



Te Kopuru School

School Description

Te Kopuru School is a semi-rural, decile 2, Northland School, located on the northern side of the Kaipara harbour, 10 kms south of Dargaville.

The school has provided education for children and served its local community for nearly 150 years and therefore continues to play an important role within the community.

Catering for students from Year 1 -8, the school has a roll of around 110 – 120 students, of whom more than 65% are of Maori descent. Many of the children have strong iwi and generational connections to the area and to the school, as do many staff.

A strong bi-cultural emphasis is reflected in the school's vision, values and curriculum.

Te reo Maori me ona tikanga Maori are integrated into all school activities and teaching and learning programmes. All students have rich opportunities to participate and succeed in a wide variety of experiences and to gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of New Zealand's bi-cultural heritage.

The six English medium classrooms, and one bilingual class, Poutama, provide supportive environments for learning. Class sizes are small in all classrooms as part of the board's commitment to promoting positive outcomes for children. There are 4 teacher aides, a Learning Support Coordinator, a school secretary and caretaker who make up the team.

Te Kopuru School is a well-resourced school. There is a well-maintained swimming pool that is fully utilised during the swimming season and after hours by the Te Kopuru Swim Club. There are two playgrounds, specifically designed for junior and senior student skills sets. We have huge expansive grounds which incorporate a bike track with 50 bikes for student use. The large school hall is used extensively for sports and activities, festivals, performances and assemblies.

The Board of Trustees has invested heavily in establishing solid ICT infrastructure so that our students have quick access to technology – important for our children in the 21 century. Students use digital cameras to create photo stories, videos and animations. They use the internet to find information for their inquiries and their presentations. They read both hard books and e-books. We want our students to become confident, collaborative learners who are able to adapt to change, persevere with challenges and show respect towards others and the environment.

Te Kopuru School is part of the Northern Wairoa Kahui Ako, and is presently focused on Relationships First professional development, based on Russell Bishop's research; and the Maths curriculum refresh.