

(Established 1903)

OROUA DOWNS SCHOOL 2020 PROSPECTUS



Cnr Lake Road and SH 1
RD11, Foxton, 4891
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Email: office@orouadowns.school.nz

“Challenging Students To Be Successful Community and Global Citizens”

Welcome

On behalf of the Staff, Board of Trustees and the Home & School, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your family to the Oroua Downs Community.

Developing a positive partnership between home and school is an important goal for us. Always feel free to contact myself or our staff at any time to make an appointment to discuss any matters of concern or interest.

We look forward to providing a caring, stimulating and exciting environment for young children to learn.

*Kind regards,
Tanya Zander
PRINCIPAL*

School Description

Oroua Downs is a country school, delivering quality education to year 0-8 students. The school is situated on State Highway 1, 11 kilometres north of Foxton.

Our School is made up of five classrooms, with five teachers working alongside a team of dedicated teacher aides, an office administrator and a caretaker/grounds person. The school roll is climbing, with 109 students for the start of 2020. Most of our students travel to and from school by bus.

Our school is extremely well resourced, with two swimming pools, large playing areas for netball and tennis, a large adventure playground area, and a field consisting of both rugby and soccer grounds. Add to this a modern library with constantly updated reading material, a range of technology devices to support learning and a PE shed with a wide selection of sports gear, and you will recognise that our students' needs are well catered for.

We are very fortunate to have a high quality teaching staff at Oroua Downs School who work hard and are dedicated to the needs of our students. They are constantly undergoing professional development to keep pace with best practice in teaching and learning.

Our school culture is very inclusive and the climate is always positive. Older and younger students often play and learn alongside each other building great friendships and partnerships in learning.

We pride ourselves on providing a safe environment promoting student centred learning, academic success, and physical activity.





OUR MISSION

"Challenging Students To Be Successful Community and Global Citizens"

OUR VISION

"For our students to be responsible, creative and active thinkers that have the skills to confidently succeed in, and adapt with, an ever changing world"

All students strive to:

- Recognise and pursue their talents
- Be reflective and valuable contributors to the community
- Have strengths in Literacy and Numeracy
- Be active, inquiring learners
- Have an awareness and appreciation of their local environment.



OUR SCHOOL VIRTUES

Students at Oroua Downs aspire to the values as described in the New Zealand Curriculum which are represented in our school virtues.

We believe the school virtues represent our beliefs about what is important or desirable in our school and community members. Our virtues are expressed through the ways in which our students, parents and staff think and act.

Our high expectations of learning and behaviour are based on the virtues of the school and we expect everyone at Oroua Downs School (staff, students, parents and visitors) will strive to demonstrate positive attitudes and behaviours guided by our virtues.



OUR AMAZING STAFF

We are privileged to have an awesome team of teachers and support staff at Oroua Downs School.

LEADERSHIP

Principal	Tanya Zander
Deputy Principal	Halina Olendzki

TEACHING STAFF

Junior Room (Yr 0-1)	Adrienne Bruhns
Junior Room (Yr 2)	Adrienne Bruhns & Tanya Zander
Room 4 (Yr 3/4/5)	Hana de Roo
Room 5 (Yr 3/4/5)	Lacey Prince
Room 1 (Yr 6/7/8)	Halina Olendzki & Lizzy Notman

SUPPORT STAFF

Office Administrator	Adele Newth
Teacher Aides	Janine Vertongen Sharon Mahoney
Librarians	Sharon/Janine
Caretaker	Doug Strawbridge
School Cleaner	Clare Shailer

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We are very fortunate to have a fantastic group of trustees who are committed to the ongoing success of our school with a strong focus on student achievement. The board and principal work together to achieve the best possible learning and teaching outcomes for all students.

