

ROTORUA BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL



# Enrolment Prospectus

FOR 2026 ENROLMENTS



# RAUKURA



"It has always been my understanding that "Raukura", though literally referring to a feather or special plume, in fact conveyed a much more significant shade of meaning.

In some measure those described as possessors of the "Raukura" were of particularly significant stature. They were considered to have justified such a privilege by reason of illustrious lineage, extremely noteworthy leadership or some remarkable achievement in another field - perhaps warfare, diplomacy or unparalleled knowledge. Being considered worthy of the "Raukura" would undoubtedly have been an accolade sought eagerly by aspiring tribal members in the past.

When ultimately bestowed (by general consensus) on a deserving individual, it clearly indicated a level of excellence of the greatest merit. Academic achievement has, particularly during this 20th Century, been recognised as the single most vital element in the advancement and well being of us all.

I can only presume that this was clearly apparent to those of the 1920's, whose efforts resulted in the establishment of Rotorua High & Grammar School in 1927. The remarkable and farsighted educational endowment made by the Ngati Whakaue people some 40 years even before that, is evidence enough of their support of and belief in education.

I have no doubt that the use of "Raukura" was a subtle message of encouragement for all to take advantage of education, to seek excellence and thus justify the "Raukura"

- *Dr Don Stafford, RBHS Old Boy*

MR JOHN KENDAL

# Tumuaki/Principal

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# Our Vision

*To be the outstanding Boys' High School in New Zealand.*

# Our Principles

*Rotorua Boys' High School provides an environment for boys to mature into outstanding young men who are prepared for the important future role they must play in the community.*



# School Mottos

The School has two Mottos: the original Latin Motto of 1927; and the Te Reo Māori Motto of 1990.

Adopted in 1927 through a public competition, the Latin Motto "*Ad Astra Per Aspera*" was first displayed on A Block's Entrance Portico. The larger lettering seen today was added during renovations in 1938. In 1980, Principal G.R. Cramond formally interpreted the Latin to mean "*To the stars through hard work*", and this meaning has remained ever since.

Adopted in 1990, the Te Reo Māori motto "*Whāia Te Iti Kahurangi*" was added beneath the Latin one on the Entrance Portico. It comes from the whakataukī: "*Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe, me he maunga teitei*", meaning "*Search for great things and if one has to bow, let it be to a lofty mountain.*"



# Raukura Values

## ***Pūmau - Be strong of character***

Being strong of character means you show respect for both yourself and others, have personal integrity, take responsibility for the consequences of your actions and be a good citizen. Be a good man.

## ***Whakātu ngārahutanga - Demonstrate leadership***

Leadership can be taught and learned. You will have many opportunities to demonstrate leadership and be a good role model as well as encouraging appropriate behaviour in others. Be a good leader.

## ***Ūpoko pakaru - Display commitment***

Commitment means never giving up just because something is difficult. It encompasses a work ethic, time management and sacrifice in achieving your goals. Be a good worker.

## ***Kapo huanga - Take opportunities***

Taking opportunities is about embracing new challenges. You will be presented with a myriad of opportunities in your time at Rotorua Boys' High School. Enjoy the challenge.

## ***Hirangatanga - Strive for excellence***

Striving for excellence means you will always do your best, learn from your mistakes and seek continual improvement. Reach for the stars.

