



KURATOA

Kura Toa Prospectus

Learning without limits

Enrolments Open



Welcome from the Tumuaki



E te iwi tēnā koutou katoa. Kua tae te wā kua whakatuwheratia a Kura Toa.

Nau mai, piki mai, haere mai!

Ko Tokomaru te waka
Ko Taranaki te maunga mātua,
Ko Pukeatua te paemaunga
Ko Te Ati Awa rāua ko Ngāti Tuwharetoa ngā iwi
Ko Ngāti Hamua rāua ko Te Matehou ngā hapū
Ko Te Awa Kairangi te awa
Ko Arohanui ki te Tāngata rāua ko Te Tatou ō te
Pō nga wharenuī
Ko te whānau Te One

It is a privilege to welcome you to Kura Toa.

I am excited to be part of a model of education that supports every young person to achieve educational excellence and prepares them for success beyond school.

I have spent recent years working alongside Ngāti Toa Rangatira and this Porirua community and in that time, I have come to know first-hand the strength, warmth and aspiration that lives here. Kura Toa is the next chapter in a story this community has been writing for a long time, and I am deeply grateful to be entrusted with leading it into being.

Kura Toa exists because Ngāti Toa Rangatira believed our tamariki and rangatahi deserved a

learning environment shaped by who they are, not one that they had to fit themselves into. It is built on mana motuhake, the confidence to stand strong in your own identity and on the belief that every whānau deserves a genuine choice about the kind of education that reflects their values and hopes for their child in pursuit of excellence. That is the vision we are now realising together, and it is one that I am proud to help carry.

Across 35 years in education, I have seen one thing hold true again and again - rangatahi thrive when they are truly known, when their identity is honoured and when their learning connects to something that matters to them.

That is exactly what our Know, Be and Do approach and our Mauri Ora model are designed to do for every ākonga at Kura Toa.

I am looking forward to walking alongside every whānau who joins us on this journey. Kura Toa will be built with you not just for you and I warmly invite you to be a part of shaping what this kura becomes for our tamariki, our community and the generations still to come.

Ngā mihi nui

Kathleen O'Hare
Tumuaki



Who We Are

Our Story

Kura Toa is the realisation of a vision shaped through a commitment to education excellence and an enduring aspiration to ensure every ākonga can thrive.

It is founded on the belief that every rangatahi deserves a learning environment that recognises their strengths, nurtures their potential and supports their aspirations for the future.

At the heart of this vision is a simple belief: choice in education matters. We know that rangatahi flourish when they experience a genuine sense of belonging, are encouraged to build on their strengths and are inspired to pursue their goals with confidence. Equally, we believe whānau should have the opportunity to choose a learning environment that reflects the needs, values and aspirations they hold for their child.

Kura Toa exists as part of that long-term vision - providing a personalised, future-focused approach to learning that pursues educational excellence while valuing identity, fostering meaningful relationships, and equipping every rangatahi with the knowledge, skills and confidence to shape their own future.

Our Vision

Kura Toa grows confident champions who stand strong in their identity and honour the legacy of those who have gone before them. Our rangatahi lead with integrity, think deeply, and contribute with purpose to their whānau and communities.

Our Mission

To grow champions through a Ngāti Toa grounded education that builds knowledge, strengthens identity, and applies learning in meaningful ways - preparing every rangatahi for success beyond school.

Our Values

Guided by these values, Kura Toa fosters a culture of Learning Without Limits – where curiosity is nurtured, potential is recognised, and every rangatahi is empowered to shape their own pathway to success.

- **Whānaungatanga** - Building strong relationships and a sense of belonging with each other and our wider community.
- **Mana Motuhake** - Growing independence, confidence, and pride in who we are and where we come from.
- **Manaakitanga** - Showing care, respect, and responsibility for others and ourselves.
- **Āuahatanga** - Encouraging creativity, innovation, and the courage to think differently.



