



Te Kura Tuarua o
Ruawai College
Kimihiā ngā maunga teitei | Seek the highest peak

INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTUS 2026





Photo of principal

Ruawai District High School opened its doors in 1929 and flourished until 1964 when it was split into two schools – our Kura, Ruawai College became the senior school. We have a strong tradition of success inside and outside the classroom. We are a small school and due to this, we have developed a personalised mentoring system that supports each student to pursue their goals with confidence to ensure they reach their full potential.

Our quality teaching seeks to instill a love of learning, intellectual curiosity, and the ability to learn independently. We ensure successful outcomes for all students by challenging learners with high academic standards, inspiring teaching, personalised learning, and purposeful curriculum.

The Ruawai College curriculum aims to deliver broad learning opportunities with quality pathways - academic subjects sit alongside our extensive pathways program such as Trade Academies and Gateway.

Nau mai, haere mai Welcome to Ruawai College

The school prides itself on its exemplary care of our students while insisting on the highest standards of behaviour and discipline. We have a safe environment where students experience meaningful and positive relationships with each other and their teachers. They are respected for who they are and celebrated for what they achieve.

Ruawai College has a proud history of success. Many of our families have long histories in the area, and we have many second and third generation students, which gives the school a strong sense of tradition and continuity.

Belonging to a community where inclusivity is valued, purpose is discovered and service to others is a natural occurrence, makes Ruawai College a standout learning experience. We look forward to welcoming you to our learning community.

Aidyn Rasmussen | Tumuaki / Principal



Our Senior Leadership Team



Brenda Polwart (Business Manager), Tyla O'Sullivan (Senior Leader), Aidyn Rasmussen (Principal), Deb Ward (Associate Principal), Angelo Tedoldi (Assisant Principal)

**“Leadership is
strategic and strongly
focused on improving
learner outcomes”
-ERO, 2026**

Our leadership team is experienced and has a deep wealth of experience. Our team get results and can assist your child to flourish in the New Zealand context. Other highlights from our recent Education Review Office (ERO) report include that:

“Leadership ensures expectations for effective teaching and learning are clear, shared with staff, and closely monitored.”

“Leadership ensures staff professional learning aligns with school improvement goals, fostering the professional growth of teachers”

Our students set goals and ambitions and our leadership team ensures that they achieve their goal.

Our latest ERO review also commented that our teachers know their students well and increasingly tailor learning programmes and teaching to individual needs. Our students learn in calm, inclusive classrooms.

JUNIOR CURRICULUM YEAR 7 & 8

In our junior school, students have the opportunity to study all eight learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum. In Year 7 our students are based in a home room, this is to scaffold the transition from a primary context to College. In Year 8 students are transitioned into a secondary school timetable.

In the Junior School students will rotate through electives such as Digital Tech, Art, Home Economics etc.

When students first start at Ruawai College they are placed in a house and a Form Class (Learning Advisory class. The Learning Advisory class is their home class for their time at Ruawai College.



MIDDLE CURRICULUM YEAR 9 & 10

In the middle school students will continue their studies across all eight learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum. In year 9, they study a core program of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, PE and Health. From the Arts, Technology, and Languages students select electives that align with their interests.

At Year 10, students continue studying the core compulsory subjects, which are complemented with a broad range of electives. Our students tell us that they enjoy the opportunity to select from a range of subjects so they can 'hook into their passion for learning'.



SENIOR CURRICULUM YEARS 11-13

In Years 11-13 students select from a variety of courses to pursue their aspirations and interests. We offer the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Levels 1, 2, and 3 and Scholarships Examinations.

At Year 11 students study English, Maths and Science and select three subjects. Year 12 and 13 students can select five subjects.