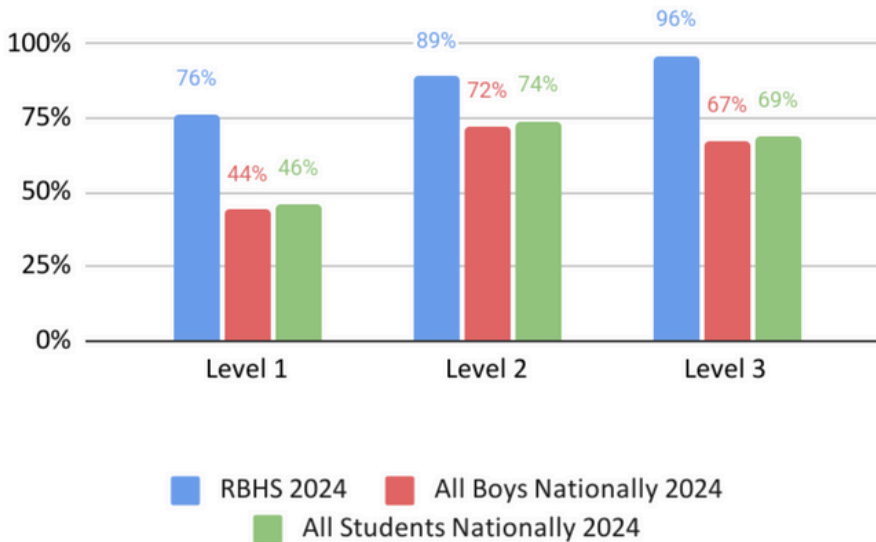
## ***Whakaute - Show respect***

Show respect to family, school, friends, team mates and especially yourself.

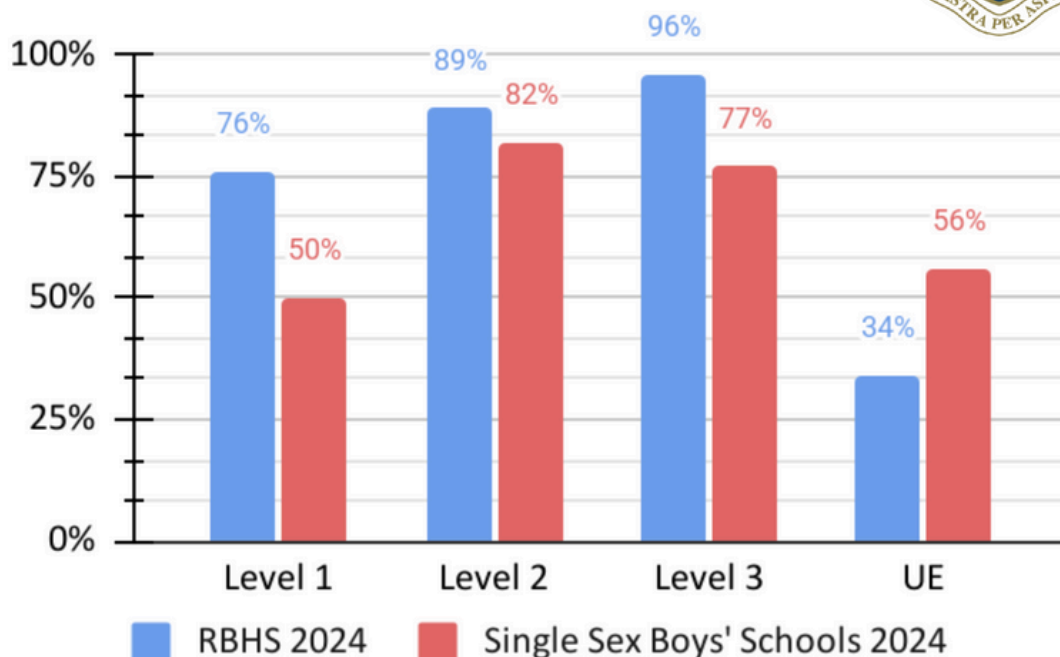


# Academic Results

## RBHS against All Students Nationally (2024)



## RBHS against Single Sexed Boys School Nationally(2024)



# Learning that Builds Futures

At Rotorua Boys' High School, every student's learning journey is valued. Whether your son is aiming for university, a trade, a creative career, or needs extra support, we offer personalised pathways that help boys succeed on their own terms.

## Junior Curriculum

In Years 9 and 10, students build strong foundations in core learning while exploring their interests through option classes. Classes are designed to be hands-on, engaging, and focused on how boys learn best.