Graduate Profile

Ka oho te wairua
when the spirit is awakened

Ka mataara te tinana
when the body is alert

He aroha ki te aroha
love unconditionally

Ka kā te rama
enlightenment flows

Ka Oho te Wairua
– Nā Te Rauparaha

A Kura Toa graduate demonstrates the following qualities.

Whanaungatanga

- build and sustain meaningful relationships
- uphold tikanga and kawa appropriately
- express whakapapa confidently
- strengthen collective wellbeing
- contribute positively to whānau and community
- work collaboratively across diverse settings

Mana Motuhake

- lead with integrity and discipline
- demonstrate resilience under challenge
- communicate clearly and respectfully
- make informed and ethical decisions
- show independence and initiative
- manage themselves responsibly

Manaakitanga

- care for people and place
- demonstrate empathy and relational courage
- support collective success
- act with generosity and humility
- contribute through service and action

Auahatanga

- think creatively and strategically
- solve complex problems
- innovate in culturally grounded ways
- adapt to changing environments
- pursue improvement through reflection
- apply knowledge in practical contexts

Graduate Capabilities

- communicate bilingually across formal and informal contexts
- analyse information critically
- undertake research and inquiry
- apply mathematical and scientific reasoning
- participate in governance and civic life
- design and lead projects
- work effectively within teams
- demonstrate practical and vocational capability
- navigate multiple knowledge systems respectfully

What Makes Kura Toa Different?

A Personalised Approach to Learning

At the heart of the Kura Toa experience is the Mauri Ora Personalised Development Plan. Co-designed with each rangatahi and their whānau, this living plan reflects individual strengths, interests, goals and aspirations, guiding both learning and personal growth throughout their journey at the kura.

Every ākonga follows a pathway shaped by their Mauri Ora Plan, ensuring learning is relevant, purposeful and responsive to their needs. Alongside academic progress, equal importance is placed on identity, wellbeing, belonging and preparing for life beyond school.

Our intentionally small learning community enables kaiako to know each rangatahi well and provide tailored support, meaningful challenge and strong mentoring relationships. Technology enhances personalised learning, while authentic projects, community partnerships and real-world experiences help rangatahi apply their knowledge in practical and engaging ways.

Rather than preparing rangatahi for a single destination, Kura Toa equips them with the confidence, capability and adaptability to pursue the pathways that are right for them and to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Our kaiako and learning support team bring a wide range of skills that support ākonga to grow in confidence, capability and identity.

These strengths are applied flexibly around each rangatahi, alongside whānau, and in support of the goals within each Mauri Ora Plan.

- Curriculum design, differentiated teaching and assessment for learning
- Literacy, numeracy and foundational learning support
- Specialist support for diverse rangatahi, including adaptive strategies and inclusive practice
- Pastoral care, mentoring and strengths-based rangatahi guidance
- Whānau engagement, relationship-building and collaborative goal setting
- Culturally grounded practice that supports identity, language and belonging
- Behaviour support, wellbeing awareness and restorative approaches

A Connected Support Network

The Mauri Ora way of learning extends beyond the classroom. It is woven through the wider Rūnanga service offering and reflects our belief that every door is the right door. Through Pataka Toa, including Te Pikau o te Rangi support for diverse rangatahi, ākonga and whānau can access a connected suite of support that compliments the skills of our kura team and strengthens learning, wellbeing and cultural identity.