Some of the Boards' roles include:

- Setting the vision, philosophy and values of the school
- Developing and reviewing the general policy direction
- Monitoring and evaluating student learning outcomes
- Providing financial stewardship and overseeing resources
- Approving major policies and programme initiatives
- Building a broad base of community support
- Managing risk

OUR CURRENT BOT MEMBERS ARE:

Chairperson/Personnel	Brad Burling
Policy Procedure	James Campbell
Property	Corey Austin
Grants	Jason Kennerley
Principal	Tanya Zander
Teacher Reo	Halina Olendzki

DAILY TIMETABLE

8:40am	School Starts
10:40am - 11am	Morning Tea
12:15pm - 1pm	Lunch
2:30pm	School finishes

OFFICE HOURS

8.40am – 2.30pm Mon- Fri

TERM DATES 2020

Term 1	Feb 3rd	April 9th
Term 2	April 27th	July 5th
Term 3	July 20th	Sept 25th
Term 4	Oct 12th	Dec 18th

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS - 2020

Waitangi Day	Feb 6th
Good Friday	April 10th
Easter Monday	April 13th
Anzac Day	April 25th (School hols)
Queens Birthday	June 1st
Labour Day	Oct 26th

LEARNING

Our school curriculum has been designed so that it meets the learning needs of our students as well as utilising and building on the diversity, interests and prior knowledge and skills of our students, school and community.

We have clear priorities in developing a strong foundation in reading, writing and maths and integrate these skills throughout a range of other curriculum areas including science, technology, the arts, languages, te reo, social studies, health and PE.

We want our students to be self-regulating learners, able to reflect on and set goals, solve problems, transfer skills and knowledge to new situations, think creatively and have high expectations of themselves as learners. We expect them to work both independently and collaboratively in groups to achieve their learning goals.

EXTENSION

Our curriculum design is open-ended allowing students to explore concepts, initiate their own learning and design projects. In addition to this, students with academic strengths are encouraged to take part in the ICAS exams.

Enrichment opportunities are also provided through our options programme include activities such as dance, photography, science, film and art

Sporting talents are well catered for in our sports programme as well as our involvement in the Te Kāwau School cluster of 9 schools.

LEARNING SUPPORT

We operate a number of support and intervention programmes across the school to support our students and their learning. These take place both in and out of class and are overseen by our SeNCO (Special Needs Coordinator). Class teachers closely monitor their students and adapt learning programmes to meet their individual needs.

Our teacher aides also provide in-class and special support programmes including phonics, numeracy, early words and reading.

HOUSES

We have an active house system operating among our three houses of Hammond, Hartley and Raikes.

Throughout the year students earn points for their participation and achievement in a range of activities that contribute towards winning the Virtues trophy each term and the house shield at

the end of the year. Competitions include all school sports such as swimming, cross country and athletics as well as spelling, tabloid sports, winter sports, maths and general knowledge quizzes. They can also earn points for displaying our school virtues.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our senior students are expected to take on leadership roles throughout the school and to lead and participate in a range of school wide activities. Each year 2 head students are appointed as well as house leaders for each of our three houses. Senior leaders work specifically with their teacher to develop projects that support our school and make it a better place.

All our year 8's are privileged to attend an inspirational day at the National Young Leaders Conference.



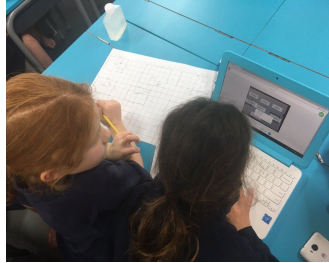
SCHOOL BADGE

Senior students from year 5-8 can earn points towards school badges. There are three badges to work towards, silver, gold and elite. The badge system promotes goal setting, achievement and perseverance. Points can be earned across the areas of sport, culture, service to the school, virtues and academics.



E-LEARNING

The school has a range of devices including netbooks and iPads that are used by students to support their learning. The school also operates a BYOD (bring your own device) system where students can bring personal devices for use in the classroom to support learning. Classroom learning is also supported by large TV's in each room that are connected to our school wide wifi network.



SPORTS

Our students benefit from being involved in regular sports and fitness programmes as part of their daily class timetables. Our school sports programme focuses on swimming in term 1, cross country in term 2, winter sports in term 3 and athletics in term 4. Students also participate in our cluster events involving 9 schools from the Te Kawanu cluster.

Other sporting events including orienteering, rippa rugby and triathlon feature in our sporting calendar. These are often supported by coaching sessions by expert coaches including Horowhenua Rugby, Central Soccer and Manawatu Cricket.

