



New Plymouth Girls' High School
Te Kura Taitamawāhine o Puke Ariki

Prospectus

OUR VALUES



Whanaungatanga
Relationships



Whakamana
Respect



Haepapae
Responsibility

OUR MOTTO

Et Comitate
Friendship / Whakahoanga

Er Virtute
Courage / Maia

Ed Sapientia
Wisdom / Matauranga

Welcome - Principal's message

Tēnā koutou katoa

Embarking on the journey to high school is like setting off on a thrilling adventure! It's a time filled with new experiences, opportunities, and friendships waiting to be discovered. Imagine exploring diverse subjects that ignite your curiosity, participating in exciting extracurricular activities, and uncovering hidden talents you never knew you had. High school is a place where you can challenge yourself, grow, and create unforgettable memories. It's a fresh start, a chance to reinvent yourself, and a gateway to endless possibilities. So, gear up for an exhilarating ride because high school is where the adventure begins!

As well as the fun, we are deeply committed to the transformative power of education, empowering young people to harness their strengths and talents. Our students consistently surpass national averages in qualifications. This is a testament to the dedication of our teachers, the determination of our students, and the unwavering support of parents and whānau.

Our legacy of academic excellence is complemented by remarkable achievements in sports, arts, vocational pathways, and cultural activities. Students have the chance to explore these areas, nurturing their creativity, teamwork, leadership, balance, and self-awareness. We celebrate each student's unique talents and character, and partner with families and whānau to encourage students to find purpose, hope, and a

sense of belonging. Our aim is to see our students emerge as creative, compassionate, knowledgeable, and capable individuals, proud of their education and ready to embrace the challenges of the future.

New Plymouth Girls' High School has been a cornerstone of our community since 1885, shaping the lives of countless individuals. Our onsite boarding hostel, Scotlands, is part of that history too. It accommodates around 120 students, offering a nurturing and supportive environment that fosters a sense of community and lasting friendships.

Our core values of Respect (Whakamana), Responsibility (Haepapa), and Positive Relationships (Whanaungatanga) are encouraged in our daily interactions and behaviours. Students demonstrate these values as they navigate their journeys, fostering self-belief and confidence in their abilities. You'll see visual representations of these values on the pou at the corner and throughout the school, reminding us of what we commit to for ourselves and each other.

It is an honour to contribute to the education of young people, and our staff take pride in the progress and achievements of our students.

Join us and become part of the NPGHS story!

Ngā mihi mahana,
Jacqui Brown | Principal





Academic Success

At New Plymouth Girls' High School we offer a wide and flexible curriculum, designed to provide a range of options for students.

Junior Curriculum

In Years 9 & 10 the curriculum is designed to build a solid foundation across core (compulsory) subject areas such as English, Maths, Science, Social Science and Physical Education/Health.

In addition, students can choose from a wide variety of subjects within The Arts, Technology and Languages. Subjects in these areas are studied for a minimum of two terms. This allows students to experience a variety of options and enable them to make more informed choices for their senior years.

Senior Curriculum

Year 11 - 13 students complete their national qualifications. The current system is NCEA.

NCEA has three levels, and at each level students must achieve a certain number of credits which can be gained over more than one year.

Students will be well prepared for the new assessment programme which is scheduled to begin in 2028.

Additional Support

For students who require additional support in their learning, our Awhina Learning Centre provides a variety of supports tailored to student's individual learning needs.

Gifted & Talented

We recognise students who may be gifted and talented in a range of ways and we aim to provide experiences which will extend and stretch them. This may include extension classes and multi-levelling, collaborative problem-solving events, academic conferences which challenge thinking, and we have a wide range of co-curricular activities within the school.