*"I got to try welding in Year 10. Now I'm planning to do Trades Academy and get a job straight after school."*



# Senior Curriculum

Senior students follow NCEA (National Certificate of Educational Achievement) with options tailored to academic, vocational, or supported learning goals.

## Academic Pathway:

- Level 1, 2, and 3 NCEA
- University entrance courses
- Scholarship opportunities in a range of subjects

## Vocational Pathway:

- Gateway work experience placements
- Trades Academy (construction, automotive, hospitality, etc.)
- Primary Industries, Health & Fitness, Business courses

## Supported Learning Pathway:

- Curriculum Adaptation and a variety of assessment modes
- Life skills, literacy and numeracy support
- Individualised education plans for diverse needs



# Support for All Learners

We recognise that not all students learn the same way, and we provide tailored support for those who need it. We offer:

- Smaller classes in core subjects for extra guidance
- Specialist learning support staff
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Mentoring and targeted literacy/numeracy help

# Extension & Enrichment

For those wanting to go further, we offer a wide range of opportunities to stretch and challenge learners. These include:

- Academic Competitions (English, Mathematics, Science)
- Ihu Manea
- Leadership in Learning roles
- University Entrance Support and Scholarship Mentoring
- EPro8
- Visual Effects Club

# Equipping Boys for a Digital Future

At Rotorua Boys' High School, we prepare students not just to use technology—but to understand it, create with it, and lead through it. Our digital learning environment supports students to thrive in a connected world, while teaching them to be safe, smart, and responsible online.

# Apple Distinguished School

Rotorua Boys' High School is proud to be recognised as an Apple Distinguished School (2019–2027), a title awarded to institutions that show ongoing innovation in teaching, learning, and the use of technology. This reflects our commitment to fostering creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking through Apple technology.

As a 1:1 iPad school, every student has access to their own device, while our teachers use both iPads and MacBook's to deliver engaging, personalised lessons. This setup supports a dynamic, future-focused learning environment where students are equipped to thrive in a digital world.



# Sports

Sport is a proud part of our identity at Rotorua Boys' High School. From top-level competition to lunchtime league games, sport teaches our boys teamwork, resilience, and how to push themselves beyond limits. It's about representing your brothers, your school, and yourself with pride.

Raukura has a strong tradition of success in major sporting codes. Our students regularly compete—and win—at the highest levels nationally and internationally.

Some of the major codes we offer include:

- Rugby
- Basketball
- Golf
- Volleyball
- Waka Ama
- Touch
- Athletics
- Rugby League
- Football
- Cricket
- Badminton
- Squash
- Cross Country



# Sports Academies

We offer high-performance academies that combine elite coaching, sport science, and academic balance.

Students who wish to join any of our sports academies first need to demonstrate their commitment to education and class etiquette through Physical Education, which is one of their core subjects. As the year progresses, students will be given the option to choose an academy, if they wish. If their applications are successful, they will move to targeted academy classes, rather than Physical Education classes.

Our six sports academies are:

- Rugby Academy
- Football Academy
- Basketball Academy
- Golf Academy
- Hockey Academy
- Cricket Academy





# Expressing Identity, Building Confidence

At Rotorua Boys' High School, creativity and culture are at the heart of who we are. From kapa haka to rock bands, spoken word to painting, our students are encouraged to express themselves, take the stage, and find pride in their voice, heritage, and talents.

## Kapa Haka

Kapa haka at Raukura is more than performance—it is identity, discipline, and brotherhood. Raukura Kapa Haka - our combined roopu with Rautāwhiri, is nationally recognised, with a proud history of standing among the best in Aotearoa. We also have our boys only roopu, Te Aitanga a Tāne, who compete alongside Raukura Kapa Haka at the bi-annual Te Arawa Regionals.