We offer

- An International Student Manager who is responsible for international students and parent liaison
- Full mainstreaming of all students into classes
- English language classes in small groups coordinated by an ESOL teacher
- A range of additional opportunities such as Kapa Haka, choir, sporting events and much more
- A friendly and nurturing environment
- Curriculum focused trips and excursions

If you would like more information on studying in New Zealand, click on this link.
<http://www.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz>

ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

Enrolment Process

Ruawai College has agreed to observe and be bound by the Code of Practice for Pastoral Care of International Students published by the Ministry of Education. A copy of the Code is available to download at: <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers-partners/education-code-of-practice/>.

Throughout the enrolment process you will work with our International Student Manager who will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Discuss Availability

At the time of your initial enquiry, our International Student Manager will establish whether we have a place at your child's year level. You will be informed of this before any further steps in the enrolment process can occur.

Enrolment Criteria At this next phase of the process, you will need to provide the following:

- Agent Details
- Passport Verification
- Student visa/permit
- Copy of the most recent school report with verified English translation
- Evidence of Medical and Travel Insurance
- Health immunisation checklist
- Medical information completed

A non-refundable administration fee of \$450 is due with your enrolment application.

Once your enrolment has been processed and accepted you will be invited to tour the school. Once your application is approved and on receipt of payment, an offer of place and a receipt will be issued. At this stage an application to immigration for a student permit.

** If a place is not available at the time of your enquiry you will be offered the opportunity to go on a waiting list. When a place becomes available you will be notified and have 14 days to accept or decline the place.*



On the pupil's first day, the pupil will be met by the Principal, a member of our Senior Leadership Team or the International Student Manager and will be introduced to key staff members, given a tour if one has not been undertaken previously, given your stationery and shown to their classroom.

The international student will be placed in a class with students of the same age. The classroom teacher will be responsible for ensuring the new student has a cultural buddy to help the new student with daily routines, timetables and activities during free time. The buddy will be supported by the International Student Manager.

All students will be mainstreamed immediately on arrival. In addition to this the ESOL teacher will start additional support and will carry out an assessment within one week. The ESOL teacher will liaise closely with the classroom teacher and will ascertain the level and frequency of ESOL support that is required. ESOL support can be in class support or withdrawal. You are welcome to meet with the ESOL teacher and the classroom teacher, and you will be invited for student conferences twice a year.

If you require a translator at any time, we will work with you to arrange this to ensure we can communicate effectively.

Any and all matters relating to International Students attending Ruawai College will be passed onto the International Student Manager who will then decide the best course of action, in conjunction with the Principal (if appropriate).

OTHER ASPECTS YOU MIGHT BE THINKING ABOUT...

TUTORIAL FEES

Please refer to the Fee Structure Appendix for terms fees by term and short term fees. This fee covers the cost of classroom tuition, ESOL tuition, stationery and all curriculum linked school trips. Additional costs include competition sports fees, music lessons and choir transport costs.

REFUND POLICY

No refund of fees will be made unless exceptional circumstances apply. The administration fee is non-refundable. Please refer to the Refunds Policy.

TERMINATION OF TUITION

Under certain circumstances the school has the right to terminate the student's tuition. Immigration NZ will be notified immediately a termination takes place. Please refer to the policy.

COMPLAINTS If you have any concerns, please talk to a member of the International Student Team immediately. Our complaints procedure is attached (D)