Learning Area	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	
ARTS <i>NGA TOI</i>	Dance Digital Visual Arts Drama Music Visual Arts	Dance Digital Visual Arts Drama Music Visual Arts	Dance Digital Visual Arts Drama Māori Performing Arts Music Visual Arts	Art Design Art History Dance Drama Māori Performing Arts Music Photography Visual Arts	Art Design Art History Dance Drama Māori Performing Arts	Music Painting Photography Printmaking Sculpture
ENGLISH <i>TE REO INGARIHI</i>	English Literacy	English Literacy	English	English	English	
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION <i>HAUORA ME MAHI TINANA</i>	Health Physical Education	Health Physical Education Sports Education	Health Studies Sports Science & Physical Education	Health Sports Science & Physical Education	Health Sports Science & Physical Education	
LANGUAGES <i>NGA REO</i>	Spanish Te Reo Māori	Spanish Te Reo Māori	French (2027 only) Spanish Te Reo Māori	French (2027 and 2028) Spanish Te Reo Māori	French (2027, 2028, 2029) Spanish Te Reo Māori	
MATHEMATICS <i>PANGARAU</i>	Mathematics Numeracy	Mathematics Numeracy	Mathematics and Statistics	Mathematics Statistics	Calculus Statistics External Statistics Internal	
SCIENCES <i>PUTAIAO</i>	Science	Animal & Plant Science Science	Animal & Plant Science Science	Animal & Plant Science Biology Chemistry Physics Science Internal	Animal & Plant Science Biology Chemistry Physics	
SOCIAL SCIENCES <i>TIKANGA A IWI</i>	Social Science	Business Studies Social Science	Commerce Geography History Social Studies	Accounting Classical Studies Economics Enterprise Studies Geography	History Media Studies Social Studies Tourism	Accounting Classical Studies Economics Enterprise Studies Geography
TECHNOLOGY <i>HAUORA ME MAHI HANGARAU</i>	Design Technology Design & Visual Communication Digital Technology Textiles Technology Food Technology	Design Technology Design & Visual Communication Digital Technology Textiles Technology Food Technology	Design Technology Design & Visual Communication Digital Technology Textiles Technology Food Technology Hospitality	Design Technology Design & Visual Communication Digital Technology Textiles Technology Food Technology Hospitality	Design Technology Design & Visual Communication Digital Technology Textiles Technology Food Technology Hospitality	
VOCATIONAL TRAINING <i>RAPUARA</i>				Classroom Career Development (STAR) Trades Academy Workplace Training (Gateway)	Classroom Career Development (STAR) Trades Academy Workplace Training (Gateway)	

Waka Huia

Every student at NPGHS belongs to one of our four Waka Huia (school houses). This is your child's school whānau.

Each house has its own Deputy Principal or Assistant Principal and a Waka Kaitiaki (Dean) and a Waka Amo (Assistant Dean) who are responsible for the wellbeing and academic success of its students.

Students in each house belong to a Kāwai Huia class with other students from Years 9 to 13. Kāwai Huia teachers work closely with each student and their parents or whanau to ensure that their time at school is enjoyable and successful. Senior students also have an important role in supporting the junior students within their Kāwai Huia class.

We hold various inter-waka sporting and cultural competitions during the year, like swimming sports and waka plays, which help build connections. They are eagerly anticipated and hotly contested between the Waka.

Our Waka Huia are named after famous waka. All the waka have historical connections to Taranaki through iwi interactions and were great ocean going canoes that were used in the migrations that settled Aotearoa New Zealand.

If you whakapapa to one of these Waka, please let us know when you enrol.

If you already have a connection with NPGHS, students join the same Waka as siblings, mother, aunty or other family members.



Future Focused

The world is changing and technology is now a cornerstone of our lives. As a result, we have a duty to ensure that our students are lifelong learners who are prepared for the future, whatever changes technology brings.

Being able to remember and repeat information is no longer the focus of a good education. Teaching and learning is now less about the delivery of facts to students, and more about what they do with the information.

We aim to grow and nurture skills in our students, such as creativity, innovation, problem solving, communication and the ability to work together in teams. These are all essential skills for the future.

What is eLearning?

eLearning doesn't simply involve putting technology and devices into classrooms, it is a change to the way teachers approach teaching and learning. It is about choosing the best tool for an activity.

Technology has enabled lots of new learning opportunities that were never possible before.

Why BYOL (Bring Your Own Laptop)

We have an effective BYOL programme that asks all students to bring a laptop for learning.

With a device students can access their learning 24/7. All of our teachers use Microsoft Teams, an online space where resources, instructions, tasks and real-time conversations take place.

Our students are taught to use their laptop effectively and appropriately. They have the flexibility to choose the best tool for each task, and some lessons may require no device use at all.

