

Ruawai College School Charter Strategic Plan 2024 - 2025 Annual Plan 2024

Principal's Endorsement:
Mr Aidyn Rasmussen

Ruawai College Board Endorsement:
Mr Anthony Blundell

Submission date to Ministry of Education: Friday 1 March 2024

Ruawai
COLLEGE **Respect
Resilience
Responsibility**

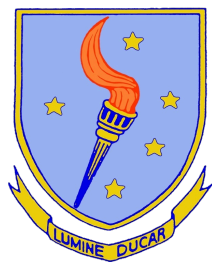
Introduction: Ruawai College Community

Ruawai College is a composite secondary school which caters for students in Years 7 to 13. The name Ruawai translated means 'two waters' referring to the nearby Northern Wairoa River and the Kaipara Harbour. The township primarily serves the outlying farming area which consists mainly of cattle/dairy farming and kumara growing. It is also known as the Kumara capital of New Zealand. We are located on SH12 45 km west of SH1, approximately 2 hours from Auckland and an hour from Whangarei.

What makes us unique is the family atmosphere that permeates the school where all students and staff are known to each other. Small class sizes, particularly in the senior school, promote more personal teaching approaches. We enjoy a very close and supportive relationship with the Kindergarten and Primary School across the road. The College caters for students from the township of Ruawai and the wider rural community.

Mission Statement Purpose

To inspire students to be lifelong learners, to be respectful, to be resilient and to be responsible global citizens.



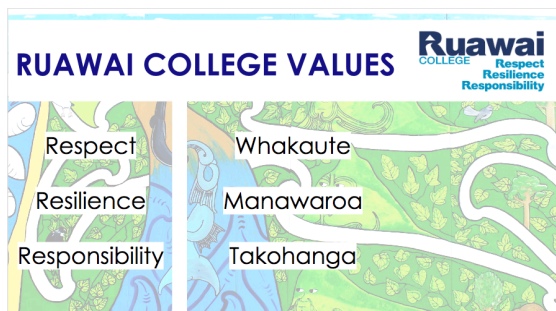
Our Crest:

The torch symbolizes the concept of education to serve as a beacon of light. The stars on the blue background represent the Southern Cross, the constellation which early mariners in the Southern Hemisphere used to guide them across the ocean. In the Māori legend, Maui is the great bringer of knowledge and light. The motto 'Lumine Ducar' gathers these two ideas into a single phrase. The words mean 'I will be guided by the light.' Translated more freely the motto means education shall guide me into the light. - Learning shall be my guide.







Vision

Our vision at Ruawai College is a focus on learning where we value excellence/success, we value community and we value service to others.
Seek after learning for the sake of your well-being - Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou

Values



Ruawai College values form the essence of who we are as a school and we show this through:

<p>Principles</p>	<p>Our guiding principles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Building positive, strong, collaborative relationships - we show respect for one another ● Having high expectations of ourselves and each other - being resilient ● Creating a stimulating learning environment that is exciting today as well as a preparation for the future - Lumine Ducar - I will be guided by the light of 'education' ● Working together in partnership with whanau, teachers, the community - taking responsibility
<p>Māori Dimensions and Cultural Diversity</p>	<p>Ruawai College acknowledges Te Uri O Hau within the confederation of Ngati Whatua as Tangata Whenua in Te Tai Tokerau and has a commitment to Māori achieving success as Māori.</p> <p>The school incorporates the principles of Te Tiriti O Waitangi - to work in partnership to promote the interests of Māori students and the wider community. Te Reo and Tikanga Māori are supported and encouraged across the school.</p> <p>We value the contribution made by students, staff, and community members from all ethnic and cultural backgrounds. We celebrate the diversity this brings to our learning environment.</p> <div> <div> <p>Naumai Marae</p>  </div> <div> <p>Kaipara te awa</p>  </div> <div> <p>Tokatoka te maunga</p>  </div> <div> <p>Ngatai Whakarongorua Marae</p>  </div> <div> <p>Parirau Marae</p>  </div> <div> <p>Waihaua Marae</p>  </div> </div>

Waiotea Marae



Te Uri o Hau consists of 14 marae situated throughout the northern Kaipara region:



The eponymous ancestor of Te Uri o Hau is Haumoewaarangi. From the marriage of Haumoewaarangi with Waihekeao came seven offspring; Makawe, Mauku, Whiti, Weka, Ruinga, Rongo and Hakiputatomuri. From Hakiputatomuri came many descendants known to this day as Te Uri o Hau.