LEARNING AREAS / COURSES

LEARNING AREAS	YEARS 7 & 8	YEARS 9 & 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
English	English	English	English	English	English
Mathematics and Statistics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	General Mathematics or with Calculus / Statistics	General Mathematics or with Calculus / Statistics
Science	Science	Science	- Science - Agricultural Science	- Biology - Chemistry - Physics - Agricultural Science	- Biology - Chemistry - Physics - Agricultural Science
Social Science (includes Business and Media)	Social Studies	Social Studies which includes Business and Media Studies	- Commerce - Digital Technologies - History	- Commerce - Digital Technologies - History	- Commerce - Digital Technologies - History - Geography
Physical Education Health Services Academy	- Health - Physical Education - Defence Force Pathway	- Health - Physical Education - Defence Force Pathway	- Health - Physical Education - Defence Force Pathway	- Health - Physical Education - Defence Force Studies (Services Academy)	- Health - Physical Education - Defence Force Studies (Services Academy)
Languages	- Te reo Māori - Māori Martial Arts - Mau rakau - Japanese - Italian	- Te reo Māori - Māori Martial Arts - Mau rakau - Te ao Haka - Japanese - Italian	- Te Reo Māori - Māori Performing Arts - Tongan - Te ao Haka	- Te Reo Māori - Māori Performing Arts - Tongan - Te ao Haka	- Te Reo Māori - Māori Performing Arts - Tongan - Te ao Haka
The Arts	- Visual Arts - Music	- Art - Music	- Art Visual - Performing Arts - Music - Photography	- Art Visual - Performing Arts - Music - Photography	- Art Visual - Performing Arts - Music - Photography
Technology, Gateway and Academies	Food Tech	- Wood Technology - Food & Hospitality	- Woodwork - Product Design - Food and Hospitality - Primary ITO - dairy farming - horticulture - primary sector - pest eradication - Retail	- Woodwork - Product Design - Food and Hospitality - Primary ITO - dairy farming - horticulture - primary sector - pest eradication - Retail	- Woodwork - Product Design - Food and Hospitality - Primary ITO - dairy farming - horticulture - primary sector - pest eradication - Retail

Please note that courses offered are subject to student selection numbers. Learning in Years 8 to 10 in 2025 is subject-based (core subjects with options). We are a member of the Online Learning Community and can access additional subjects and courses via video conferencing if we need to. Our first preference is to staff senior courses.



LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Sports

Sport plays a vital role in the culture of Ruawai College bringing a sense of community and school spirit. The college's vision of *"sporting participation and excellence"* is deeply ingrained in its ethos, encouraging students to engage in activities and strive for personal and team excellence.

The RC vision not only promotes physical fitness but also instills values such as teamwork, perseverance, and discipline which are essential for our young people's ongoing growth.

One of the highlights of the RC sporting culture is the spirited competition among its 3 houses, each vying to win the house trophy at the end of the year. This healthy competition promotes a sense of camaraderie and school pride. Beyond the excitement of competition, sport at RC is crucial to help improve mental health, better academic performance and build stronger social connections making it a cornerstone of the school's vibrant community.



SPORT
NORTHLAND



LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Class trips

Class trips and experiences are critical to learning at Ruawai College providing:

- Real World Context: Tangible connections to deepen understanding
- Enhanced Engagement: Capturing students' interest and enthusiasm
- Development of Critical Skills: Encouraging critical thinking, problem-solving, and interpersonal skills
- Cultural and Social Exposure: Exposure to different environments, cultures, and communities to broaden perspectives and develop empathy and cultural awareness.



At Ruawai College, Education beyond the classroom is a key component of each student's learning journey. It is essential for transforming new opportunities into concrete realities. The future.

Learning Beyond the Classroom can look like sports trips for PE, camps (overnight trips) for History or Geography to collect field data, entrepreneurial experiences for commerce and gateway / work experience.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Immigration

- Full details of immigration requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying, and reporting requirements are available from Immigration New Zealand, and can be viewed on their website at www.immigration.govt.nz.

Health Services

- Most international students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. If you receive medical treatment during your visit, you may be liable for the full costs of that treatment. Full details on entitlement to publicly funded health services are available through the Ministry of Health, and can be viewed on their website at www.moh.govt.nz.

Accident Insurance

- The Accident Compensation Corporation provides accident insurance for all New Zealand citizens, residents, and temporary visitors to New Zealand, but you may still be liable for all other medical and related costs. Further information can be viewed on the ACC website at www.acc.co.nz.

Medical and Travel Insurance

- International students (including group students) must have appropriate and current medical and travel insurance whilst in New Zealand.

Absence Requirement

- Parents must phone the school by 8.45am on the day of the absence.

