parent Teachers Association - PTA

The PTA is an important support group for the school. Their function is to provide support services for the many school activities and to fundraise for a myriad of extra school resources.

We welcome the support of parents at our school.

# Curriculum

Rukuhia follows the National Curriculum objectives as set out by the Ministry of Education, which state the learning outcomes to be achieved by all students across the essential learning areas. These areas are English, Mathematics, Science and the Environment, Technology, Social Sciences, the Arts, Physical and Personal Development.

We are proud to have a strong association with The University of Waikato who have chosen our teachers for their expert knowledge and experience to model best teaching practices for student teachers. As well as observing and teaching small groups and classes, Student Teachers add to our sports, cultural and elective programmes. We take our close association with The University of Waikato seriously and know that this relationship benefits our children in many ways.

Our Year 4-8 Students are encouraged to sit annual ICAS Mathematics, English, Spelling, Writing, Digital Technology and Science examinations.

Education outside the classroom also features strongly in all our learning programmes and is enhanced by school camps, class trips, Country Day, Sports Days, swimming programmes and sports teams.



# Music and Singing Opportunities

Children are encouraged to participate in additional music activities. They have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and singing through talented and passionate visiting music teachers.



# Technology Opportunities

Digital Technology and Information/Communication opportunities are offered throughout all levels of our school.

Year 7 and 8 students also receive technology experiences in metal, wood, plastic, fabric and cooking technology regularly. They travel by bus to the Technology Centre in town. We are fortunate that our students have low class numbers for these programmes. All of our teachers incorporate cooking and woodwork activities into classroom programmes when they support learning outcomes.

# Digital Device Options

Our Digital Curriculum goal is to future-proof our education system to ensure that all learners have the opportunity to become digitally capable individuals.

“Young people will learn how digital technologies work and will develop critical thinking skills and learn key competencies such as collaboration, communication, problem solving, and ethical and safety awareness” Education Minister Chris Hipkins.

As part of the introduction and implementation of the new Digital Curriculum and our Rukuhia School goal of developing Digital Citizens we are seeing more emphasis and engagement in digital and distance learning. We are developing a Google based system to upgrade and better use the digital platform that Google classroom and Google apps can provide. Students will have full access at school and if learning from home, a win win solution.

Covid has also played a major part in the following proposal, ensuring that we are better prepared to deal with what we are faced with next and what we are able to provide our students should distance learning be required.

## Digital Device Options :

1. Parents supply their own BYOD that meets their needs and the schools requirements.
2. Parents Lease only \$20 per term At any time parents can enter into a lease to buy and the payments to date will be deducted from the balance owing to own outright. (Payment terms can be negotiated on the balance)
3. Parents lease to buy at \$30 per term over 3 years / 12 terms ( End of 12 terms - Parents own outright ) If the family leave the balance must be paid in full – on full payment the Parents own will the device outright. Payments to date are not refundable if returning the device. Assistive Technology Agreement will be entered into (see attached) At any time parents can settle the balance to purchase outright.
4. Parents lease to buy at \$90 per term ( End of 4 terms - Parents own outright ) If the family leave the balance must be paid in full – on full payment the Parents own will the device outright. Payments to date are not refundable if returning the device. Assistive Technology Agreement will be entered into (see attached) At any time parents can settle the balance to purchase outright.
5. Parents purchase outright for \$360( Parents own outright )

# School Curriculum

Our school curriculum contains programme initiatives developed by the school. It aims to develop and foster thinking skills and attitudes which empower individuals and develop responsible and autonomous learners.

The Rukuhia School Curriculum:

- Encourages thinking - critically and creatively, laterally and divergently, independently and interdependently
- Provides tools to encourage thinking
- Provides opportunities to think
- Is engaging
- Makes thinking and learning fun, interesting and purposeful
- Helps to manage the diversity of thinking and learning styles
- Provides opportunities for learners to choose tasks
- Content is relevant to individual needs
- Is for all learners

The Rukuhia School curriculum develops responsible, lifelong learners (students and teachers) through:

- Motivation and engagement
- Skill development
- Confidence building
- Recognition of the need for lifelong learning
- Reflection

# Classroom

## Class Organisation:

Our school currently has five classrooms. The structure of these varies according to our school roll and the numbers of students at each year level.

