

Rhode Street School



2011

Our School, Our History, Your Future...

Naumai Haere Mai and Welcome to Rhode Street School; Hamilton's Family School.



[Rhode Street School](#) is located in the south western Hamilton suburb of [Dinsdale](#). The school was established in 1959 and continues to deliver effective learning and teaching programmes for Year 0 to Year 8 students.

Over the past 50 plus years, Rhode Street School has developed as a centre of learning for our local community, leading up to today, where it is recognized as a leader in innovative teaching practice and sustainable quality learning environments.

Our teachers use specific strategies and consultative protocols for effective communication with whānau, families, hapū, iwi and the community. They communicate effectively with all parents and whānau about their child's learning. They engage with all learners, whānau, hapū, iwi and our Māori communities in open dialogue about teaching and learning, acknowledging and accessing the expertise that all parents, whānau, hapū and iwi offer.

When meeting and talking to our students for the first time, many visitors to our school often comment on how confident, articulate and respectful they are towards others. These same observations are made by our students of their teachers:



"My teacher talks with me about my learning" • "My teacher wants my parents to have a say and makes it possible" • "She listens to my views and those of my friends" • "He shares his views with me and my mates" • "They care about what we think" • "She shares good news (and the not so good) with my parents and whānau" • "my teacher hears what my parents say, expect and want."

The school's physical environment is attractive and provides pleasant learning spaces for students, staff and parents; with our extensive shaded areas (provided by our beautiful well established trees), an expansive playing field and neighboring park, two adventure playgrounds, a large astro-turf courtyard area, kitchen garden complete with chooks and a wood-fired pizza oven, and attractive native and exotic plantings (numbering in excess of 1000); we are totally committed to continue protecting, sustaining and enhancing our learning environments.

The school has an eclectic mix of old, modern, refurbished and new learning spaces, comprising of 11 well-resourced classrooms, the Vicki Signal Media Centre, an FM Radio Station (88.3 fm), a commercial teaching kitchen / tunnel house and hydroponics centre, a school community hall, our world famous Sensory Garden, organic orchards, sustainable vegetable gardens, Kai Time student café, various administration and community spaces, and an Ecological Island (currently under construction).



Our school has an awesome multi-cultural dimension with the diversity of children attending the school coming from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds; including Maori, European, Pacific

Island, Indian, Korean, Philippine and Chinese. This eclectic diversity is representative of New Zealand's changing society and a great place to immerse our children in learning compassion, tolerance, resilience, and empathy. Our cultures are physically represented by the 12 Pou (carved poles) situated just beyond the school's Waharoa (main entrance gate). Each Pou tells a story about the culture they represent and how they were created by our students.

We are very proud to have a [bi-lingual class](#) as a result of a community need that caters for Year 4 to 8 tamariki. We are also proud of our rich diversity as a main stream state school and believe our school reflects a positive outlook on the future of education in New Zealand.

Our smaller school size (averages around 240 students), low class numbers (average 20 students per teacher) and family atmosphere, ensures our school is an attractive choice for your family.

Our staff and Board are committed to raising student achievement, students experiencing success, and we all have high expectations for learning and behaviour for all our children and whanau to care for our Shared Values and Vision of:

RESPECT, LEARN, GROW, and FAMILY



VISION STATEMENT

*Everyone Growing and Respecting
A Quality Learning Whanau*



An Important Message from the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is committed to working with our Principal and staff to provide the best possible learning outcomes for all our students. This means that as a school we believe:

We will

- Always focus on raising student achievement and teacher effectiveness through our learning programmes, including our inquiry learning model: Waka Matauranga.
- Practice the concept of manaakitanga ensuring all whanau are encouraged to adopt a holistic approach to their learning, health and well-being.
- Ensure all whanau know and practice the concepts of whakawhanaungatanga through the school's innovative and inclusive communication strategies and partnerships.
- Foster and promote being successful as Māori in a Māori World and sharing that world with others.
- Ensure that resources are relevant and that progress and achievement is measured against the NZ Curriculum National Standards utilizing overall teacher judgments.
- Foster and encourage the concepts of ecological sustainability through authentic learning opportunities that reflect the diversity and richness of Aotearoa.

We always encourage and seek input from all our parents and whanau on matters relating to the governance and vision for students achievement and success at Rhode Street School.

We would love to have you at school, helping out in the classroom or assisting with administration and property work where appropriate. But more importantly we value your support in helping your child to learn at home in partnership with our teachers and our school.

We need and will value an enthusiastic group of parents to lead our fundraising efforts to assist us to purchase the extra resources we need to achieve our learning goals.

Your Board meets every third Tuesday of each school month in the Vicki Signal Media Centre at 5.00 pm. You are most welcome to attend and experience what we do to lead the learning and teaching here at Rhode Street.

From time to time we will ask for your input into revising our policies and procedures, our School Charter and strategic plan, and the vision for our school. We will do this through a consultative process utilising the kaupapa of kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face) alongside innovative technologies such as our self-review web site: <http://rhodest.schooldocs.co.nz/>:

Parent Log on: *rhodest* Password: *respect*

Our Board of Trustees: through the principal and staff, is required to develop and implement a curriculum for students in years 0 – 8:

- that is underpinned by and consistent with the [principles](#) of the NZ Curriculum;
- in which the [values](#) are encouraged and modeled and are explored by students;
- And supports students to develop in the [key competencies](#).