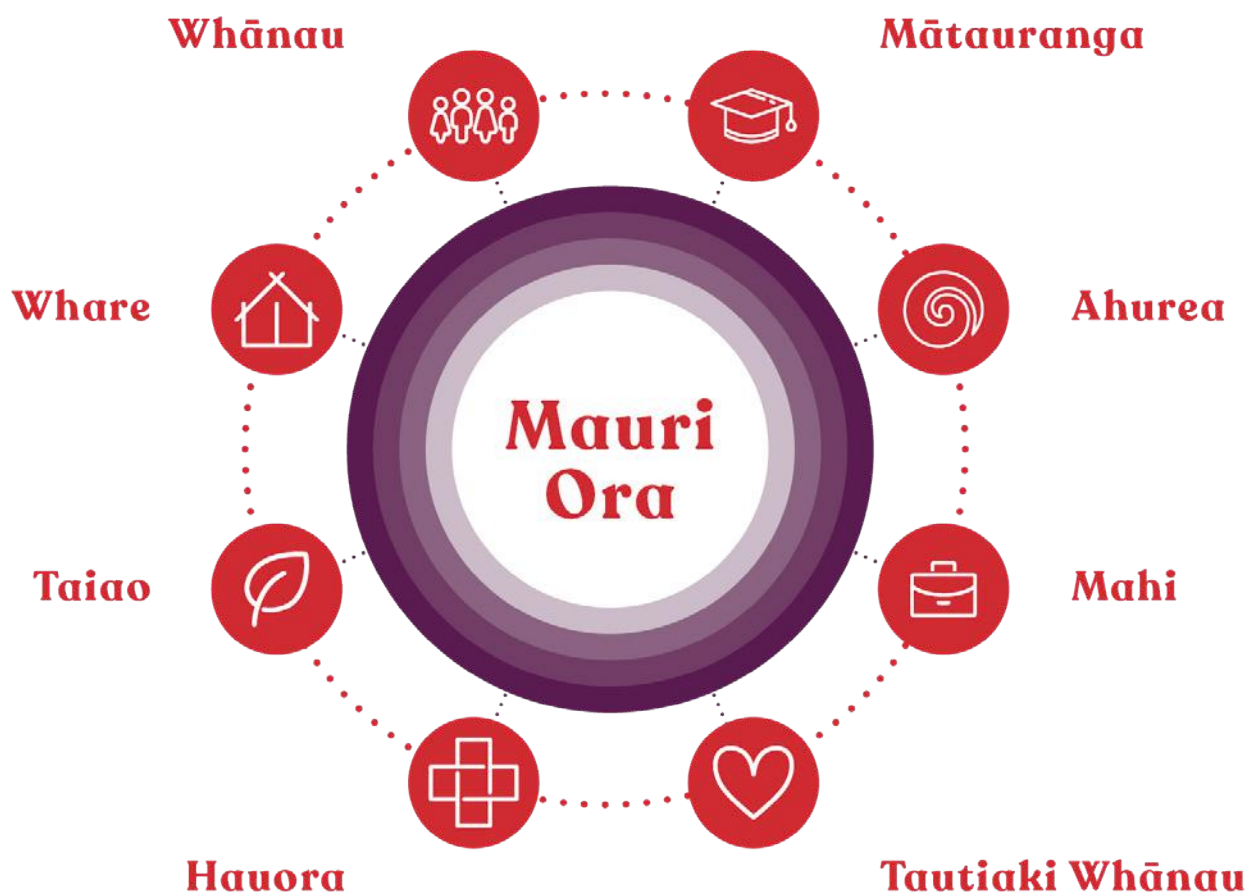
- Social services support
- Hauora and wellbeing support
- Innovation pathways and learning support
- Cultural support and connection

Mauri Ora

Supporting the Whole Rangatahi

At Kura Toa, Mauri Ora is our approach to helping every rangatahi flourish. We believe educational excellence is achieved by supporting the whole learner, with equal importance placed on identity, wellbeing, belonging and personal growth.

Every rangatahi has a personalised Mauri Ora Plan, developed with them and their whānau. Together, we identify strengths, set goals and tailor learning to help each learner pursue and achieve educational excellence.



The Learning Journey

Our Approach to Learning

At Kura Toa, learning combines the acquisition of knowledge with the activation of knowledge, helping rangatahi understand new ideas and apply them in meaningful ways.

We recognise that every rangatahi progresses at their own pace, so we use a variety of teaching approaches to provide the right balance of support and challenge. This includes collaborative learning, practical experiences and the purposeful use of digital and AI tools to personalise learning and enhance the work of both kaiako and ākonga.

