



# Information Pack for Tarawera High School





## Introduction

Thank you for requesting more information about a Teaching position at Tarawera High School. In this information pack, you'll find out more about this vibrant and community focused school that's leading the way for 21st century secondary education in New Zealand. Tarawera High School is looking for a passionate educator to join their team.

Here are some great reasons to put in your application for this role:

### **An Introduction to Tarawera High School**

Tarawera High School is a Decile 1 secondary school with 465 students from Year 7-13, 90% of whom are Māori. There is a Teen Parent Unit attached with 20 students. The school serves the community of Kawerau in the Eastern Bay of Plenty.

The school has very strong links to the community, and has a focus on Te Reo and Tikanga Māori. At the heart of the school is a culture based on the core values of **Manaakitanga** (respecting ourselves, others and environment), **Ako** (being a learner), **Ngākau pono** (integrity, self-belief), and **Āwhinatanga** (caring and supporting). These qualities are at the heart of the effective change occurring at Tarawera High School .....*'Where **MANA** flows'* and you can help make this happen.

Tarawera High School's leadership team, led by the Principal Helen Tuhoro, have an exciting and inspiring vision for the school to be a leader in 21st century education in New Zealand. This school takes an integrated approach to curriculum. You'll use a global perspective and real-world resources in your teaching and involve local employers, the outdoors and whānau as you teach and learn.

### **You'll be teaching in New Zealand's newest Modern Learning Environment**

Tarawera High School has had a \$15.6 million dollar upgrade to its school buildings. It features brand new facilities, including:

- o Flexible spaces that allow for a variety of teaching and learning options
- o A Performing Arts Centre including a dance studio
- o A multifaceted whare tapere
- o State of the art technology
- o A tech information hub
- o Fibre-optic high-speed internet

### **You'll be working at the forefront of 21st century teaching and learning**

Tarawera High School has a unique, integrated curriculum that is authentic, local and engaging. It is based around inquiry learning and encourages collaborative teaching and learning.

Much of the learning at the school takes place in the community, and there is a focus on real world resources - for example, collecting river samples from the river behind the school.



Vocational pathways are a strong focus in the curriculum. Some students go offsite to Whakatane Trades Academy, to learn trades such as engineering, hairdressing, barista training or forestry, or they can stay at school for outdoor education, Bio Research/ Technology, Performing Arts, Creative Studio practices, Digital Photography or Te Reo Māori.

To encourage achievement, students can begin NCEA Level 1 at Year 10, and complete the qualification over Year 10 and 11.

### **You'll be working collaboratively with an engaged and supportive team of educators**

There is a strong, passionate team of 40 teachers at Tarawera High School. The leadership encourages a strong focus on teamwork and collaboration. Due to the unique integrated curriculum and the amount of offsite learning, teachers at Tarawera High School get more non-contact time than most other secondary schools. Beginning teachers are highly valued by Tarawera High School and there is a mentoring and guidance programme in place to support PRTs to achieve their full registration.



### **Positive relationships will be at the heart of everything you do**

Teachers understand that building a rapport with students and parents needs to happen before teaching can take place, so these relationships are valued. There are strong links to the wider community in Kawerau. Members of the community come into the school to support the running of the Kapa Haka group at the school. Tuakana/Teina relationships are central to the school culture.

Tarawera High School has a restorative practice philosophy, and runs a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) programme. As part of this programme, students came up with the core values of Manaakitanga, Ako, Ngākau Pono and Āwhina (MANA) which is at the heart of the school culture.

### **You'll be teaching in the beautiful Eastern Bay of Plenty**

Tarawera High School is located in Kawerau, a picturesque town in the Eastern Bay of Plenty. Based at the foot of Mt Pūtauaki, Kawerau is close to other cities in the region, with many teachers commuting from Whakatane (30 minutes' drive), Rotorua (45 minutes' drive) and Tauranga (one hour's drive). Currently there are carpools from each of these cities to the school.

You'll have access to easy weekend trips to the vineyards of Hawkes Bay, the Te Urewera National Park for tramping/skiing, and Whakatane/Tauranga for beach culture and surfing.

Kawerau itself is home to forests, lakes, rivers and parks. For those with a passion for the outdoors, the recreation opportunities are amazing: mountain biking, white water rafting, hunting and fishing, golfing and swimming. There is a strong community spirit and many events are held throughout the year. In 2013, Kawerau hosted the World White Water Rafting Championships. Accommodation is inexpensive, with large, high quality homes available to rent and buy.



### Person Specification (all staff who work at Tarawera High School)

Tarawera High School is seeking staff with the following vision, qualities, practices, and work experience:

#### 1. Vision

- Can describe what teaching and learning might look like in a modern learning environment
- Describes the importance of the link to the community in terms of maximising the educational experience for students
- Possesses a global view of education that is not confined to 'four walls'
- Articulates the qualities that a graduate of Tarawera High School will have acquired

#### 2. Qualities

- Is a supportive/challenging teacher
- Expects excellence
- Displays passion, enthusiasm and a desire to see all of our learners succeed
- Supportive of all staff and the role they perform in educating our children
- Has an understanding and commitment to Tikanga Māori.
- Can engage with the local community and establish quality relationships (whakawhanaungatanga) with Māori students and their whānau.
- Can create and sustain a new learning culture based on the core values of **Manaakitanga**, **Ako**, **Ngākau Pono** and **Āwhina** (MANA)
- Is committed to the principles of restorative practice
- Develops a climate of high relational trust

**Practices**

- Develops students to become independent and lifelong learners
- Works collaboratively and is a team player
- Creates strong, positive relationships with all learners (staff and students)
- Has high expectations of self and all other learners
- Committed to working in a Positive Behaviour for Learning environment (PB4L)

**3. Work Experience**

- Is a teacher practitioner, using inquiry learning approaches
- Has proven ability to lead/contribute to significant projects
- Has shown an understanding of change management practices
- Culturally responsive pedagogy based on relationships is evident in practice
- Has ability to teach in a cross-curricular learning style

**Recruitment Timeline**

- **Applications close on 12pm, Friday 25 May, 2018**
- Interviews to follow
- Start date will be Term 3, 2018.

**Applications for this Role**

To apply for this role send your:

1. **CV**, with a **covering letter**
2. Enclosed **application form**
3. Send out the **referees' forms** to your **nominated referees**, to reach us no later than **12pm Friday 25 May, 2018.**

To find out more about any aspect of this role or to discuss your application, email [principalspa@tarawera.school.nz](mailto:principalspa@tarawera.school.nz), and check out the school website; [www.tarawera.school.co.nz](http://www.tarawera.school.co.nz).