: To provide with effectively taught programmes of learning in:

[English](#)

[Health and Physical Education](#)

[The Arts](#)

[Mathematics and Statistics](#)

[Science](#)

[Social Sciences](#)

[Technology.](#)

[Enviro Education](#)

Te Ao Māori

When designing and reviewing our curriculum, our school selects achievement objectives from each area in response to the identified interests and learning needs of our students. We achieve this through our inquiry approach to teaching and learning; consulting with our students and their whanau; providing opportunities for students to identify and direct their next learning steps.

Our local curriculum is designed and owned by our school community. It follows our profound desire to provide rich contextual authentic learning opportunities for all students, staff and whanau. In other words: hands on learning relevant and meaningful to our diverse student population, which teaches skills, new knowledge, and allows each student to grow and experience learning success.

Please keep in touch with myself or Shane, the principal, as early communication is best when working together to meet our children's needs and the school's expectations.

Mauriora

Lex Kemara

B.O.T Chairperson (2011)

boardchair@rhodestreet.school.nz

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Chairperson:	Lex Kemara	021 250 1735
Principal:	Shane Ngatai	847 7245 / 021 968 750
Staff Trustee		Sarnia Pou
Parent Trustee		Taniya Kemara
Parent Trustee		Milton Ngaruhe
Parent Trustee		Pakewa Watene
Parent Trustee		Michelle Deakin
Board Minutes Secretary		Elizabeth Fullerton

The Board of Trustee Minutes are public documents and are available for viewing in the school's foyer.

Principal's Korero

Strengthening Relationships

Students who are engaged in learning while at school will gain an advantage which will serve them well throughout their lives. The most significant factors in engaging students are the quality of teaching and the partnership between school, home and family. Home and school partnerships that focus clearly on learning and respect have a far greater impact on student achievement.

Rhode Street School is always focusing and reflecting on how we can develop this partnership between home and school and vice versa.

Your support as parents, caregivers and whanau is vital in ensuring your child/ren value learning. The way you interact with them about school, about supporting their relationships with teachers, and about providing the supportive environment needed at home; is paramount in securing a better future for each student at this school.

The staff at Rhode Street School are professionals who have the best interests of all the students at heart. We provide evidence based and effective teaching programmes supported by excellent resources and staff dedication. We always need your support as parents, caregivers and whanau to continue the hard work each of us put into engaging your child in a learning partnership.

You can help us by:

- ☺ getting your child to school on time (before the 8.30 am bell goes)
- ☺ making sure they have had adequate sleep the night before hand (minimum of 10 hours)
- ☺ insisting they have breakfast either at home or school when they arrive
- ☺ providing healthy snacks and a substantial nutritional lunch (including plenty of fruit)
- ☺ monitoring home learning and providing your support where needed
- ☺ returning school notices on time and with permission slips and the correct monies
- ☺ reading the newsletter every fortnight (with your child) on Monday night
- ☺ ensuring your child is dressed for the weather (including a school hat and sunscreen)
- ☺ being positive about school, the people who work here and about learning
- ☺ valuing your school and everyone who belongs to it (including YOU)
- ☺ visiting us on a regular basis when the opportunities arise
- ☺ and by having high expectations for your child to be successful in learning

We all want our children to have the best chance in life and school is so important in ensuring this can happen. We only get this one opportunity with each child and value the vocation we have chosen. You must as parents, caregivers and families support this philosophy alongside us as a school, to ensure we reach our goals together.

I thank you for taking this on board and joining us on our journey to, Everyone Growing and Respecting a Quality Learning Whanau.

Aroha nui

Shane Ngatai
Principal and Proud of It.



2011 STAFF

Leadership Team

Shane Ngatai	Principal	
Lois McGregor	Deputy Principal	
Michelle Ryan	Assistant Principal	Junior Syndicate
Sarnia Pou	Senior Teacher	Middle Syndicate
Lisa Harvey	Senior Teacher	Senior Syndicate

Kaiako (Teachers)

Lois McGregor	Room 1	Y 5
Lynndon Barton	Room 2	Y 6
Jarrold Ngatuere	Room 3	Y 7
Lisa Harvey	Room 4	Y 7 – 8
Rawiri Hotere	Room 5	Y 4 – 8 (Bi-lingual)
Sarnia Pou	Room 6	Y 4
Amy Haswell	Room 7	Y 3
Elrika Keyser	Room 8	Y 2 – 3
Michelle Ryan	Room 9	Y 0 – 1
Rebecca Findlay	Room 10	Y 1 – 2
Sam Gray	Room 11	Y 2 – 3

Support Staff

Claudine Eriepa	ORS Support	
Cindy Corbett	ORS Support	
Melissa Pattison	RTLB Support	
Whaea Dianne	Kaiawhina (Room 5)	
Vicki Signal	Librarian and Media Centre Manager	
Alastair Kerr	Enviroschools Teacher	
Pat Broomhall	Kai Time Café and Kitchen Support	
Delwyn Rouse	ESOL Support	
Kimi Pardoe	S.W.I.S. Social Worker in School	027 5631028
Elisabeth Fullerton	B.O.T. Secretary	

Administration Staff

Winnie Pasene	Office Manager / Financial Controller
Alastair Kerr	Property Manager
Mel Rudolph	School Cleaner

Sustainable Kids Extended Services

Pat Broomhall	Programmes	Director
Dianne Waaka	Supervisor	(Breakfast Club)
Krystee Craig	Assistant Manager	(After School Care)
Nikki Fenton	Kathryn Broomhall	Supervisors (After School Care)
Wesley Hedder	Lisa Paki	Supervisors (After School Care)

General INFORMATION

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Being present at school every school day, ready to engage in learning, and focused on progressing and achieving while at school; are three reference points we use to measure success.