The oral history of Te Uri o Hau records that Ngati Whatua (of whom Te Uri o Hau is part) and the Crown had a special relationship which was recognised in two distinctive ways. First, they entered into a separate treaty written on a sheepskin parchment which is known as 'Kirihipi Te Tiriti o Ngati Whatua'. Secondly, in the presentation by the Crown of a bust of Queen Victoria which is sited in a place of importance at Aotearoa marae, Otamatea to this day.

Marae	Location
1. Naumai	Ruawai
2. Ngati Whakarongorua	Tinopai
3. Oruawharo	Oruawharo
4. Otamatea	Batley
5. Oturei	Dargaville
6. Parirau	Matakohe
7. Rawhitiroa	Hukatere
8. Ripia	Te Kopuru
9. Te Kowhai	Ruawai
10. Te Punga	Kaiwaka
11. Waihaua	Arapaoa
12. Waikaretu	Pouto
13. Waiohou	Tinopai
14. Waiotea	Tinopai

One of our local myths/legends greets you as you enter our Kura:
The 5 brothers of the Northern Wairoa River (Mural Story)



Mangaraho, Toka Toka, Tekewipahutai, Okiriahi and Motuwheteke once lived on the East Coast of Northland. They heard about the delicious toheroa on Ripiro Beach and decided to travel across the land to find and enjoy this seafood.

As they were travelling, the Northern Wairoa River came into sight. They were surprised, as they had never heard of this river. All five mountains were able to cross the river. It was very hard for Okiriahi and Motuwheteke, but they made it to the other side.

The mountains reached Ripiro Beach soon after. The toheroa were fat and they had a delicious meal. Feeling fat and very full they began their journey to the East Coast. Mangaraho led because he was strongest and Okiriahi and Motuwheteke trailed behind, as they were the smallest. They finally reached the river.

Because Mangaraho was the biggest and strongest, he just strode across the river and Toka Toka being the second biggest strode across too.

Now Tekewipahutai was younger than his brothers but he still took his turn and he made it. When he did, he dropped head-first into the sand with his feet still dangling in the water. He is still there today. Since Okiriahi saw his brother had reached the other side, he thought he could get there too, so he started walking into the river. Just as he reached the middle he fell and drowned. When Motuwheteke saw this, he knew he was the smallest and would probably drown too, so he remained on the other side refusing to cross. When Mangaraho and Toka Toka saw what had happened to their two brothers they were sad. They decided to wait until Motuwheteke grew older and stronger so that he could cross. They are still waiting there today.



Story of our school at the entrance to our Kura:

Ruawai College (School signage)

The bird in the sign is a shag, it represents the nature of Ruawai and Northland.

The spiral above the bird represents the Māori wairua of the area.

The stars around the white spiral are taken from the New Zealand flag; they represent the Southern Cross.

There is a triangle in the middle of the sign that represents strength and also Toka Toka - the maunga.

The green koru symbolizes new life and learning.

The three stripes down the side of the triangle represent our three houses ..Rimu, Kauri and Totara. Beside the three lines are three circles which symbolize science (one of our subjects) inside there are leaves from our three house groups.

Under the bird runs the Wairoa river... the river is on the back doorstep of our school and provides enjoyment for many people in the form of fishing and swimming.

The green patterns are a representation of the local kumara fields. 90% of all kumara grown in New Zealand comes from the local Kaipara area.

The figure at the far right of the sign is Tane Mahuta (the guardian of the forest) He represents strength and perseverance.



School Pou

Unveiling Date: Wednesday 30 November 2022

Pouwhenua or pou (land post) are carved wooden posts traditionally used by Māori to mark territories and places of significance. The Ruawai College pouwhenua was constructed by Mr Keanu Townsend and the Year 9 & 10 Hard Material class over Term 4 2022.

The top of the pou depicts Hineteiwaiwa, the Māori goddess of motherhood, symbolising the nurturing of tamariki/students and encouraging them to follow their dreams. Hineteiwaiwa is wearing a heru (ornamental comb) in her hair which is the symbol of Ngāti

Whātua, the local tribe of our area. She also represents mana wahine, symbolising the strong female Ruawai College staff members who are loyal to the growth of secondary education in the Ruawai township.