## Computers:

Each classroom has a Pod of computers or iPads and these are an important tool to support learning in the classroom and preparing our students for their future. Our Board of Trustees are committed to providing current technology throughout the school. Each classroom is equipped with data projectors.

## Bring your own devices:

Students are allowed to bring their own devices however there is to be no communication between students on these devices via email or text etc.



# Home Learning

Home learning is set to foster and encourage study skills, independent work habits and to provide opportunities for child/parent interaction in these areas. The school's home learning philosophy is that it should relate to class programmes. Parents/ Caregivers are asked to help children organise their time each evening so tasks are completed. While regular reminders are given and books handed out to students, it is the responsibility of the child to take their tasks home and return them.

Juniors will have reading each night — either reading to or sharing reading with parents/guardians.

Middle and Senior Students (Year 3 to 8) are expected to read for at least 15 minutes each night.

If any query arises over set home learning, direct contact should be made with the classroom teacher.



# Physical Education and Sport

Rukuhia Students participate in multiple sporting events throughout the year including Lower Waipa Sports day , Cross-country , Swimming, and Athletics Days.

Physical Education is an important part of the school programme. If your child needs to be excused for any medical reason, please send a note to the teacher.

## Swimming

During the summer season, swimming is an important part of the Physical Education programme. All children are expected to participate, but should there be a medical, cultural or personal reason why they are not able to swim please let the teacher know in writing via a note.



# Attendance

All students are legally required to attend school every day that school is in session unless they are sick or absent for a legitimate reason. We use an electronic absentee system which is linked to ENROL, the Ministry of Education student SMS. Unexplained or prolonged/continued absences. Will be followed up.

Rukuhia School is mindful of student safety, welfare and protection, and monitors student attendance closely.

The following attendance policy has been established:

1. All absences relating to sickness or other must be notified to the school office, together with a reason for the absence. You can speak directly to the Office Person, leave a message on Ph 8436967, or email the Office at [office@rukuhia.school.nz](mailto:office@rukuhia.school.nz).
2. In cases where the child has an appointment (e.g., Doctor, Dentist etc), a note should be given to the classroom teacher prior to, or on, the day the leave is required.
3. All students attending such an appointment must be signed out, and all students arriving late for school must be signed in at the office.

Please understand that these systems are put in place to protect your child. Your co-operation is essential.

# Safety - Visitors to the School

The safety of our students and staff is of paramount importance to us.

As part of our Health and Safety procedures, all visitors to our school must report to the School Office and sign in upon their arrival at school.

This procedure is not required for parents delivering and collecting their children before and after school. However, if your child is late for school, or taken off the school grounds for an appointment etc., they must be signed in/out by a parent/caregiver.

While parents are welcome to visit at any time, we would ask that you respect the confidentiality, rights and learning needs of others in the school. Please do not be offended if your child's teacher is unable to speak to you during class time.

If you wish to drop in lunches, togs etc. during class time, it would be appreciated if these could be left at the School Office so as to minimise disruption to the children's learning time.

## Car parking

Car parking is available at the front of the school and next to the Hall. Please keep the bus turning bay by the swimming pool clear to enable the bus to enter and turn.

There is a drive through loop option pick up option in front of the school office, this is not for parking and leaving the vehicle.

# Bus Service

We have an arrangement with the Public Bus system. They drop children in our car park in the morning and pick them up from the same place at approximately 3.15 pm each afternoon. Parents must inform Go Bus if they wish to use this service, this service does have a cost as per Go Bus's current rates.

# Biking to School

Students can ride bicycles to school provided that careful attention is given to road safety rules, and provided that safety helmets are worn. Students walking or riding to school must also wear a high-vis jacket over their bags/uniform. Suitable locking devices should be provided for use while bicycles are kept at school.