Accommodation

- Ruawai College requires that all international students live with their parents for the duration of their study. We do not arrange any accommodation for parents of fee-paying students. Parents must notify the school of any change in contact details including change of address. Beach Haven Primary has a relationship with many real estate and rental property agencies within the area and can assist families by making connections for them to further discuss their housing needs, if required.

Automatic Acceptance

- Acceptance of one student within the family does not automatically mean the acceptance of other members within the immediate or extended family. However, Beach Haven Primary will endeavour to accept Y1-Y6 siblings of the same immediate family.

- Unaccompanied Pupils

Ruawai College will not accept any student who is not living with parents, legal guardian or an approved homestay (see The Code).

English Proficiency

- No child will be refused acceptance due to their level of English, as all levels of English proficiency are catered for within Ruawai College.

Emergency Contacts

- In an emergency situation outside of school hours please in the first instance call 111 for Police, Ambulance or Fire Services. All International families have access to the school's International Student Coordinator 24/7, in the event that the International Student Coordinator is not available the Principal is also available to be contacted at any time, details for both parties are provided as part of the orientation process and are also in the Welcome section of this document..

Reporting

- The international student attending Ruawai College will be expected to participate fully in all aspects of the school curriculum and activities. As with all pupils at school, parents will be given a mid year and end of year report to show progress and achievement in all areas of the curriculum. If parents have any concerns, they may request an interview with the classroom teacher and/or the ESOL teacher.

Migrant Parent

- Meetings Migrant and international parents are invited to meet with the Deputy Principal and International Student Manager each term to discuss what is happening that term and to answer any questions parents may have.

Pathways to Further Education

- Ruawai College works closely with its future pathway providers such as Auckland University, Auckland University of Technology, NorthTec Whangarei etc. As part of community learning, with a focus on transitions, the cluster recognises the importance of ensuring smooth and consistent transitions between learning facilities. Our University Entrance results are some of the best in Northland.

Transportation

- Most families attending Ruawai College live within our immediate area and for students residing within walking distance we encourage walking to and from school when possible. We have an extensive network of buses that your child may catch if they meet criteria.

Buddies

- The International Student Manager will work alongside the selected buddies to support international students during their first few weeks at Ruawai College. These students will provide crucial support in those first few weeks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Termination of Enrolment

Ruawai College is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and successful learning environment for all international learners. In rare circumstances, the College may terminate an international learner's enrolment where serious concerns arise and these cannot be resolved through normal support processes.

Grounds for termination may include:

- serious or ongoing breaches of school behaviour expectations
- persistent non-attendance or failure to engage in the learning programme
- non-payment of tuition or related fees by the due date
- failure to maintain a valid passport, visa, or required insurance
- false, misleading, or incomplete information provided during the application or enrolment process
- failure of the learner or parent/caregiver to meet the conditions of the enrolment contract
- accommodation or welfare arrangements no longer meeting required standards for student safety and wellbeing

Where concerns arise, Ruawai College will first seek to resolve matters fairly and reasonably through communication, support, and appropriate intervention. Any disciplinary or termination process will be carried out in accordance with the principles of natural justice and the terms of the enrolment contract.

Where required, Immigration New Zealand will be notified of any termination of enrolment.

We strongly encourage students and families to raise concerns early so that support can be provided before issues escalate.

COMPLAINTS

For our complaints process within the school, please see the attached flow chart.

STUDENT COMPLAINT

Should you have completed the Ruawai College complaint process and you are not happy with the outcome, iStudent an independent dispute resolution scheme set up by the NZ Government may be able to help. Information about their services and how to make a complaint can be found at www.studycomplaints.org.nz/make-complaint.

NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (NZQA)

If your concerns regarding quality of service matters are not resolved by the internal complaints procedures then you can contact the New Zealand Qualifications Authority at the following address: NZQA The Complaints Officer Quality Assurance Division PO Box 160 Wellington 6140

Please see the following inserts on fees and International Learner Fee Protection, Complaints Process and Refunds Policy



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