Students who play club sport usually register with the local Te Kawanu sports club based in Rongotea for their weekend sports.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outdoor education opportunities are an important part of our learning programme. For many students, they provide new opportunities and challenges they have not faced before. These experiences also allow students and teachers to form positive relationships that are built on getting to know each other in a range of contexts, teamwork and overcoming barriers together as a unit. The senior classrooms go on camp once a year in term 1 and all classes participate in a variety of field trips throughout the year to support their learning.



ENVIRONMENTAL

We have an environmental area at our school where students are able to actively contribute to the preparation and growing of vegetables. They learn about soil preparation, planting, pest control, companion planting among other topics. They also get to delight in harvesting their produce and taking it home.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

In term 1, teachers meet with parents and their children to confirm their learning goals together. At this time any formal test results are also reported. A second three-way interview is held at the beginning of term 3 to discuss each student's progress towards their learning goals.

Students build up a portfolio of work samples that demonstrate how they are meeting their learning goals. Portfolios come home to parents at the end of terms 2 and 4.

At the end of terms 2 and 4, written reports are provided to parents of year 4-8 students showing student progress and achievement in relation to the National Standards, next learning steps and how you can support your children at home. Year 1-3 students also receive reports twice a year. These are timed inline with the students 6,12,18,24,30 and 36 month anniversaries.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS



Oroua Downs School is committed to keeping parents/caregivers well informed about the school's activities.

School newsletters are issued fortnightly on a Friday and sent home via the eldest or only child in the family.

We continuously update our facebook page with school photos and things that are happening in the classrooms [facebook.com/orouadowns](https://www.facebook.com/orouadowns) We also put other community news on our Facebook page.

We have an app that we send notices out on a regular basis. Find this in your app store and search for Oroua Downs School.

Teachers and our Home & School Committee will also initiate newsletters or notices from time to time.

We have an 'Open Door' policy. Parents are encouraged to visit the school and to keep in contact with their child's teacher.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

In 2015, we introduced a compulsory uniform for all students.

All uniform items with a school logo are able to be purchased from our school office at a very reasonable price. The uniform consists of:

- Navy blue polo shirt with logo
- Navy blue hoodie with logo

We also have navy blue shorts & skorts available at our office, however:

- Any navy blue shorts, skorts or pants are acceptable (excluding jeans & branded items)
- No specifications are required for shoes.



HOME AND SCHOOL GROUP

We are fortunate enough to have an active Home and School Committee. This committee aids our school by;

- Raising funds
- Helping at all events involving our school
- Providing opportunities for parents/caregivers to contribute to everyday school life.

The group is open to all members of the community and welcomes your involvement. Please support this enthusiastic group which meets on a monthly basis. Notification regarding these meetings is sent out via School newsletter, our facebook page and our app.

Contact the school office for more info.



A - Z GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Absences

If your child is absent please contact the school as soon as possible. Contact may be made through:

- A phone call (please leave a message if your call is not answered).
- A face-to-face explanation.
- A note brought in by a sibling.
- A certificate from a health professional (filed by the class teacher).
- A message sent via Skool Loop

Every child's attendance is recorded twice daily by electronic register. All unaccounted absences are followed up by the office manager.



Accidents and Illness

If a child is injured at school, first aid will be administered by teachers and office staff as required. If a serious accident occurs, staff will look after the best interests of the child and parents will be notified.

Children should not be sent to school if they are feeling unwell. If a child becomes unwell at school, the parents or caregivers will be contacted and asked to collect the child. Our practice is aligned to the Ministry of Health recommendations and best practice.

It is important our records of home, work, doctors, and other emergency numbers that may be required, are kept up to date. Please advise the school promptly of any changes.

Administering medication at school.

We have a consent form to be filled out if you require your child's medication to be administered at school. Appropriate information must be provided. By law, the medical practitioner's directions must be included on the label of all dispensed medication. This needs to be sighted by the school. Information of the administration of the medication is available through the school office.

If your child's meds are 3 x daily, we ask that you administer them in the morning, after school and before bedtime. Please only bring meds to school if they are 4 x per day.

The Ministry of Education stipulates we cannot give your child any medication without your permission, therefore, even if they are to have panadol, we will call for permission first.