The school accepts no responsibility to the loss or damage of and bicycles brought to school.



# Collection of Children

## Morning Drop Off

To keep our students safe please do not drop children at school **before 8.30 am** as we are unable to provide supervision. If you need to drop off before 8.30 am we strongly recommend that parents/caregivers make use of the private before and after school facility located next door to the school. A charge applies. This is set by the Before and After School Care providers. Supervision before 8.30 am remains the responsibility of the parents/caregivers.

Classrooms will be **open at 8.30 am** and we encourage students to be at school between 8.30- 8.45 am to prepare for the day.

**Classes start at 9.00 am.** It is very disruptive to the morning procedure if children turn up late. To avoid unnecessary disruption to our students learning, please have your children at school **before 9.00 am.**



# Afternoon Pick Up

To keep our students safe and ensure that all students get home safely, the following procedures are in place:

Years 1 - 3

1. All parents will need to collect their child/ren at their class.
2. Students need to be collected from class at 3.00 pm and no later than 3.15 pm as we are unable to provide supervision after this time.
3. If they are attending After School Care, students will be sent to the meeting place / Red Room at the hall.

Years 4 - 8

1. If walking or biking - Go straight home ( Fluro Bag Covers must be on )
2. If you are being picked up by a parent or caregiver go directly to the arranged pick up area.
3. If they are attending After School Care, students will be sent to the meeting place / Red Room at the hall.
4. If they are meeting a sibling in a junior class, students go straight to their brother or sister's class and wait quietly until they are then to be collected by parents /caregivers.

If you are unable to collect your child/ren by 3.15 pm we strongly recommend that parents/caregivers make use of the private before and after school facility located next door to the school. A charge applies. This is set by the Before and After School Care providers. After 3.15 pm students become the parents/caregivers responsibility.

If you are not collecting your child/ren and have made arrangements for a family member or friend to do the pickup please let the school/teacher know. We do not release students into the care of people who are not authorised to collect your children.

Please do not be offended if you are reminded of the drop-off and pick up procedures.

# Communication

## Updating Student Information

Effective communication is an important aspect of our home-school partnership. Many occasions arise where we need to contact parents for a range of reasons e.g., academic, behavioural, medical emergencies. Consequently, a fully updated contact list is required at all times for all students.

To allow us to have an accurate student database, your co-operation is essential in updating the office every time that there is a change of address, phone or changes to family circumstances.

## School Office

Our administration phone system allows you to leave a message after hours e.g., in case of a child absence and leave voice mail if you are unable to contact an office staff member.

## Website

[www.rukuhia.school.nz](http://www.rukuhia.school.nz)

All families are encouraged to visit our school website on a regular basis.

# Appointments with Staff

Class teachers welcome parent enquiries concerning the educational needs of your child. As before and after school times are busy times for teachers (e.g., preparation and meetings), please email them to set up a mutually agreeable appointment time.

If you would like to meet with the School Principal, please contact the Office Manager either by phone or email to make an appointment.