By connecting knowledge with action, we help rangatahi build the confidence, skills and adaptability to succeed at kura and beyond.



Monday to Thursday

Monday to Thursday follows a structured timetable that supports focused, purposeful learning through our Know, Do and Be approach. Rangatahi strengthen literacy and numeracy, engage across the curriculum and apply their learning through collaborative projects and authentic experiences.

Guided by their Mauri Ora Plan, rangatahi in Years 7–10 build strong foundations in knowledge, skills and confidence, while those in Years 11–13 are supported to achieve recognised qualifications, including NCEA pathways from 2027, preparing them for future study, employment and life.

Friday – Mauri Ora in Action

Fridays provide a flexible learning experience beyond the traditional classroom. Guided by their personalised Mauri Ora Plan and supported by the Kura Toa team, ākonga may work from home or participate in meaningful activities and experiences that reflect their strengths, interests and aspirations.

This approach recognises that learning happens in many places and gives our rangatahi the opportunity to apply their skills, explore their passions and connect their learning to future pathways.

Any ākonga under 16 years of age must have appropriate adult supervision while learning from home or participating in activities outside of Kura Toa.

Our Curriculum

Rangatahi experience a balanced curriculum organised around four interconnected pou:

- **Te Reo me ngā Toi** - strengthening language, communication and creative expression.
- **Pūtaiao me te Pāngarau** - building scientific understanding, mathematical thinking and analytical capability.
- **Tikanga ā-lwi me te Ao Tangata** - exploring identity, history, people and society.
- **Kaitiakitanga me ngā Mahi a Ringa** - encouraging environmental responsibility, practical skills and learning through doing.

These learning areas are complemented by Life Labs, where rangatahi develop leadership, enterprise, innovation and real-world capabilities through authentic experiences.

Opportunities for Rangatahi

At Kura Toa, learning extends beyond the school gate, providing ākonga with opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills and pursue pathways:

Academic	Vocational	Cultural	Sporting*	Personal
- NCEA - University preparation - Scholarships and international pathways	- Trades - Industry placements and qualifications - Work experience	- Te reo Māori - Toi Māori - Kapa Haka	- Team sports - Individual sports - Outdoor education – diving, taiao	- Leadership - Service - Entrepreneurship - Community projects
				

*Sport

Sport and physical wellbeing are an important part of each champion's Mauriora journey. Rangatahi can access team sports with other schools where needed, as well as smaller team and individual sport opportunities within the kura.

Uniform

Kura Toa is currently working to design appropriate kākahu to support our identity at Kura Toa. There will be a cost associated with these items, and further information, including purchasing options, will be shared with whānau once confirmed.

Partnering with Whānau

Learning Together

Whānau are valued partners of every stage of the learning journey.