Building and fostering positive relationships and caring for each other is another important principle we hold close to our hearts. Our high expectations for every child to be at school are fostered by the way in which we communicate with you as whanau and your support of us.

For safety and attendance reasons it is important that parents and teachers know where children are at all times. Please notify the school office before 8.30 am if your child will be absent or late. (07) 847 7245. Unexplained absences will be followed up after 8.45 am by our school office and if no contact can be made with whanau, then we will send a truancy officer around to your home to seek an explanation and possibly assist in getting your child to school.

Children who arrive after the bell has rung must report to the school office and collect a Late Slip before going to class.

The school will contact parents/caregivers where attendance and/or lateness are interfering with the child's learning. In the first instance this will be your child's teacher and then the Deputy Principal, Mrs. Lois McGregor. The school regularly monitors student attendance and reports trends to the Board of Trustees and the Ministry of Education.

Our average attendance rate has increased over the past three years to 92% and we have set a target of 98% by 2015 as an expectation on our community.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Once children have arrived at school, no-one is permitted to leave without staff and parental permission. This may be gained by sending a signed letter or a telephone call by a parent/caregiver. Children are required to be signed out and back in again by an adult caregiver at the school office.

No one is permitted to take children from the school grounds unless the school has been informed of the alternative arrangements by the caregiver.

CLOTHING and SCHOOL UNIFORM

SUN HATS

It is a school sun safe policy that children are to wear the red Rhode Street School hat during Terms 1 and 4. (Yellow hats for after school programme)

New and used hats can be purchased through the school office.

Children not wearing the correct school hat whilst outside will be required to sit under the shade trees for their own protection.

If children learn to protect themselves from the risk of skin cancer and sunburn, it will help them to live a healthy life.

Rhode Street School is an accredited [SUNSMART SCHOOL](#).

SWIMMING ATTIRE

Students must only wear one piece togs (girls) and/or swimming trunks and rash shirt (boys) when attending swim classes at The Hamilton [Water world Pools](#) in Te Rapa (Terms 2 and 4). Long hair also needs to be tied back from the face and a bag supplied to carry wet gear home.

Please name all of your child's clothing and belongings before they attend our school to ensure that if they are misplaced then their belongings can be returned quickly to the rightful owner.

SPORTS UNIFORM

If your child plays for a school team, a sports uniform is supplied by the school to loan. All students are requested to bring a change of shorts and t-shirt for any physical activities organised by their teacher for health and safety reasons.

RHODE STREET SCHOOL COMPULSORY UNIFORM

The uniform for summer is the school polo shirt and black shorts or skirts. The polo shirt can only be purchased from the school office. Shorts and skirts must be black in colour and plain with no logos or prints. Sandals either black or brown are also part of the school uniform for terms 1 and 4.

The winter uniform is the school polo and the school fleecy which can only be purchased from the school. Plain black longs are also permitted along with black, dark blue or brown shoes.

Whanau are welcome to lay-by their uniform as well as pay by direct credit, Eftpos or cash.

The school chooses not to make a profit from uniform sales and offers the same price we pay to keep the costs as low as possible. Every attempt was made to source the best quality, design and manufacturer for our custom made school uniform.

Prices:	Polo: \$25 / \$27.00 large	Polar Fleece: \$50.00 / \$55.00 large
	Hat: \$25.00	Shorts/Skorts: \$35.00
	Trousers: \$45.00	Lined long track pants: \$40.00
	School vests: \$40.00 / \$45.00 large	
	School Jackets: \$40.00 / \$45.00 medium and large	

Uniforms can be ordered and collected from the school office during school opening hours. Please check with the office if you are eligible for a WINZ subsidy before purchasing your uniforms.

SCHOOL HOURS

The school is open to receive children from 7.30 am.

Every Monday school starts at 8.30 in Kahikatea (School Hall) with a whole school assembly including a karakia, new pupils welcome, birthdays, sport results, teacher notices and whole school singing.

Lessons commence	: 8.30 am sharp
Interval	: 10.10 am to 10.30 am
Lunch	: 12.00 pm to 12.45pm

Every Friday ends with a whole school celebration assembly from 2.00 pm in Kahikatea with a different class acting as hosts each week. At this assembly students share what they are learning with a focus on student centred inquiry. You are most welcome to attend either of these assemblies and celebrate our students' achievements.

School finishes at 2.40 pm and we expect that all children have left the school grounds by 2.50 pm unless attending the After School Extended Services Programme or organized sports practice.