# Tama Pasifika

Our Tama Pasifika students bring vibrancy and pride to the school through performance, community, and shared values. The group are among the best of the Super 8 Pasifika performance groups, having won the 2025 Super 8 Cultural Festival - Pasifika category.

## Music

Music is a powerful way for boys to explore creativity and build confidence. Our programme includes:

- Instrumental tuition (guitar, drums, brass, piano, etc.)
- Vocal coaching and choir opportunities
- Rock bands, choir, Raukura Drum Squad
- Performances at prizegivings, festivals, and local events



# Visual Arts

From traditional art to cutting-edge design, our boys explore visual language in all its forms:

- Drawing, painting, sculpture, and printmaking
- Digital photography, film, and design software
- Gallery exhibitions

# Drama & Performance

Our annual school productions are a highlight of the school year, bringing students from all year levels together to create something unforgettable. Our recent shows include Jersey Boys, In the Heights and Saturday Night Fever. Many of our performers go on to perform regionally and nationally.

Through drama & performance we offer:

- Acting
- Stage crew
- Lighting and sound crew
- Band





# Boarding at Raukura



Tai Mitchell House is where boys from across Aotearoa, the Pacific and the world, to come together and learn, grow, and build lifelong friendships. Boarding at RBHS offers a unique blend of structure, support, and independence—helping young men thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

Our carefully planned daily routines balance study, rest, and recreation to keep boys on track. Each evening includes supervised study sessions, while healthy and nutritious meals are provided throughout the day. Support staff are always available to assist with academic needs and wellbeing, and there's dedicated time set aside for physical activity, hobbies, and socialising.

Boarding life builds strong bonds and a sense of belonging. Lifelong friendships form through shared experiences, while daily routines help students learn responsibility through chores and time management. At the same time, they develop independence in a safe and caring environment.



# Growing Strong Leaders for Tomorrow

At Rotorua Boys' High School, leadership is part of our culture. We believe every boy has the potential to lead with confidence, integrity, and purpose – whether at school, in the community, or beyond.

Our leadership journey begins in Year 9, with a focus on teamwork, self-awareness, and involvement in initiatives like Class Kaiarahi, Year 9 Camp, and Jubilee Scholars. In Year 10, students build confidence and take on responsibilities through group projects and roles such as House Captains. Year 11 encourages initiative, with opportunities like peer mentoring.

By Year 12, students begin actively leading their peers through leadership camps and prefect training. In Year 13, they step into key leadership roles – organising events, serving as school ambassadors, and representing Raukura as prefects.