Allergies or Asthma

Records are kept in our student management system regarding students who require special or immediate attention for any allergy or illness. Should your child require this type of attention, we would appreciate you filling out a medical form. If your child is asthmatic, please ensure a spare inhaler is brought into school to be kept in the office for emergencies.



Assemblies - Learning Celebrations

These are generally held on the last day of each term. They are organised by the students and involve celebrations of classroom learning. Year 5-8 students who have gained enough points for a school badge are given these at these special assemblies. Parents are encouraged to join us.



Assemblies - School

We have a school assembly every second Thursday at 1.30. We sing the National Anthem, share learning and celebrate students from each class who have demonstrated our school virtues. We also give out class certificates and a Principal Award to a deserving student.



Behaviour Management

Everyone at Oroua Downs School has the right to work and play in a safe, secure and happy environment. Children, staff and parents need to be responsible for their own actions and show respect to each other, their property and their environment. Self-discipline is a learning experience and we will support our students to develop appropriate social skills and personal behaviour.

Our positive approach to managing behaviour is based on the virtues of the school. Our expectation is that everyone at Oroua Downs School (staff, students, parents and visitors) will strive to demonstrate appropriate behaviours guided by our virtues; respect, Excellence, Creativity and Teamwork.

We acknowledge students who make the right decisions about their behaviour in a number of ways. More detail can be found in the Positive Behaviour Management Procedure on the school website.

Bible in Schools

Students opt in to this programme, which runs on Wednesdays at 1pm in the hall, if we have sufficient numbers.

Board of Trustees

The Board meets twice a term in the school library. Parents and community members are welcome to attend. Notice of all meetings will be given to all parents through the school newsletter and via our school calendar.



Brain Food Break

Classes break in the morning between the start of school and morning tea for a 5 minute brain food snack. Brain food needs to be unprocessed foods such as fruit, raw nuts or vegetables.



Breakfast

Oroua Downs is part of the 'Kickstart Breakfast' programme. Children can come to the staffroom for weet-bix upon arrival at school.



Buses

The school is serviced by Uzabus Coachlines. Two circuits currently cover most of the Himatangi and Oroua Downs areas. The service is provided by the Ministry of Education and is currently free of charge.

Bus Route 1 starts from Foxton at 7.45am and travels up State Highway 1 along Highway 56 (Rangiotu Road), Kellow Road, Downs Road, North on state Highway 1 as far as Pukepuke and Omanuka Road then turns to come down SH1 to School.

For those travelling from Highway 56 further away than Kellow Rd, your bus stop is on Kellow Rd just around the corner from Highway 56. If you are on a street running off SH1, then you must wait at the corner of your street for collection.



Bus Route 2 leaves Foxton around 7.50am and travels along Wylie Rd to Himatangi Beach, then up State Highway 1 to School. At the beach there are several stops ensuring there is only a short walk to get to and from the bus. If you are on Himatangi Beach Road or Wylie Rd (outside of the beach), the bus will stop at your gate.

Important - please wait outside your gate with your children in the morning and be there in the afternoon to collect your child. The drivers will NOT drop off a child where there is no parent waiting as they cannot leave a child unattended.

BYOD (Bring your own device)

Our school allows students to bring digital devices that assist with learning. Parents and students are required to sign a BYOD agreement before this can occur.



Cell Phones

If cell phones are brought to school, they are kept in the office during the day and can be picked up by the student at 2.30pm.



Concerns and Complaints

If there are any problems concerning your child and school we encourage you to follow the school's Resolution of Issues Policy in these matters. A copy of the full policy is available on the school website.

Dental Therapist

The school is supported by the mobile dental service that arrives annually. The clinic is a modern purpose built caravan facility that operates for about 4 weeks to see all the children at our school and pre-schoolers in

the school vicinity. If your child needs to see a dentist in between visits contact the child and adolescent oral health service through the hospital.



Dogs

Dogs are not permitted on the school grounds unless by prior arrangement with the Principal. We look forward to seeing your dogs and other pets at our annual Pet Day.



Donations

We do not request annual donations for students, however a donation towards a particular event may be requested(eg: school camp).