The middle of the pou shows a rauru (spiral) which represents the Wairoa River in brown and the Kaipara Harbour in blue. Where these bodies of water meet is where the town of Ruawai is located.

Below the rauru is a male face which portrays Tāne-nui-a-Rangi, the god who travelled to the heavens to retrieve three baskets of knowledge and bring them back to the people on earth: te kete-tuatea (basket of light), te kete-tuauri (basket of darkness) and te kete-aronui (basket of pursuit). He represents striving for success and knowledge.

This pou is dedicated to Mrs Linda Sheehan, an educator who taught at Ruawai College for 39 years, who sadly passed away in December 2021.



School Haka

Haka o te kura tua rua o Ruawai

Ruawai e! (Ruawai are you there?)

I e! (We are here!)

Ruawai e! (Ruawai are you there?)

I e! (We are here!)

Kia mau nga hau I te uru (Grasp the winds in the north)

Kia mau nga hau I te tonga (Grasp the winds in the south)

Ko Tokatoka te maunga, Wairoa te awa, Kaipara moana e (Tokatoka is our mountain, Wairoa is our river, Kaipara is our ocean)

Ko wai ra? (Who are we?)

Ko nga Ruawai tangata (We are the people of Ruawai)

Ko te mana o nga Ruawai (We are the strength of the two waters)

Ko te Kura tua rua o Ruawai e, Hi! (We are the secondary school of Ruawai)

Ko Ruawai engunguru nei! (This is our land that rumbles)

Au, au, aue ha! (It is my time, it is my moment)

Ka tu te ihi, ihi ka tu, te wanawana (Our power, our dominance will inspire)

Kei runga kit e rangi e tu iho nei, tu iho nei, Hi! (And we will be placed on a high)

School Waiata

Titiro ki te whanga o Kaipara (Look to the Kaipara Harbour)

Aru atu i te awa o Wairoa (Follow the Wairoa River)

Kei raro te marumaru o te maunga Tokatoka (At the foot of maunga Tokatoka)

Ki waenganui i te Kumara (Amongst the kumara)

Nga uri whakaheke o Ruawai (The future of Ruawai)

Te ngakau o Ruawai (The heart of Ruawai)

Te kura tua rua o Ruawai (Ruawai College)

Mahere Rautaki / Strategic Plan

2024-2025



Achievement for students' pathways

A positive school culture

A connected school

The school of choice

Buildings and grounds

Our Strategic Direction and Goals

Pathways available support students' academic aspirations. Our curriculum and pedagogy assists students to flourish

Ruawai College has a positive school culture that can be seen and felt in all areas of our school

Ruawai College is connected to our community and beyond

Ruawai College is known as, and feels like, the best school to attend in our community / the Kaipara Region

Ruawai College has a positive physical environment to operate in day-to-day

How we will achieve this

Using reflection, data, and a range of interventions to enhance teaching and learning which includes being effective Treaty partners to meet the needs of all students.

Ensuring all students enjoy and feel connected to and feel pride in their kura. Relationships with teachers and tauia (students) are enhanced and valued. We will value and promote Māori success as Māori.

Through our actions, we will ensure that our community knows that Ruawai College is a great school. We will look to assist students in having ownership of their learning journey. We will work to meet the aspirations of tauira Māori.

We will foster and grow relationships to meet our students' aspirations. This could include joining Kahui Ako, working with feeder schools, and meeting ERO aspirations for global connections. We will look to strengthen relationships with iwi and hapu.

Building and groundwork to continue to support student outcomes. 10-year property plan to support this. We will value and promote Māori success as Māori through our mahi in this space.



Mahere Rautaki / Strategic Plan 2024-2025

Vision: A focus on the pursuit of knowledge and learning

Mission: To inspire students to be lifelong learners - to be respectful, to be resilient, and to be responsible global citizens

Values: Respect | Resilience | Responsibility

Our Annual Targets

14 credits or more for every student in every senior course
35% of grades at Merit or Excellence level
85% of students gain UE Literacy at Level 2 or Level 3
85% Attendance Target

Northern Wairoa Kāhui Ako Goals

*Literacy = a Reading and Writing
focus*

*Having authentic and connected
pathways*

*Authentic connections with Iwi &
Hapu*

How we measure our success

Academic achievement:

NCEA attainment
Course and Certificate Endorsements

Engagement:

Attendance and Retention
Stand downs and similar measures

Recognitions:

Kumara Awards and Certificates
Scholarships