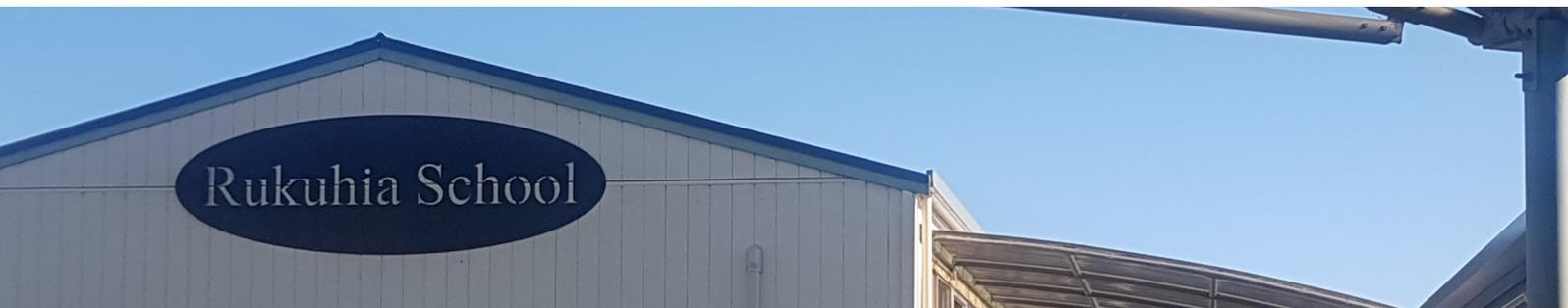
# Newsletters

The main school newsletter is emailed to parents/caregivers every second week of the term. A copy of each main newsletter is also available on the school website.

This document celebrates the successes of the school, highlights issues of importance and gives information about coming events.

In addition to the main newsletter, you will receive special newsletters as they relate to special events.

If you have a child that has celebrated a success outside of school i.e. made a Waikato representative team, please let us know and we can add it into the newsletter to share in the celebration.

A photograph of the Rukuhia School building, showing the roofline and a sign that reads "Rukuhia School". The building is light-colored with a dark blue roof. The sky is clear and blue.

Rukuhia School

# Uniform

A school uniform helps identify students with their school and;

- Assists with the development of a school spirit and a pride in themselves and their school.
- Performs a valuable role by projecting a positive image to the community.
- Promotes equality among all students.

For these reasons, every Rukuhia student is expected to wear the correct uniform at all times.

Parents /caregivers, students and staff have a shared responsibility in maintaining uniform standards – i.e. keeping the uniform clean, presentable and ensuring it is worn with pride.

## Administrative Uniform Guidelines

1. Wearing the regulation uniform is a condition of attendance at Rukuhia School .
2. The Board of Trustees in consultation with the school community will set the regulation uniform. Any changes to the regulation uniform will be advertised and phased in over 12 Months.
3. It is expected that the uniform will be worn with pride in an appropriate and presentable manner as determined by the school management.
4. Students not wearing correct uniform require a note from home. Where there are financial or other difficulties, parents/caregivers should approach the principal who may grant individual dispensation in cases of genuine need.

# Administrative Uniform Guidelines

5. Parents / caregivers of children who regularly wear incorrect uniform will be advised in writing and given an opportunity to rectify this.
6. It is recommended that all items of uniform be clearly named.
7. Students must wear correct uniform to and from school. Correct uniform shall also be worn on all school outings except when excursions require alternative clothing, i.e. shoreline studies, bush walks etc.
8. Rukuhia School requires students to:
  - Wear a regulation sunhat during Terms One and Four.
  - Wear only one plain stud or sleeper per earlobe, if ears are pierced. Suitable earrings will be determined at the discretion of the Senior Management Team.
  - Wear any religious or cultural items under their shirts.
  - All other jewellery will be at the discretion of the Senior Management Team.
  - Hair must be a natural colour other than organised events i.e. Crazy Hair Day
9. Suitable, older clothing needs to be worn on the field during winter months for sports.
10. Students may wear a watch and/or a Medic Alert bracelet as required.
11. Make up and nail polish are not allowed.
12. To avoid any doubt as to the regulation uniform, a list of preferred suppliers and their product reference numbers will be maintained by the school administration.

*There are no specific dates for the wearing of the summer or winter uniform. Students are expected to dress in either uniform as may be appropriate for the weather conditions.*

# Rukuhia School Regulation Items

## Girls

### Top

- Regulation Rukuhia School Monogrammed Polo Shirt
- (Plain Navy or Black Thermals may be worn underneath)
- Regulation Navy Polar Fleece

### Bottom

- Regulation Navy Skorts – (Plain Navy or Black stockings) or black socks *only* may be worn underneath)
- Regulation Navy Long Pants (Plain Navy or Black thermals may be worn underneath)
- Regulation Navy Shorts