Technology & NCEA

NCEA Exams for senior students are moving to an online environment. There are over 30 subject areas that now provide online examinations. Student feedback, both nationally and here at NPGHS, has been very positive regarding the use of devices, and completing exams digitally has become the choice of most students.

Safety & Security

We provide access to our wireless network for all students. Our school network is fast, stable and secure.

Students are also taught how to make use of the internet and social media safely and responsibly. We believe that part of our role is to educate and grow good digital citizens who are respectful of others online.



Learning Outside the Classroom

Our students have a range of EOTC opportunities to engage in offering authentic, real-world learning contexts.

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) involves curriculum-based learning activities that go beyond the walls of the classroom. This includes any curriculum-based activity that takes place outside of school – ranging from drama festivals and museum visits to sports trips and outdoor education camps.

Experiences outside the classroom reinforce learning by enabling students to make connections between what they have learned in school and the world beyond the classroom. EOTC experiences give students opportunities to develop their learning habits in a different context.

At NPGHS we offer a wealth of EOTC activities at local, national and even global levels.





Student Care

The Pastoral Network includes the Principal, Deputy Principals, Assistant Principals, Waka Kaitiaki & Waka Amo (Deans), Kāwai Huia Teachers and Wai Ora Centre staff. As a team, their role is to support and assist students through any personal or educational challenges. Our prime concern is caring for the needs of individual students and supporting their learning.

Health and Wellbeing

The work of the Deans and Kāwai Huia teachers is supported by our Wai Ora Wellness Centre team – a multidisciplinary team supporting the guidance and wellbeing needs of our students and who are here to help students with whatever concerns they might have. The team includes a Counsellor, a Social Worker and a designated First Aider. Students are able to access any of these support people during the school day.

The Wai Ora team work with students on a confidential basis and can also provide referrals to other agencies if appropriate. Parents are welcome

to contact the guidance team at any time if they have concerns about their child's emotional wellbeing.

The Public Health Nurse and Adolescent Health Clinic are also situated within the Wai Ora Wellness Centre for students to access each week.

Whānau Partnership

We believe that communication with parents and caregivers is essential to each student's learning.

Fortnightly engagement reports and continuous reporting give you regular updates and students receive progress reports throughout the year. There are also evenings which provide an opportunity to meet your child's teachers and discuss their learning.

Parents have 24/7 access to their child's progress, attendance, and academic reports online at any time via our SchoolBridge app. In addition, a digital newsletter is sent out fortnightly to keep whānau up to date with what is happening.

We also make use of Facebook and Instagram to highlight upcoming events and celebrate student achievement, both inside and outside of school.

Student Phones

In line with national regulations, students are not allowed to use or access mobile phones at any time when they are attending NPGHS.

We have an 'away for the day' rule for phones. This means that from first bell to last bell:

- Phones are switched off and placed in a student's bag or in their pocket when on the school site, including interval and lunchtime, or
- Phones are not brought to school at all.

Please see the school website <https://www.npghs.school.nz/about/policy-documents>, for the full phone rules and an explanation of the consequences in place if students break the rules.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

School isn't just about academic achievement, it's a chance for students to try a variety of activities and find what you love. We have a range of extra-curricular groups that make it easy to find the one for you.

NPGHS is committed to providing an all round education that includes opportunities for participation in a wide range of activities. We offer great facilities and an extensive extra-curricular programme that enable students to excel and fulfil their potential outside the classroom.

Sporting Opportunities

Sport allows students to experience teamwork, develop their communication skills, and learn about commitment. We offer all major codes and many opportunities for sports you might not have heard about before.

Our participation pathway allows students sporting opportunities that can be either competitive or social. The high-performance pathway takes students that excel in their sport and are selected in the top teams/squads right the way through from Year 9 - 13. This includes supporting our students to participate in representative teams, NZSS sports teams and further should a student wish.

The Arts

The extra-curricular programme supports and extends the formal Arts Curriculum by providing opportunities for all students to participate and learn.