Emergency Procedures

The school has an emergency plan to guide staff and students in the event of an emergency. The assembly area is on the playing field on the north side of the school.

EMERGENCY

Fire Drill:

A fire drill is held once a term. Things to note about a drill:

- The signal is a continuous siren followed by voice prompts to evacuate the building.
- Evacuate immediately
- Close all doors where possible.
- Any Parents and visitors at school at the time are expected to report to the assembly area on the playing field next to the PE shed. Staff and children will direct you.



Earthquake Drill:

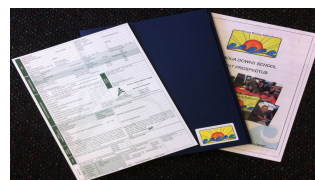
- Teachers conduct 'drop, cover, hold' earthquake procedures in their own classrooms once a term.

Enrolments

Pre-enrolment interviews and tours of the school are welcomed

New pupils enrolling at Oroua Downs School will receive a pack containing all of the relevant information and forms required including a Prospectus, enrolment forms, New entrant letter (for new entrants only), Bus Code of Conduct, Daily excursion permission, School milk, a Religious Instruction opt-in form, a Digital Citizenship agreement and a Bring your own device form (these are relevant for years' 4-8 only).

If transferring from another school we will request information from the previous school.



Fairplay

Students, team coaches and managers taking part in any sporting activity agree to:

- Enjoy ourselves.
- Play within the rules
- Respect the referees and their supporters.
- Be gracious winners and dignified losers
- Play hard but play fair



First Aid

If a child is injured at school, first aid will be administered by teachers and office staff as required. If a serious accident occurs, staff will look after the best interests of the child and parents will be notified.

It is important that our records of home, work, doctors and other emergency numbers that may be required, are kept up to date. Please advise the school promptly of any changes.



Hair

We recommend that shoulder length hair or longer be tied back for safety reasons and to reduce the likelihood of catching or spreading headlice. Headlice are an ongoing issue for schools. If you become aware your child has lice, please inform the school. The school has a Robi-comb that can be borrowed by parents.



Health Nurse

The Public Health Nurse visits the school regularly for health, hearing and vision checks, immunisations and supporting health lessons with students. If you have other questions or concerns the Health Nurse can be contacted through the school office.



Homework

Each classroom develops their own systems and expectations for homework. Please talk to your child's teacher for more information about this.

International Students

Oroua Downs accepts international students. Please contact the office for more information.

Kapa Haka

We encourage our students to participate in Kapa Haka activities.



Lateness

If your child is late arriving to school in the morning, they MUST report to the office upon arrival.



Library

We have a very well stocked, modern library. All classes usually visit the library each week on Wednesdays. Students are able to borrow two books for up to two weeks. Reminders will be sent home for any overdue book, and an account for any damaged books or books held for more than six weeks.



Lollies and Confectionery

Students are not permitted to have lollies or confectionery at school. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Lost Property

Students and parents are encouraged to name all clothing and belongings to assist with identification. Lost property is returned to the owner when possible and if unclaimed, stored in the sick bay. At the end of each term, unclaimed, unnamed items of uniform are washed and added to our "used uniforms" supply.



Lunch and Morning Tea

When eating outside, supervising staff release students after 5 minutes for morning tea and 10 minutes for lunch. Students show the supervising teacher their lunch boxes when they are finished eating to ensure they have had sufficient food.



Office Hours

The school office is open from 8.40am-2.30pm Monday-Friday.



Parent Involvement

Parents are actively encouraged to be involved in their children's learning. We invite expressions of interest for parent helpers in classrooms, on trips, for sport and our outdoor education programmes. Please talk to your child's teacher about how you can help.



Parking

Lake Rd (outside the Hall) is our drop off and pick up zone for students. Parking on State Highway 1 is for staff only. For safety reasons the LTSA (Land Transport Safety Authority) does not allow children to be dropped off or picked up on the State Highway.



Payments/Money

When sending any payments to school, please place in a sealed envelope with the student's name and class written on it. Any cheques please make out to Oroua Downs School. Please note the school doesn't have Eftpos facilities. For internet deposits, our bank account no is: 03 0633 0005477 00

Personal Possessions

Students are discouraged from bringing personal possessions to school. The school will not be held responsible for the loss or damage of any personal possessions brought to school from home.