Our teachers escort designated groups of students to our various exit points and up to road crossings where they can cross safely and walk home in small groups.

The school gates are unlocked at 7.30 am and locked at 5.30 pm. During school time we endeavour to keep all our gates shut to minimize any risk to our students. We appreciate our visitors shutting the gate they use.

TERM DATES for 2011

Term 1: Monday 7th February to Friday 15th April
Term 2: Monday 2nd May to Friday 15th July
Term 3: Monday 1st August to Friday 7th October
Term 4: Tuesday 25th October to Tuesday 20th December

LUNCHES and HEALTHY EATING

School ordering is open from 8.00 am to 8.30 am at the Kai Time Café.
Menus are available when ordering and change seasonally.

The lunches are made daily from school grown vegetables and fruit, and are prepared in our Sustainable Kids commercial kitchen by Mrs. Broomhall and her team of student volunteers.

As we are a [HEALTH PROMOTING SCHOOL](#) and we encourage all our whanau and families to provide healthy options for eating. No lollies, gum, fast food, or fizzy drinks are permitted at school. Please keep special treats such as small packets of chips etc to a once in a while option.

All lunches and morning teas at school are eaten in our Kai Time Café and supervised by teaching staff to ensure our students are eating a healthy and nutritious lunch, recycle any food scraps and put their waste paper in the bin provided.



As we are trying to become a zero waste school within the next year, we have encouraged whanau to provide re-useable plastic bags or containers to store lunches, snacks and drinks.

By eliminating pre-packaged foods and Glad wrap, we are all helping to reduce waste at school.

During the warmer months it is also advisable to put a freezer pack in with your child's kai to reduce the risk of food poisoning. Or freeze their water bottle and put it in with their lunch.

During the year we often have fresh produce for sale at the school office: tomatoes, watercress, potatoes, kumara and pumpkin (depending on the season) and lettuce all year round.

The school also produces its own chutneys, pickles, sauces and jams for commercial sale. All these items are available from our Sustainable Kids Kitchen.

OFFICE HOURS

The School Office is officially open from 8.00 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday during term time.

If you are phoning the office and the line is busy or unattended then please leave a message on our answer phone. We value your calls and we clear our answer phone messages regularly and will get back to you as soon as we are able.

We have EFTPOS facilities available at our office for payment of fees, uniforms, purchases etc.

Contact the office by:	Phone:	07 847 7245
	Fax:	07 846 1168
	Mobile:	021 960 562
	Email:	winnie@rhodestreet.school.nz

Communication Between School and Home

Open Door Guidelines

Rhode Street School is a community school and a family school. Our doors are always open to visitors, and our students are keen to have visitors take an interest in what they are learning.

We often host many other schools, community groups, politicians, government agencies and of course our own whanau. To ensure our learning is enhanced by these visits and not hindered, we ask that your initial contact with the school is to make a suitable appointment time. Please contact your child's teacher in the first instance to arrange a suitable time to visit the classroom and for all other visits, please contact the school office.

Formal visits to our schools by outside agencies and other learning centres are a regular feature and are therefore restricted to Fridays to minimize disruption to our classroom programmes.

Phone Home Good News

In 2007 Rhode Street School established a partnership with [Vodafone \(NZ\)](#) to strengthen our home / school partnerships. In essence: each teacher has been supplied with a mobile phone so that they can phone parents and whanau at home (or work) when a child has been "caught being good".

Students who are making progress with their learning or making good choices are invited to phone their mum or dad (or whanau) and share the good news with them. The teacher then reinforces the positive call by writing a summary of the call on the student's profile in our student management system, which is on-line and allows the school to report to the community on the effectiveness of the programme each year.

Rhode Street School is very grateful for *Vodafone's support* and acknowledges their continued sponsorship as a key to maintaining this awesome positive initiative. The school's expectation is that teachers will make up to 400 positive calls a week collectively.

Relationships Policy

The school has a policy to answer all concerns promptly, fairly and effectively. It is our policy to be accessible to parents who wish to discuss any aspect of their child's school life. In normal circumstances, it is well to make an appointment, but if it is an emergency, just come! A minor problem or worry dealt with early rarely becomes a major one. Teachers will also contact parents promptly with any concerns in the first instance by their mobile phone and follow up the call with a face to face meeting.

School Newsletters

The youngest and/or only child in the family will receive a fortnightly newsletter every second Monday. Please read the newsletter with your children as it provides a lot of information on a regular basis of what is happening at Rhode Street School and focuses on celebrating student achievement. The newsletter can be downloaded from our school web site: <http://www.rhodestreet.school.nz/newsletters.htm>. Archived newsletters are kept on our web site for up to three years as a record of what has happened in our school.

Public Information

The school foyer contains much public information of interest and we invite you to ask at the office for other policies and parent resources you may be interested in. Minutes from our public meetings are also kept at the school office for parents to access and read.

From time to time individual notices will be sent home or posted directly to parents concerning topical issues, seeking consultation, or informing the community of up and coming events of school wide significance. These notices will always have a return slip which we ask parents to sign and return to the school as soon as possible. This is to ensure that you receive these important messages and are included in our inclusive approach to communicating effectively.