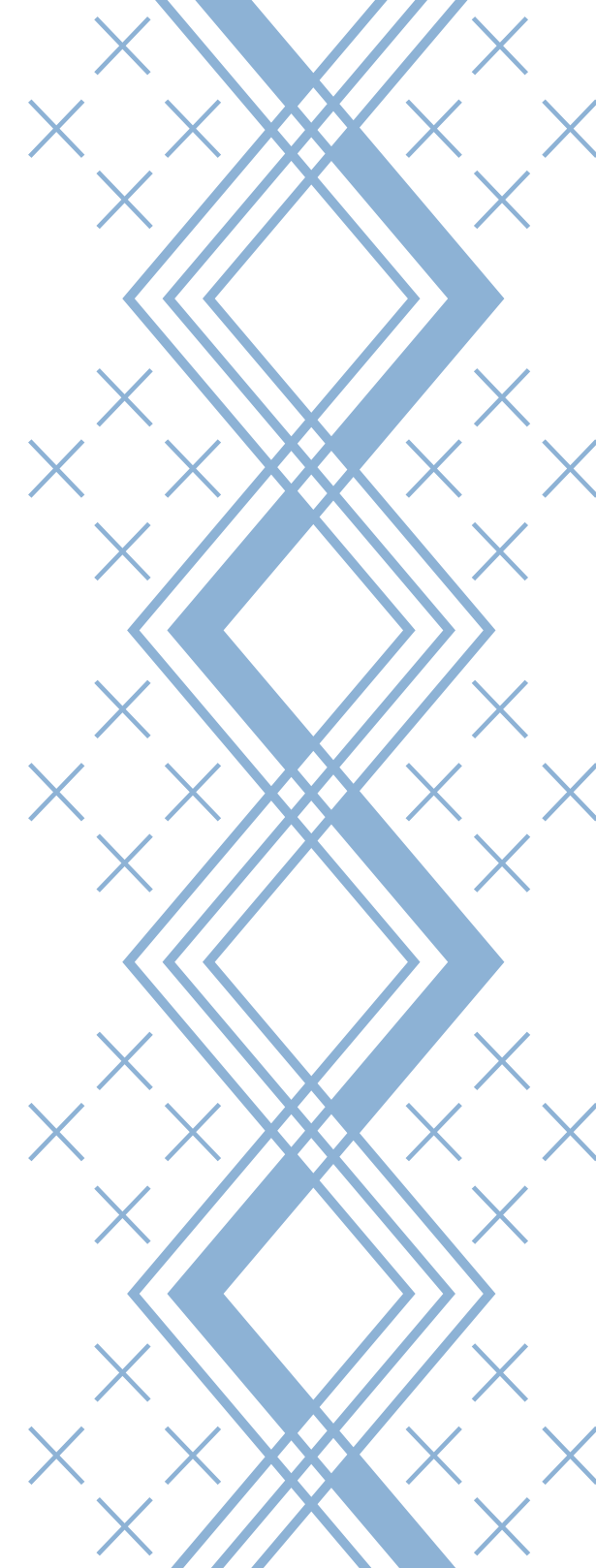
In music, students can sign up for individual instrument lessons from beginner to advanced. We also offer a wide range of music opportunities in the form of organised groups; from orchestra, chamber music, ensembles and quartets, through to jazz band, rock bands and choirs. The emphasis is on performance, and there are regular opportunities to perform at school and compete in external competitions.

The school production is held every two years and is a wonderful experience for our drama, dance and music students, with tickets always in high demand. In addition, students are involved in a wide range of activities and competitions, including the Stratford Shakespeare festival.

All these activities provide opportunities for students to be involved on stage, backstage, through music, sound, lighting, set and costume design and construction. They are a great way to take on authentic leadership roles.

Another highlight is the Waka Plays where the students from each Waka create and perform for the whole school. As with our inter-waka sporting events, the title and associated bragging rights are fiercely contested each year.





Student Leadership

We place considerable emphasis on the development and support of student leadership at all levels and endeavour to provide authentic opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills. Our Manu Tāiko (Head Girl) and Kitiriwā (Deputy Head Girls) are supported by a team of Year 13 leaders and a school council which cover all aspects of school life and can make a real difference both within school and beyond.

Students are also able to participate in the wide range of groups and service organisations at school.

The Waka Huia leadership roles also provide important opportunities for students to get involved and exercise leadership. Junior students (Year 9 & 10) are encouraged to be involved in the leadership of their Kāwai Huia class as Kāwai Huia representatives.

