

Opportunities

Karaka School's Intermediate area offers an amazing array of opportunities for students to try new things, build on their strengths and discover their passion.

Our LEARN value of excellence encourages students to participate in; Academics, Sports, The Arts and Leadership roles.

Some of the opportunities offered to our Year 7 and 8 students are:

- Kapa Haka, Choir, Band as well as an Intermediate Production.
- From the Mud Run to AIMS Games there are many amazing sporting opportunities. Students compete in ECCS (East Counties) events and we have had many students progress through to Inter-zone level.
- A range of leadership roles that cater to all students interests and strengths. Students are involved in organising school-wide events and set goals within their groups to meet objectives.
- Challenge yourself with international tests (ICAS), Mathex and participate in oral language opportunities such as Debating, Speeches and Rehu Tai.

Aims Games

The **AIMS Games** (Association of Intermediate and Middle Schools) are an annual sporting event held in Tauranga, New Zealand.

AIMS gives 11, 12 & 13 year olds in Years 7 and 8 an opportunity to compete as an individual or a team against other students from around NZ & invited countries in 21 codes.

The aim of the event is to provide opportunities for students in the middle years to not only be active, enjoy competition and celebrate fair play but also to compete at an elite level for their age group.

In 2016 270 schools and 9,000+ competitors will take part in this fantastic week long sports event. Karaka School will participate in Netball, Hockey, Sevens Rugby and Swimming.



EOTC—Camps

Each year students in Year 7 and 8 participate in a well-organised, eventful, purposeful and fun camp experience. There are two venues chosen for the very different experiences provided by each. In even years students attend Long Bay Camp located at a marine based environment setting and in odd years students go to Kokako Lodge which provides a bush environment. These week long camps are opportunities for challenge and developing confidence and leadership.



William Pike Challenge Award

Developing Leadership and Citizenship

In 2016 students from Year 7 & 8 have participated in the William Pike Challenge Award. The aim of this award is to have kiwi children embracing new challenges, enjoying the great outdoors, engaging with their community and interacting with positive role models while building resilience and confidence to take on new challenges. The students thoroughly enjoy the opportunities this award provides.

William Pike Challenge requirements:

- ◆ 20 hours of community service
- ◆ 6 outdoor education activities
- ◆ Start a new sport or hobby



Intermediate Production

At Karaka School we value The Arts and one fantastic opportunity for students in Year 7 and 8 will be to participate in an Intermediate Production bi-annually. The production will provide a number of new and exciting opportunities to the students. This will provide our learners with diverse opportunities to experience all aspects from set design, costuming and lighting to the on stage acting.

Year 7 and 8

Intermediate Prospectus

Kia Ora, Welcome to
Karaka School
EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.
"Ka whangai, ka tupu, ka puawai."

LEARN

LEARNING AKORANGA
We take pride in being open to learning new things.

EXCELLENCE HIRANGA
We always strive to do our very best.

ADAPTABILITY URUTAU
We are adaptable and can think flexibly.

RESPECT WHAKAUTE
We show respect for others, ourselves and the environment at all times. We follow safety and game rules. We demonstrate fair play.

NURTURE POIPOI
We show nurturing for one another through kind actions and words. We help and encourage each other.

We like to have **FUN**
- PAREKAREKA.

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Welcome

At Karaka School we are incredibly passionate about providing an Intermediate education that is of the highest quality. We are dedicated to ensuring that our young adults are well prepared for their transition to high school through the provision of a well balanced, holistic programme that will develop their confidence, and self esteem, and prepare them both academically and socially. At the end of 2015 we completed a review of the Intermediate area of our school and identified that while we wanted to ensure that it remained very much 'inclusive' - embedded into our school culture through acknowledging the Intermediate is a crucial part of who and what we are as a school - we also wanted the Intermediate to be 'exclusive' by identifying points of difference that acknowledge the uniqueness and importance of this time in a young person's education. This year we have implemented many new initiatives to achieve this goal and more is planned for 2017. We are looking forward to continuing to grow this area of the school and encourage you to come and talk to us further .

Sarah Hynds—Principal

Educational Research

At Karaka School, we are very aware of and committed to developing positive relationships. Evidence shows that teacher-student relationships are crucial in making a real and lasting difference to student achievement. Positive relationships lead to confident, well rounded learners who strive to do their best in all areas.

Students that attend Year 7 and 8 at Karaka School have already established these crucial relationships therefore their learning and progress is uninterrupted and they have an already established support network around them.

"It is teachers who have created positive teacher student relationships that are more likely to have the above average effects on student achievement."

John Hattie, 2009

Achievement

The core business of a school is learning and here at Karaka School we are committed to raising student achievement. In 2015 we dramatically exceeded the most recent National and Papakura achievement levels in all three core curriculum areas (*Source: Education Counts website*)

We believe in targeted learning and organise our teaching and learning programmes to meet the needs of the individual learners.

Each morning (8.45am—12.20pm) is uninterrupted, core learning time. All students participate in targeted learning in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Teachers in Year 7 and 8 help to set all students up for success by teaching goal setting, self monitoring, management and organisational skills.

Our Year 7 and 8 teachers work extremely hard to develop the competencies our students need for study, work, and lifelong learning, so that they may go on to realise their full potential.

Past students and their families often return to Karaka School to share our students' successes. The students describe feeling extremely well equipped for high school learning and are achieving well academically as well as socially.

Technology in Years 7 & 8

-Technology 1:2 devices 2016 (1:1 devices 2017).

Digital devices are a tool for learning at Karaka School and students in Years 7 & 8 use chrome books to collaborate, share and provide feedback. Our Year 7 and 8 students are confident in using Google Apps for Education which prepares them for their High School learning.



-Student monitoring - Hapara is used to monitor student's use of digital devices as we develop their digital citizenship. This programme also allows teachers to provide individual feedback to students and to manage learning on a digital platform.

-Cybersafety Education - Students in Year 7 and 8 participate in a cyber safety unit at the beginning of the year and commit to a responsible use agreement. Our students gain the knowledge and understanding required to be responsible, respectful and mature digital citizens.

Additional Learning Opportunities for Year 7 & 8 Students

MANUAL AT MANSELL SENIOR SCHOOL

Once a week our Year 7 and 8 students attend Manual Technology at a local Intermediate School.

In 2017 our provider will be taking a unique approach to Technology Education. The Year 7 programme will be focused on building the students capability to work through the technology process capably and safely in the different spaces and the Year 8 programme will involve a problem solving approach which will allow our students to think critically and creatively to utilize a range of technologies to reach a desired outcome. This authentic use of technologies will better prepare our students for the future.

Mansell Senior School staff and Karaka staff will work closely to ensure the Technology programme is linked to our current Inquiry theme, making this learning purposeful and meaningful.

STEM

(Science, Technology, Electronics and Mathematics)

Developing a culture of innovation and improving science and technology education are essential if New Zealand is to meet future workforce demands and capitalise on the opportunities they offer.

Karaka School's Year 7 and 8 students participate in week long intensive units, which focus on teaching these disciplines together through the 5 E's: Engagement, Exploration, Explanation, Extension, Evaluation. An expert teacher is brought in to facilitate this learning.