# Wellbeing

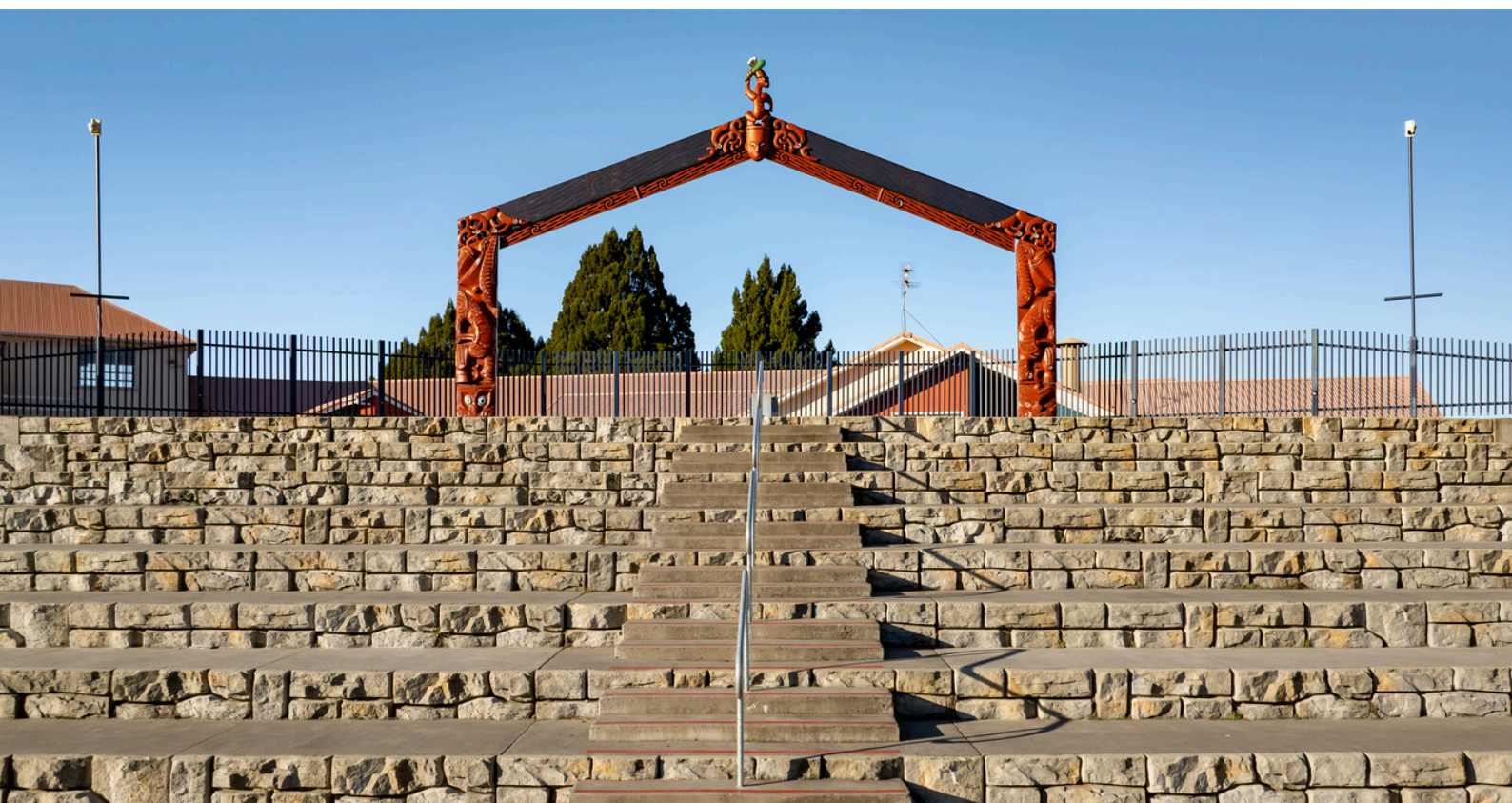
At Rotorua Boys' High School, wellbeing is central to our approach. We know that supporting the whole student—mind, body, and spirit—is key to success both inside and outside the classroom.

# Pastoral Care

Our dedicated team of Deans, House Group Tutors, and Counsellors work closely with each boy to build positive relationships and provide ongoing support. Whether it's academic worries, personal challenges, or planning for the future, students know they have trusted adults to turn to.

# Restorative Practices

We believe in restoring relationships rather than just punishing behaviour. Our restorative approach encourages accountability, respect, and learning from mistakes—helping boys grow stronger in character and empathy.



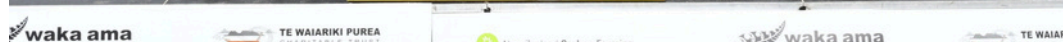
# Learning Support

Every learner is unique, and our Learning Support team is here to ensure all students get the help they need to thrive. This includes tailored support through our reading programme, supported learners class, ESOL, and dedicated Te Honoa Toi and Tupu Manuia.

# Guidance Centre & Wellbeing Services

Located inside the Millenium Centre, our Guidance Centre provides confidential medical and wellbeing support, with a dedicated team that includes nurses, a doctor, guidance counsellors, youth workers, and an on-site Attendance Team. We also offer access to external specialists when needed.







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