Reporting Student Progress and Achievement to Parents

At Rhode Street School we firmly believe in reporting on student progress and achievement in plain English (or Maori where appropriate) to ensure our parents and whanau are kept up to date, are aware of any shifts in learning and are continually working in partnership with our school to raise student achievement.

This is achieved in a variety of ways:

1. Individual progress and achievement are annotated, leveled to the NZ Curriculum, measured against national achievement standards as well as the individual students own progress and utilised during *student-led conferencing* each term. Students prepare and provide evidence of their learning intentions, achievements and where to next learning steps for their families who attend our conferences in week 9 of the first three terms. Our teachers support these conference times by having clear specific learning outcomes and success criteria to measure each student's progress available for whanau to see and discuss learning strategies together.

School-wide assessment and achievement in numeracy and literacy is reported to the Board of Trustees each term and these reports are available through the BoT minutes, newsletters and on the school web site.

2. The school newsletter will have timely information from the students about learning programmes in the classrooms and how whanau can help.

3. Informal evenings and parental contact is encouraged and modeled frequently as needs are identified.

4. Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings occur regularly with identified students and their parents to work together in raising their levels of achievement.

5. Parents are welcome at any time to make an appointment with classroom teachers to discuss progress and achievement of their child and how they are performing against their own progress and against any recognised national standard.

6. Student Led Conferences: It is our high expectation that parents and whanau attend these conferences every time and support their children and teacher. The conferences provide timely reports on each student every ten weeks to ensure we continue to focus on what needs to be done for each child. No appointment is necessary during student led conferences as it is the student who determines the time and pace of their conference.

Conferences are held on Tuesday and Thursday from 2.00 pm to 7.30 pm in week 9 of the first three terms. Whanau can also arrange with their child's teacher to meet outside these dates and times whenever they have a question or concern to discuss.

7. A personal achievement letter is written by each teacher reporting on each individual child's achievements over the year and sent home in week 9 of term four. Feedback is openly sought from whanau as part of this reporting process.

8. The school utilises recognised standards in assessment and is continually up skilling teaching staff to ensure that we are being as effective in our implementation of these assessments for all the right reasons. We are currently in our fourth year of an Assessment for learning programme

where all teachers are participating in developing school wide assessment tools for our Inquiry Learning model: Waka Matauranga, numeracy and literacy. The focus of this professional development is on developing and strengthening problem solving, critical thinking and questioning skills for every student at our school.

9. Other methods of assessment include: teacher observation, video and audio interviews, peer review, self-review, and diagnostic testing (such as: Progress and Achievement Tests in: Mathematics, Reading, Writing, Comprehension, and Listening Skills; Spelling Tests; Numpu Testing; STAR Reading assessments; 6 Year Net; School Entry Assessment; Running Records; and Inquiry Testing).

10. Over-all teacher judgements (OTJ's) are determined by triangulating our teacher observations, student voice and learning evidence, and our diagnostic assessment tools. These OTJ's are then moderated by our teachers and aligned against the NZ Curriculum National Standards to determine where each student is at in their reading, writing and mathematics.

11. Achievement targets for students are set each year and form part of our strategic direction in meeting the needs of all our learners over a defined period of time. Often interventions are planned to support and resource the learning that needs to happen with individuals, small groups or a particular identified cohort of students.

11. The school holds a celebration assembly every Friday at 2.00 pm to acknowledge and show case student achievement from individual classes. At the end of the school year, a whole school celebration and prize giving ceremony is held on the Monday of the last week of term. This Hui recognises the outstanding achievements of our students over the past year that has consistently demonstrated improvement and excellence in either academic, cultural and/or sporting endeavours.

New Entrants / New Students / New Whanau

Enrolments

Children may legally begin school at the age of five. An enrolment form, a copy of their immunization details, two forms of proof of a current residential address (power/phone/rates account) and birth certificate must be handed into the office before any student can be legally enrolled.

The school welcomes [pre-enrolment visits](#). These visits are important for your child to make a secure start at school. Children can normally begin 'practicing' school on any morning during the 6 weeks before they turn five. Parents must stay with their child during this time.

[Enrolment Scheme](#): Home Zone

Rhode Street School Board of Trustees operates a Ministry of Education approved enrolment scheme to minimize the risk of the school becoming overcrowded.

Description of Rhode Street School Home Zone

The Rhode Street School Enrolment Zone is described below and is inclusive of all addresses located within these boundaries:

From the intersection of Melva Street and Whatawhata Road on the south east corner;

Travelling east along Whatawhata Road to the Dinsdale roundabout;

Diagonally north east across the roundabout to the south side of Massey Street;

Travelling north east along Massey Street to Waterloo Street;

Travelling parallel south along the railway line encompassing Ellis Street and bordering on the Hamilton West School Zone to the crossing on Kahikatea Drive;

Bordering the Deanwell School Zone continuing to a direct south intersection one kilometre from the Kahikatea railway crossing;

Travelling in a direct west line across Tuhikaramea Road (overlapping Koromatua School's proposed zone) encapsulating Pygmalion Place;

Across to the south end of Melva Place;

And up the west side of Melva Place (overlapping part of Aberdeen School's Zone) to the intersection of Whatawhata Road.