Pet Day

Our annual Pet Day (Lamb and Calf Day) is usually at the beginning of Term 4. Children are encouraged to bring a Lamb, Calf or pet to be judged by Manawatu Oroua Boys and Girls Agricultural Club and Totally Vets. They also do classroom activities that are judged by people within our local community.



Playground Supervision

We have a staff member rostered on for playground supervision at lunchtime. Senior leaders watch the children at the morning tea break. After school, all staff supervise the two buses and students waiting to be picked up.



Prizegiving

In December near the end of term 4, we hold the school prize-giving at the Himatangi Community Hall. The night is a school prizegiving with all classes recognised in some way. Whilst we know that not all children can receive a special prize on this night, we ask all families to attend to celebrate the success of our school community as a whole.

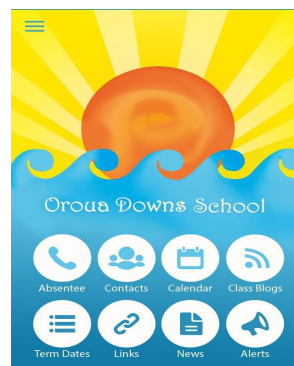


Policy and Procedure

All current, new or recently changed policies and procedures are available on our school web site www.orouadowns.school.nz. Any suggestions or comments you have can be discussed with the principal or any BOT member.

School App

Keep up with what's on at school by downloading our School App on your iPhone or smartphone device. You'll get alerts, you can notify us of absences, see our calendar, term dates and more. Search the App store for this free download.



School Milk

Our school is part of the 'Fonterra Milk for Schools' programme. All students are able to have milk four days a week. A permission slip for this is included in the enrolment pack.



Sick Bay

This room is situated close to the school office. It is used for the treatment of minor injuries and for injured or ill children to rest while their parents or caregivers are contacted.



Smoke Free

The school is a smoke free environment. Smoking in the school buildings and grounds is prohibited at all times.



Sports Uniforms

Our sports uniforms were designed by former year 8 students and we are very proud of them. Sports uniforms are



NOT to go home. They will be handed out and collected on the day of any event.

Stationery

At the end of the year, a stationery list is provided to all students for the following year. Parents are expected to send their children ready for school on the first day of term 1 with all their required stationery. For new people starting school a stationery list will be provided. We keep a small amount of stationery on-hand in the office for emergencies.

The school currently uses officemax for our stationery supplies. Parents can buy online or shop in-store at very competitive prices. Mention our school and the school gets a credit on our account. We appreciate your help.

If your child runs out of stationery they require for learning, they will be provided it from the office and the amount added to their school account.



Swimming Pool

The school is very lucky to have two pools looked after by Doug, our caretaker. We have swimming for most of term 1 and term 4 if the weather is good. Swim sports are held in term 1. Keys are available for hire from the school office for the summer season.



Technology

On Friday morning's our year 7 and 8's are taken by bus to Manawatu College where they learn woodwork, metalwork, cooking and sewing.



Teachers' Meetings

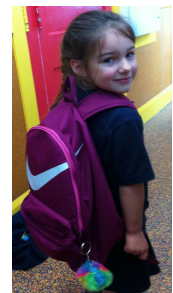
Teachers' professional learning meetings and team meetings are held on Tuesdays after school. If you need to meet with your child's teacher, please try to make it outside of this time.



Transition to School

Starting school can be an exciting and anxious time for all involved, so making sure that you and your child know what is involved when starting school is really important.

Whenever possible, please enrol any new entrants at least 4 weeks prior to them starting. By doing this the new entrant teacher can contact you to set up some school visits. We recommend 2-3 class visits before starting school, generally coming into the classroom for one block of the day. Depending on numbers of children starting these may be set blocks so your child gets the most out of their visit.



Uniform

The school uniform is available from our school office at very reasonable prices. It consists of a navy polo and hoodie with our school logo on. You can purchase shorts, skorts or pants from any store as long as they are navy. We discourage the wearing of 'labelled' clothing.

We encourage ALL clothing to be named so our children on 'lost property' can identify owners quickly and return their clothing.