In all our extra-curricular activities, whether it is sport, arts, cultural groups or student councils, we enable and expect our students to take on leadership roles that are critical to the team or group running successfully.

Cultural Opportunities

New Plymouth is increasingly diverse and approximately 85 cultures are represented in the NPGHS student population. Broadly this means year groups which are approximately 50% NZ European/Pakeha, 25% Māori, 8% Chinese or Asian, 4% other European, 4% Indian, 4% Pasifika

Don't let some of those smaller percentages trick you – our Kapa Haka and Pasifika Fusion groups enhance and extend education and leadership opportunities for our students. Diversity adds to our understanding of each other, and we encourage each student to be their authentic self at school.

Uniform

New Plymouth Girls' High School students wear a simple and practical uniform throughout the year. Emphasis is placed on wearing the uniform correctly and with pride. Full details of uniform requirements can be found on our website <https://www.npghs.school.nz/enrolment/uniform-information>



At New Plymouth Girls' High School, students have a wide variety of facilities available to them on campus.

- Sports Fields, Netball and Tennis Courts
- Gymnasiums (2)
- Drama Studio
- Dance Studio
- Multi-resource Library, IT support
- Careers Information Centre
- Learning Support Centre
- Technology Suite
- Music – Practice Rooms, Rehearsal Rooms
- Café (Tuckshop)
- Wai Ora Health Centre
- Whare - Tūhonohono

What makes our school special

Waimarie Complex and High Needs Centre

Waimarie is our Complex and High Needs Centre, specifically designed to provide an educational setting for students with profound physical and/or intellectual disabilities. This is achieved through the provision of individualised, holistic, multi-sensory and life-skills based curriculum. Physical or occupational therapies may be provided or facilitated. Learning is centered around developing key competencies and communication strategies.

Opportunities for involvement with mainstream peers and classes are utilised when appropriate as the students in Waimarie have much to offer those in the wider school. Community engagement is also a key part of the Waimarie programmes with students regularly participating with local organisations such as WITT, Riding for the Disabled, the Sport Taranaki program, Sailability, TSSSA and Special Olympics events.

International Students

New Plymouth Girls' High School have a proud history of welcoming international students from around the world. We value the richness and diversity that they offer to the school, and enjoy showing them a real kiwi experience.

We accept students for stays from one term up to a full school year. Students have the option to select from our school hostel or homestay if they prefer.

We listen to the needs of our overseas students and collaborate with them to support them in achieving their goals. On arrival we provide an orientation programme and have a buddy system to ensure students feel welcome and comfortable.

International Students are supported by the International Co-ordinator, Deans, their Kāwai Huia teacher and the International and Global Perspectives Student Leader.

Students have a vast range of subjects to select from and ESOL support is also on offer for those who need it. Students are also encouraged to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities



Scotlands Hostel

Boarding at Scotlands Hostel offers a warm, welcoming, and supportive environment where students are encouraged to excel academically and actively participate in both school and hostel life. Whether it's through sports, cultural activities, music, or community involvement, boarders can engage in a range of experiences that foster a strong sense of belonging. The independence, maturity, and lifelong friendships gained through boarding provide an excellent foundation for adult life.

Our hostel is guided by the school's core values of Whakamana (Respect), Haepapa (Responsibility), and Whanaungatanga (Relationships), which shape the way we live and interact with each other.

At Scotlands Hostel, we're dedicated to helping students grow academically, socially, and personally, setting them up for success in the years to come.

Wharenui – Tūhonohono

Ka noho nei au ki te marae aroha, ko
Tūhonohono runga i te Mangorei mai
Puke Ariki.

Kōtahi te reo,
Kōtahi te iwi,
Kōtahi te wairua
Kōtahi te ngākau

Te whare piringa o te Kura Taitamawāhine
o Pukeariki ka rere atu rā ko te awa o Te
Hēnui.

Upon this treasured marae I stand,
Tūhonohono at Mangorei, beneath
noble Puke Ariki.

One voice,
One people,
One spirit
One heart.