### School Shoes

- Plain Black School Shoes– with black laces
- Plain Black Velcro School Shoes
- Plain Black School Sandals
- Plain Black Socks

### Regulation Hat

Compulsory during terms 1 and 4



# Boys

## TOP

- Regulation Rukuhia School Monogrammed Polo Shirt
- (Plain Navy or Black Thermals may be worn underneath)
- Regulation Navy Polar Fleece

## BOTTOM

- Regulation Navy Shorts
- Regulation Navy Long Pants (Plain Navy or Black thermals may be worn underneath)

## SCHOOL SHOES

- Plain Black School Shoes – with black laces
- Plain Black Velcro School Shoes
- Plain Black School Sandals
- Plain Black Socks



# Trying sizes

The Office hold a supply of the Regulation Uniform Items so you can come and try on before purchase, however we do not sell any items. While we recommend that parents/caregivers purchase uniforms through LogoU2, we are happy for you to buy through alternative suppliers as long as the shorts, skorts and long pants are in navy blue and similar cut and style.

Occasionally we have second-hand (pre-loved) uniforms which may be purchased from the School.

Please name every article of your child's uniform from top to bottom or you may not get it back..

# Jewellery and Makeup

Students are not permitted to wear makeup of any kind to school. For safety and security reasons jewellery is also not permitted.

If your child has their ears pierced, Wear only one suitable plain stud or sleeper per earlobe. Suitable earrings will be determined at the discretion of the Senior Management Team.

Students may wear a wristwatch and/or a Medic Alert Bracelet as required.

# Lost Property, Toys & Valuables

Lost property is kept at the school for one term. The remaining lost property will be either taken to the PTA second hand shop or donated to a charity.

Except for in exceptional circumstances, it is advisable that expensive toys and valuables should be left at home. Teachers cannot be responsible for the custody of valuable articles.

# Lunches

Children bring their own lunches to school and we encourage a “litter-less lunchbox” as we aim to become an environmentally aware school. Yoghurt pots, plastics numbered 1-7 and food scraps can be recycled at school. Children will need a healthy morning snack and lunch with water only in drink bottles.

Please be mindful of children with severe nut allergies. If your child has a severe allergy, please inform the school so that a safety plan can be developed.

Children can order their lunch on Fridays from the School Office. The menu is set and also available from the school office. Please ensure that your child’s lunch is ordered and paid for in cash by 9 am on the Friday morning that lunch is required.



# Finances

## Family Contributions to School Funding:

The parent/caregiver contribution Cost involves the following areas:

## School Donations:

As you may be aware, the funding schools receive from the Ministry of Education covers the minimum amount to fund a school for a year. School Donations are requested each year by the Board of Trustees, as they are essential to provide extra classroom resources, library resources, ICT advancements, additional support staffing etc. The donation remains unchanged as of 2012 at \$100 per child per year, with a maximum of \$200 per family. It can be claimed as a Tax Rebate at the end of the Financial year and a receipt will be issued for this purpose.

## School-wide Activity Fee:

This is compulsory and separate to your school donation. This fee is used for school trips and extra activities organised by the school and teachers that require transport, tuition or entry costs. This is similar to systems offered by other local primary schools in our district. The activity fee will create much less hassle for parents as you will not be asked for \$3 here and there for school trips. It will also help teachers plan activities and trips for the year to help support your child/children's learning. It is set at \$40 per child per year and needs to be paid at the beginning of the year for them to attend the planned activities throughout the year.

If an event is planned we will deduct the amount from your child's activity fee which you have paid so there is no cash involved.

Any remaining credit will roll over to the following year.

## Years 7 & 8 Technology Training:

Year 7 and 8 pupils are taken by bus to Mangakotukutuku College for manual training, which includes Food Technology, Fabric and Materials Tech. As this is an outside provider, the cost of this training is a compulsory fee of \$80.00 per student and this must be paid to Rukuhia School at the beginning of the year.

### Stationery:

Parents are responsible for providing stationery for their children. A Stationery Pack for New Entrants is available for purchase at the School Office.