From time to time the Board will determine that there are out of zone positions available and these will be advertised publicly to our school community. More information on our enrolment scheme is available at the school or from our web site: <http://www.rhodesstreet.school.nz/enrolment.htm>

Starting School

Settling into school needs to be a team effort between the school and home. Please feel free to come and discuss with your child's teacher any concerns or information you may have that will help this important transition.

Junior children spend a very busy day at school attempting and practicing new skills. Their efforts are noted and recognised in a positive way. Our acceptance, recognition and encouragement of their efforts gives them confidence to develop a healthy attitude to their learning. Your assistance and co-operation at home definitely helps your child's learning progress as well. We encourage parental participation in our new entrant / reception classes as well as any of our other classes.

Year 7 and 8's

Senior Classes

Rhode Street School has developed an excellent senior curriculum programme which includes the Technology activities you might find at any intermediate school. These years are very crucial for our older students as they enter their adolescent years.

Our family school atmosphere is an excellent environment to handle the sensitive issues often emerging in these older children.

Because Year 7 and 8 children are the schools' seniors they will be given many opportunities for leadership roles. For example: The Student Council, Enviro Agents, and School Assemblies.

Year 7 and 8 students receive tuition in the Technology options at Ngaruawahia Primary School. There are extra fees for this tuition but not transport costs as these are met by the Ministry of Education. Children will be expected to pay for some of the materials they use and bring home.

Fee: \$80.00 per pupil per year. This can be paid term by term or through automatic bank payments.

TE REO / TIKANGA MAORI

We employ a Kaiawhina to deliver a comprehensive programme for all children. Emphasis is on

Te Reo Māori	Pronunciation of Māori place names
Tikanga Māori	Inclusion of Te Reo in topics studied
Local Marae visits	Greetings
Waiata	Kapa Haka
Haka	Mihi
Te Ao Māori	The world of the Māori

BI-LINGUAL ROOM 5

We have a bi-lingual class which is enrolling Year 4 – Year 8 students in 2011.

Enrolment in this class is dependent on the student's competency in Te Reo; places available in the class, and a firm agreement from whanau that Te Reo will be spoken at home consistently.

We also expect that students are meeting the National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics (in English) before they can be enrolled in this class.

KA HIKITIA

Here at Rhode Street School we have implemented the Ministry of Education's national strategy for managing success for Māori, Ka Hikitia, because we believe here that if we get it right for our Māori students then all our students will benefit. Therefore our focus is on all students here at Rhode Street when it comes to implementing the following Ka Hikitia strategies:

- Improve transitions to school
- Improve teaching and learning literacy and numeracy for students in their first years at school
- Strengthen the participation of whanau in their children's learning in the early years at school
- Support professional leaders to take responsibility for students' presence, engagement and achievement.
- Increase effective teaching and learning of, and through, te reo Māori.
- Increase the number of quality teachers proficient in te reo Māori.
- Use evidence deliberately to focus decisions and investments on what works for, and with, students.

LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES

Students are able to access balls and games at morning tea time and other sports gear during the lunch break. There is usually an organised game played on the field from 12.25pm to 12.45 pm, otherwise the students can:

Visit the Media Centre, read or play indoor games, use the adventure playgrounds, issue equipment from the PE Shed, organise their own play, help in the vegetable gardens, be Peer Mediators, operate the school radio station, visit the sensory garden, join an Art Club, or rest and dream under the trees



HOMEWORK / HOME LEARNING

All students, regardless of what they say to the contrary, are given a minimum of 30 minutes of homework Monday to Thursday.

Children complete tasks in their homework book each day and we ask parents to sign this work to ensure children have done their best to complete set tasks. Please feel free to use this book as a communication link between home and school.

Junior readers go home daily if they have book bags. Homework is primarily for practice skills learned at school, and will include maths problems, spelling, news and information gathering and reading.

Reading Homework

Reading bags with a reader or other reading material inside are sent home each week day night. Please make and value time to listen to your child read. This should be around 15 minutes long, enjoyable for you both and always full of praise and encouragement. Please sign the Reading Log each night to indicate the reading has been completed.

Junior reading materials may include:

- J Their own stories to share with you
- J Possibly a book or wall story composed by the class
- J A booklet based on an experience e.g. a trip or another book
- J A dictated caption
- J A choice from the library
- J Their home book with a poem, class news or a nursery rhyme glued in, a reader or book.

Children like re-reading favourite stories, so will sometimes bring the same book home more than once. If your child is having difficulty reading their story / poem etc., read it with them and talk about the pictures. It is important to keep home reading a relaxed and enjoyable time, to build up positive reading habits and allow the teacher to do the teaching at school.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND ABILITIES

Children with Special needs are catered for in a variety of ways and this is strength in our school. We employ many support staff who work alongside children with special needs, either in the classroom or if necessary withdrawn in small groups.

Rhode Street School works closely with the Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour (RTLB), Ministry of Education personnel and parents in setting up and implementing Individual Education Plans (IEPs), for children with high needs.

The school offers English as a Second Oral Language (ESOL) groups for students who meet the Ministry of Education criteria.

Parent support programmes and empowerment evenings will be a regular feature this year.

