



Welcome to Te Kura o Tākaro



New Entrant Information



Te Kura o Takaro is a PB4L School

PB4L stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning.

Each week we have a school wide lesson that teaches us about appropriate behaviour, we are all taught this in the hall together and then our teacher goes over this daily. Whenever they catch us doing this behaviour we earn Class Dojo points which is our school system of rewarding great behaviour.

Come and have a look at the display in each class and students will be able to tell you about individual, class and school wide rewards.

This way of working ensures we 'TEACH' behaviour just as we would any area of the curriculum areas and if a child is struggling we then support them on a 1-1 basis giving them extra lessons and reminders.

If behaviour or learning ever becomes a concern we will give you a call to come in and have an informal chat, so that we can all work together to set a plan. We are very proud of the way we always work with whanau to ensure the best possible outcomes for all tamariki.



How can we make your child's start to school easier?

Starting school is an exciting time for everyone. To make the transition from Early Childhood or Kindergarten, it is important to prepare them for this change. Here are some skills that you and your child can work on before they begin their learning journey with us.

Independence

Keep in mind school is a very different atmosphere from preschool education. School children need to be able to do certain things on their own.

- Dress themselves
- Put on their shoes and take them off easily
- Toilet themselves and be able to wipe properly
- Open and close their lunchbox
- Open and close their bag
- Pack their bag at the end of the day (lunchbox, jersey) as well as put things in their bag during the day
- Get into togs, dry themselves off and get dressed (we swim in Terms 1 & 4)



Learning

A lot of learning happens in the first few weeks of school. It helps children immensely if they know their basics: colours, how to recognise their name, names of letters, sounds of letters, their first & last name, how old they are, birthday, address, parents names, addresses and how to hold a pencil correctly. It is best if a correct pencil grip is established from the start to ensure it becomes a habit.

How can we help our children?

- Show them the toilets, school boundaries, office area and playgrounds
- Explain they must stay in school and not leave the grounds during the day
- Explain they need to stay in class during lesson time
- Remind them to tell the teacher if they need to go to the toilet and not to leave it to the last minute
- Talk about who will pick them up and from where - if you would like them to stay in the class until you arrive please let us know
- Remind them not to go home with friends - unless you have arranged it (a note for us would be great)
- Guide them through the morning routine of shoes on the ledge, lunch box on the shelf and zipping up their bag before putting it in their cubby.



Getting Started At Te Kura o Takaro

2 months before their 5th Birthday

- Fill in enrolment forms. Bring in: Birth Certificate, Immunisation certificate
- Take an Automatic Payment form into your bank if you would like to set this up with regular payments.
- Book in a time to come and meet Whaea Josie for mainstream, Whaea Helena or Whaea Alana for Rumaki to arrange visits.

1 month before 5th Birthday

SCHOOL VISITS

- 3 x school visits as arranged with Whaea Josie (jwoon@takaro.school.nz) or Whaea Alana atairea@takaro.school.nz)
- Make sure your child can go to the toilet, open and close their lunchbox, put shoes/socks/jersey on and off

5th Birthday

FIRST DAY

- Start on or after their 5th birthday (Make sure the office and Mandy know what day this will be)
- Stationery will be provided for them



Uniform

- This will need to be purchased to begin school visits in (this ensures they are the same as the other children and helps with building relationships, as well as seeing this is now school)
- Shoes are Roman sandals for summer (but in Years 1 & 2 any black leather sandals are fine, as Velcro seem to work best) Black leather lace ups /Velcro for winter with black socks. No white on shoes, canvas or running shoes please.
- School hat will be issued with the school uniform (we are a sun smart school so wear these outside at all times in Terms 1 & 4)





Term 4 - Important Notice

Due to parent interviews/ production/ end of year assessments and larger class sizes there will be no visits arranged during the last 4 weeks of the school year.

If your child turns 5 over the Christmas break they will begin the year on the first day of the new school year if they have had their enrolment interview.

If you would like visits these will need to be arranged prior to the last 4 weeks of Term 4 or to begin the new year.

Day One of Visits

We like all new students to start visits in their new school uniform. This helps them feel like part of the class and they can learn how to manage the placement of shoes, jerseys, hats and bags.