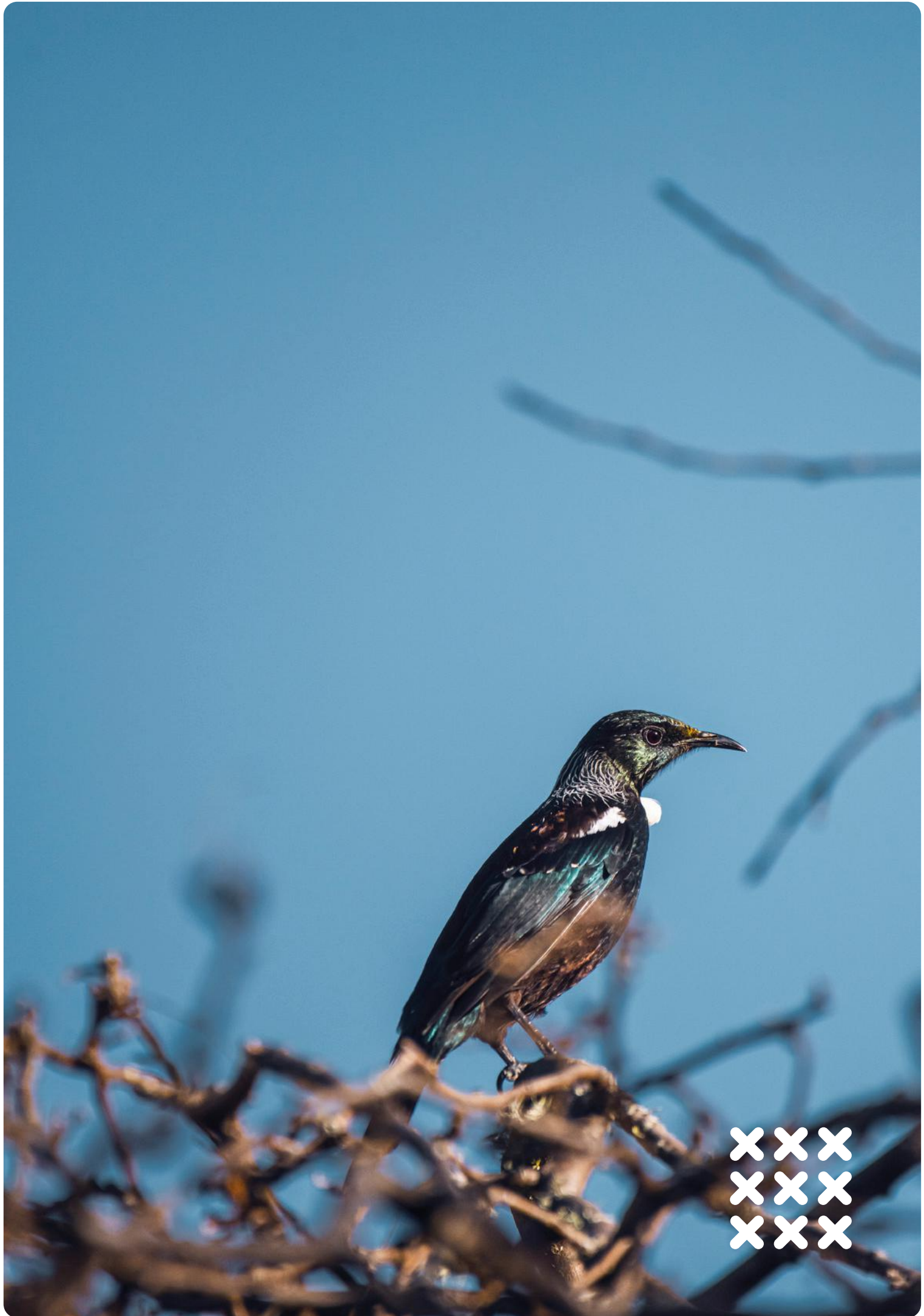
Our team are committed to regular communication through digital and in person updates, term hui, progress reporting, rangatahi-led mauri ora conferences and ongoing collaboration. We see our role as supporting every whānau to remain actively involved in setting goals and celebrating progress along the way.

We recognise that learning continues beyond the kura and that strong partnerships between home and school create the best conditions for success.

- Whānau hui
- Community workshop sessions (information and masterclasses on kaupapa whānau want to learn about)
- Progress reporting – termly
- Rangatahi-led mauri ora conferences
- Celebrations and events throughout the year
- Opportunities for whānau working groups

At Kura Toa we see whānau and kura actively working together for the best outcomes for every one of our rangatahi.





Enroll with us



Phone

0800 5872 862 (KURA TOA)



Address

3 Wi Neera Dr, Elsdon, Porirua 5022



Email

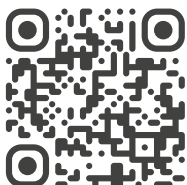
tari@kuratoa.school.nz



Website

www.kuratoa.school.nz

We'd love to kōrero with
you and your whānau.
Get in touch or register
your interest.



Proudly supported by



TE RŪNANGA O
TOA RANGATIRA