For all returning students, a pre-set stationery pack is offered at a price determined at the end of the year. You can also source your own stationery and a list is forwarded to each family prior to the new school year.

The school office only holds a minimum amount of stationery, so if you do not wish to take up the offer of a stationery pack, you will need to purchase the initial items for the year from a stationery store.

If your child requires further items throughout the year these items are able to be purchased from the School Office.

### Stationery Credit:

This is an optional stationery account at the school where you can have a minimum \$10 pre-paid account. This covers incidentals such as pens, pencils, books etc. that your child/ren may require throughout the year. Any credit remaining at the end of the

## Payment of Donations or Fees

Payments by internet banking is preferable but we accept cash at the School Office.

The school bank details are:

Rukuhia School Board of Trustees

ASB

12-3152-0019783-00

Reference: Child's Name & Reference

# Medical Issues

If your child has expressed they are feeling unwell and you have given them medication prior to coming to school (i.e. pamol or prescription medication), please seriously consider whether they are well enough to attend school and whether they will be putting other children at risk of infection. As we all know, bugs in schools spread like wildfire. If you choose to send your child to school, please do not be offended if you receive a phone call asking you to take them home

When to keep your child home from school:

Children come down with illnesses big and small. Some are contagious, some are not. How do you know when to keep your child home from school?

To know whether your child should stay home from school, the Ministry of Health suggests answering these three quick questions:

1. Does your child have a fever? Fevers of  $38 + ^\circ \text{C}$  or more are generally a sign of illness, so children should stay home from school.
2. Is your child well enough to engage in class? If ill kids seem too run down to get much out of school, keep them home.
3. Do you think your child has a contagious illness, such as the flu or
4. conjunctivitis? If so, keep them at home until they're no longer infectious.

Medication:

We are not authorised to administer nonprescription medication, i.e. herbal tinctures.

If you choose to send your child to school and they require medication during the day, please bring their medication to the office, it needs to be labelled with the pharmacy sticker advising the child's name and dosage to be given. You will need to complete a Medical Consent Form.

# When children should stay home

Below is a list on some of the conditions you may encounter throughout the winter season and a blurb about those conditions

Fever is the body's way of destroying the germs making it sick, and it's a common symptom of infections such as flu. Keep your children home if their temperature is 38 + ° C or higher. Wait until children are fever-free before letting them return to school.

Diarrhea is often the result of infection, food poisoning, or a side effect to medications like antibiotics. Keep children home until stools are formed and your doctor gives the okay. Make sure your sick child stays well-hydrated.

Vomiting is another way for the body to rid itself of the germs making it sick, and is usually caused by a stomach virus or stomach infection. Keep children home if they've vomited in the last 24 hours. They can return to school after symptoms clear up or your doctor says they're no longer contagious.

Severe cough and cold symptoms should keep kids home from school. A serious cough could be a sign of contagious conditions like whooping cough, viral bronchitis, or croup. It can also be a sign of asthma or allergies.

Sore throats can be a symptom of strep. If your child has been diagnosed with strep throat, keep your child at home for at least 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Conjunctivitis is contagious, and children should stay home from school until after treatment begins and while there is a discharge from the infected eye/s. Symptoms of pinkeye include eye redness, irritation, swelling, and pus.

Headaches can be a symptom of contagious conditions like viral gastroenteritis, flu, meningitis, and strep throat. Opinions differ on whether a child should be kept home. If your child doesn't have any other signs of illness, and feels okay, your child can go to school.

Rashes can be the sign of contagious conditions such as lice, ringworm, chickenpox, bacterial meningitis, or impetigo. Children should be kept home until they're diagnosed. They can return to school after symptoms are gone and their doctor gives the okay.

Earaches aren't contagious. There's no need to keep a child with a mild earache home, as long as your child feels well enough to concentrate.

## Allergies & Illnesses

If your child has an allergy or illness that we may need to know about please provide the office with as much information as necessary upon enrolment, you will also need to complete a medical consent form if there is medication required for their condition