CULTURAL PROGRAMMES

MUSIC, DANCE AND DRAMA

Each classroom participates in a music programme which involves singing, playing an instrument and music appreciation. Dance is part of the Physical Education and Performing Arts programme, and may include improvisation, line, hip hop, Jump Jam, Te Reo Koori, Kapa Haka, and poi.

From time to time we schedule whole school concerts or smaller group performances such as choir or Kapa Haka, which involves students in the process of preparation and presentation.

Kapa Haka is compulsory for all students at Rhode Street School.

The school holds a biennial whole school production every odd school year in term four.

VISITING ARTISTS

Visiting cultural artists such as actors, musicians and role models enhance our cultural programmes and expose our students to another world view.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We enjoy hosting a small number of Korean and Japanese students each year at Rhode Street School. They are fee paying students who are cared for in our community by families of the school. These wonderful children bring another positive cultural dimension to our school community and share their knowledge and customs with us all.



INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS

We also enjoy hosting a Japanese intern each year at school. These teachers provide lessons in Japanese and traditional Japanese culture for all classes.

ROLE MODEL ASSEMBLIES and BREAKFASTS

From time to time we invite positive role models for our students to talk and listen to about what they did to become successful in their lives.

This year we will hold a Mana Tane and Mana Wahine Breakfast in term three. Students will be asked to invite a significant adult role model in their lives to come to a breakfast cooked by the teaching staff in appreciation for the support given by these role models.

HEALTH OF PUPILS

C Medical Information and Family Matters

If your child has an allergy that may need urgent attention (e.g. tablets for wasp stings), please inform us and provide us with the necessary details and medication. All parents are required to fill out a medical information form on enrolment.

C Health of Pupils

Any child who becomes ill at school will be looked after to the best of our ability, but should we consider the pupil to be better off at home, the secretary will attempt to ring the contacts given to the school. It is therefore essential that the school has up to date emergency contact details. In case of an accident requiring medical treatment, if the parent is unable to be contacted, the pupil maybe taken to their family doctor and the parents notified as soon as possible, so the child can be collected from there.

Parents / Caregivers are asked to sign children out when they leave the school early

C Public Health Nurse

Anne McNicol Ph 8383565 ext 2140

Anne can offer support advice around health and nutrition issues for whanau and students.

C Dental therapist

The dental therapist is at school periodically throughout the school year for annual check-ups. Any urgent treatment is available FREE by contacting the therapists through the school office.

SWIS Worker (Social Worker in School)

Kimi Pardoe Ph 027 563 1028

Kimi is at school all day Wednesday and Friday mornings to talk to and support whanau and students who need her help.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION







Rhode Street School provides opportunities for children to participate in Physical Education (PE), Education Outside of the Classroom (EOTC), sports and fitness programmes. The aim at this level is to lay a lifelong skill and interest in physical activity.

Classroom programmes may include a visit by the Life Education Trust caravan, "Keeping Ourselves Safe", "Skills for Growing" and the "You Can Do It" programmes to name a few.

We are a "Cool School" which means we train children in peer mediation skills which are practiced in the classroom. Trained student mediators help children sort out differences in the playground.

FAIR PLAY CHARTER SCHOOL




Our school officially accepted an invitation by the Hillary Commission to become a Fair Play and Kiwi Sport Charter School, through Sport Waikato and was presented with its fair Play Charter that hangs proudly in the corridor of our foyer. As a Fair Play Charter School we are committed to the principles of the charter which are :

-  Enjoying games
-  Playing within the rules
-  Respecting umpires and referees
-  Respecting the opposition and their supporters
-  Being gracious winners and dignified losers
-  Play hard but fair

These principles are the ideals of true sportsmanship and we aim to promote these in all sporting activities in which children participate.

CLASSROOM PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Themes covered during students years at Rhode Street School include:

 Aquatics	Movement and dance	Ball Activities
 Gymnastics	Jump Rope	Athletics
 Jump Jam	Cross Country	Te Reo
 Koori	DEX – Daily Exercise	EOTC

Emphasis at these events is on a high level of skill and the fair play code of ethics.

After School Sports

The school has netball, hockey and Touch teams which are coached mainly by teachers and an occasional parent (we need more of you to help). Children wishing to play must pay fees and parents must be willing to support the school with transport and encouragement.

Education outside the Classroom (EOTC)

Each year students are given opportunities to learn outside the classroom. These opportunities support the curriculum, and may include a walk down the street, a class trip or in the senior school, an overnight camp.

These are valuable extensions of our class programmes. Parent help on such excursions is essential and any offer of transport and supervision is greatly appreciated. All vehicles must have a current WoF and Registration with seatbelts for every child.

Senior students also have the opportunity of longer camps including ski camps, beach camps and bush camps if the opportunity arises and funding is available with parent support.

SWIMMING

Rhode Street School offers the Aqua Ed – Swim Smart Programme to every student for up to four weeks during the year at Water World Te Rapa. This is our core teaching programme that caters for children through a sequential five level learn to swim and personal survival programme, designed to allow students to enter and advance through the programme at their own rate. The programme runs over 5 days (40 minute lessons each day) and caters for all our students. A user-pays fee is charged to subsidise the programme. This year's cost per student is \$15.00 per week (\$2.00 per lesson). Most students will complete at least four weeks of lessons per year.