The uniform can be fitted at the school office with Whaea Karla on your first visit day or prior to this when you enrol. Parents are welcome to stay for the initial settle in but we encourage you to help your child establish morning routines by helping them unpack and getting them used to you leaving, as this will become easier over time for both of you. We will assist you the best we can.

Stationery will be provided for your child through the government donation scheme which we have enrolled with. This scheme includes all school trips and performances are also paid for.



Welcome

We would like to thank you for picking our school to begin your child's education. We take great pride in making this transition for you and your child as smooth as possible. Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have. Whaea Mandy Houlahan is available as your first point of call as the Year 0/1 teacher and then Josie Woon as the team leader.

Transition Days and Times: Term 1 - 3

We transition over the 3 weeks before your child turns 5.

Week 3 — 9-11.45 _____

This will allow your child to see what morning play is like.

Week 2 — 9-1.30pm _____ (bring lunch for your child)

Here they get to have lunch with the class and go to play with them.

Week 1 — Full Day _____

Birthday week— start full time _____ (Unless it is the last week of term)



Food

We are now part of the school government lunch scheme. When your child first begins you will need to provide lunch until your child gets used to the lunches that are provided. Since Covid we ask that each child brings a named drink bottle that you take home each Friday and wash. Our big lunch eating time will be at 11.45am each day and then after lunch 1.30pm we will have fruit (which the school provides) and a snack (which you can provide).

Procedures

We teach students to use the morning tea and lunch break to go to the toilet and have a drink.

If your child needs to use the toilet during class time, we ask that they let us know, so that in case of an emergency we know where everyone is.

Before school all students are encouraged to get their own things ready for the day which includes:

- put their lunchbox on the shelf
- put their shoes away and hang their bag in the cloak bay
- hand notices to their teacher and money to the office
- put chairs down in the class



Kindy Visits

NE/ Year 1 students are involved in fortnightly exchanges with Takaro Kindergarten.

This is to allow friendships to be kept once the children come to school. It also helps ease transition for new children and strengthens the bond between ourselves and our wonderful neighbours.

Times

- School patrols go out at 8.20am
- Children are not allowed in the classrooms until 8.30am. This ensures that staff are in their classrooms after morning meetings, students are not leaving home too early and they have been able to have a good breakfast and prepare for the day.
- We encourage all whanau to use the front entrance and report to the office if you come into school during the day. This is a legal health and safety requirement, we have to ensure this is enforced, so please don't be offended if we have to ask you to do this
- Masks must be worn in our school grounds



School Times

8.30 - students allowed in the classroom

8.55 - bell goes to start the day

10.20 - small break outside

10.30 - Class Time

11.30 - Break Time

11.45 - Eating lunch

12.00 - Class Time

1.00 - Play time outside

1.30 - Class Time

2.45 - Home Time



Communication

Skool Loop

This is our school APP which can be downloaded for free on android through the play store or apple through the app store. Once on here you find TAKARO SCHOOL. By doing this you then will get any notifications we send out will be sent to your phone which means you won't miss any information. You can also view our latest newsletter, view any notices we have sent home, sign permission forms and can also contact us for absences. A one stop information shop.

Have you downloaded our School app yet?

Never miss important school information again!



- ✓ Events
- ✓ Notices
- ✓ Instant school messages
- ✓ Absentee
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission Slips



Simple free download: In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

Facebook Reminders

We put all reminders for school events on Facebook like: notices that may need returning, swimming reminders, school closures, interviews and any other notice that we want to make sure you get. We have found this works wonderfully and allows parents to also contact us informally to ask questions if need be by private messaging us. If it is urgent, ringing the school is the best option.

We also have a free 0800 number:

3581 563, 0800 10 20 70



Class Dojo

This is the app we use to share learning stories with you in real time. You will get a unique code for your child/ children and this is where their classroom teacher or your child will load up work to share. You will get a notification when this happens and then you can like, comment or leave a voice message. This is a great way to see what your child is learning & is another way to communicate with your child via the message function. Please feel free to come in and we can help you set this up.

Website

This is where you can get our school newsletters, find out about our policies, procedures and also find useful resources that your child can access from home. During the year we will hold open nights where we will show you how to access all these resources to ensure you have all the information you need.

<https://kuratakaro.wixsite.com/takaro-school>