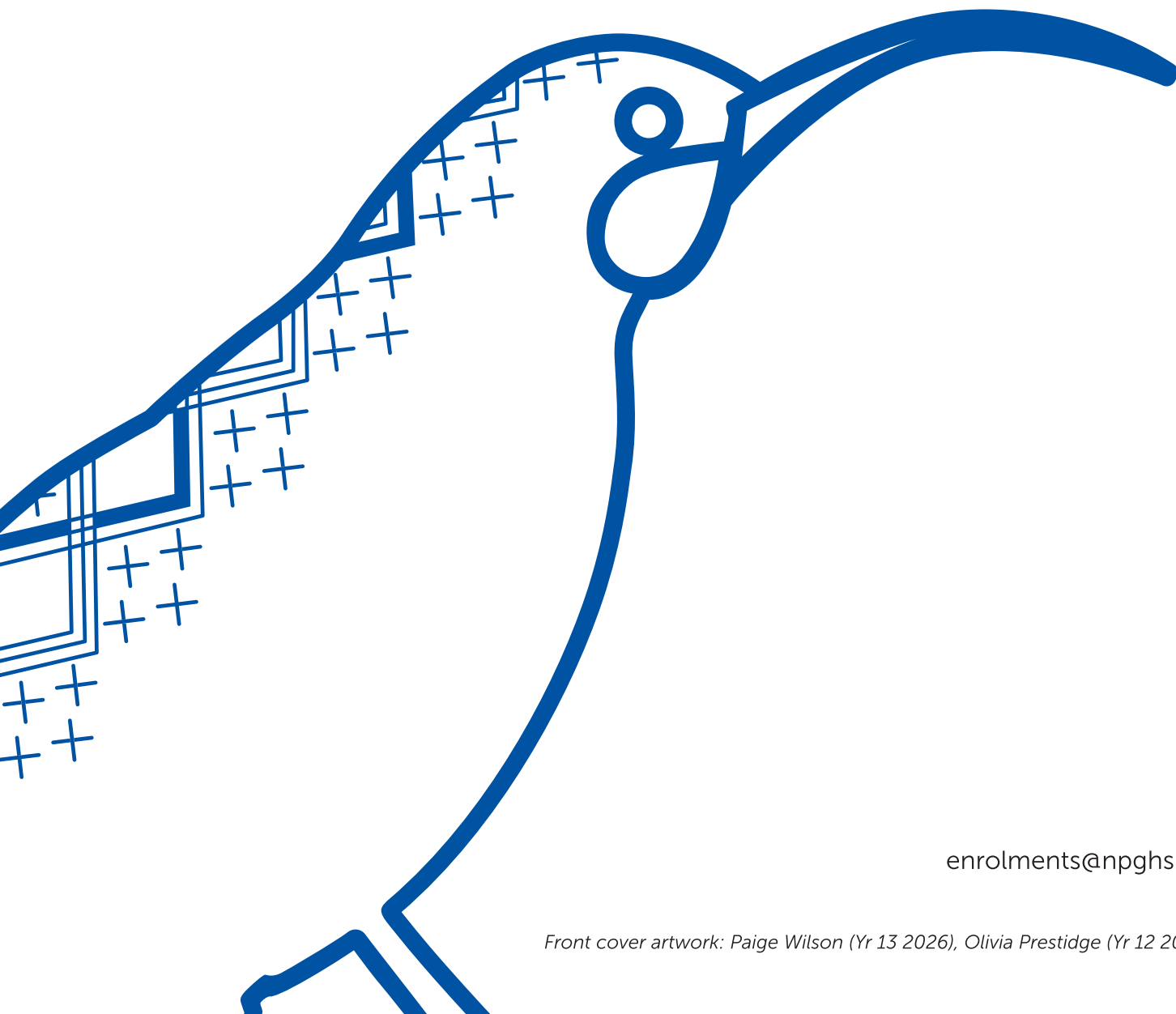
A place of belonging and shelter,
grounded in its surroundings, with the
Te Hēnui stream flowing alongside it.

We cast our thoughts to those who have gone before us, whose vision, dedication, and generosity have bestowed upon us this wonderful papakāinga. Opened in 1992, it stands as a place where we celebrate and embrace our culture while striving for academic excellence.

As its name suggests, it is a hub of connection — bringing together our students, staff, whānau, and wider community. It also strengthens the bonds we share with other school marae throughout our region, fostering a spirit of unity, belonging, and shared purpose for generations to come.







Connect with us:
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