Students are transported to and from the school by staff and parent volunteers.

The teachers at the aquatic centre all hold NZ swimming qualifications and work in groups no larger than 10 students per instructor.

BOOKS IN HOMES

We are a Duffy School supported by Mainfreight NZ. Throughout the year all children receive free books to keep as their own treasures. The children also enjoy visits and special presentations by celebrities and Duffy Heroes. This is part of our school aim to promote literacy at school and in the home.

PARENT HELPERS

Teachers appreciate help given in specific ways such as:

- J Help in making equipment and providing the school with recyclable materials that can be used in the classrooms
- J Accompanying classes on school trips / sports trips / library walks
- J Working with small groups
- J Assisting with administrative tasks such as photocopying, laminating, cutting and gluing

Please come forward and make yourself known to the classroom teacher / deputy principal / office if you are available to help out in different ways. For the safety of everyone, Police vetting of all volunteers is mandatory at Rhode Street School.

SMOKEFREE

The school property and all school trips are totally smoke free environments.

STATIONERY

All exercise books and stationery required for learning is readily available from Warehouse Stationery at competitive prices. Individual requirements are sent home with pupils at the end of each year so that students return to school in the New Year ready to learn with the right resources and tools to do so.

Any subsequent requests for pupil needs will be sent home through the classroom teacher and should be purchased as soon as possible.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

With the growing emphasis on Information and Communications Technology, and Resource Based Learning, students need to be introduced to the use of computers so that they may confidently use these tools in their learning.

The computer is primarily a learning tool, not a teaching machine. Computer applications such as word processing, searching the World Wide Web (www), accessing information and telecommunications, are examples of the computer being used as a learning tool at Rhode Street School.

Children may be given a problem solving task which requires the use of information and communication technologies. Students can communicate with students from our schools and research inquiry based topics using fax, phone, digital camera, internet, video and CD ROM.

Each classroom has at least four computers and is linked to the internet as well as weekly lessons in the classroom. The Media centre has 15 networked computers with modern and up to date software installed.

Several of our classrooms also have inter-active whiteboards to engage our students in learning. It is planned to equip all learning spaces with wireless and interactive technologies over the next year.

SCHOOL DONATION

The Ministry of Education provides the core funding to support curriculum delivery in our school. But as we know the reality of running a 21st Century school often calls on schools to be innovative and financially prudent with their budgeting. Prioritizing how government funds are allocated and spent at school level must reflect the school's vision and strategic direction towards raising student achievement and providing the resources and effective teaching to deliver a quality education for all.

It is the view of Rhode Street School that parents and whanau have a choice as to how they can support the school deliver these goals both in a supportive, physical and financial sense. By supporting your child at home with their learning, remaining positive about building a close relationship with your child's teacher and the school, you will ensure your child has the support they need. Physically, you can come down to the school and help in the classrooms, prepare and repair resources, or even grab a paint brush and help maintain the school. Financially you have the legal right to chose to donate any amount of money to the school to support this year the purchase of new library books for all the students at our school, if you wish too.

The school voluntarily asked parents to donate up to \$150.00 per family, but only if you want to and can afford it. There is no compulsion to pay this donation and you will not be invoiced for any donated amount. We believe charging families for a fee that is voluntary is both morally wrong and unethical.

Of course there are actual costs that parents are liable to pay, such as the Year 7 and 8 technology fee and the swimming tutors fee which we forward to our outside provider to provide technology education in soft materials, food, biodiversity and hard materials, as well as swimming lessons.

If you choose to offer a financial donation to our school, it will be receipted so that you may claim the amount against your taxable income and your donation will be tagged to offset the cost of purchasing new books for our school's community library. The school will purchase nearly \$8,000 worth of new books and library resources this year (2010) regardless of whether or not we receive any donations from whanau. We have budgeted to do so, but your donation will mean we can spend in other areas of need this year rather than waiting until a later date. Remember it is the whanau who can join our library, not just the student. This means you can come to school and borrow books for your whanau to install the love of reading from an early age.

Rhode Street School will always seek innovative ways to provide extra income such as our Foreign Fee Paying Students, sponsorship from multi-national companies that support student learning and achievement, and from fund raising that does not target our own community.

The Ministry of Education provides SOME money for the running of the school, but modern education always cost more than is given. To help overcome the shortfall, all parents are asked to donate the school fee as follows:

One child:	\$100.00 per year
Family:	\$150.00 per family

Decreasing Scale (depending on month of enrolment)

Please note: Fees are NOT refundable if a child is later withdrawn.
Arrangements can be made to pay fees off in easy instalments.
Eftpos is available at school.

Team Subs – Children who join a school sports team must first pay any subs due to be able to participate.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES – BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

The Board of Trustees owns the community room which houses our Extended Services out of School Care Programme: Sustainable Kids.

Should you require your child/ren to be enrolled in these programmes please see the school secretary for an enrolment form.

Fees are charged weekly and government subsidies are available for families who qualify.

MONEY

From time to time your child will be required to bring money to school to pay for trips and such like. This should be in an envelope labelled with the child's name, room number and what the money is for. All money is to be handed into the classroom teacher in the morning before or during roll call.

Sponsorship and Grants

Rhode Street School acknowledges the wonderful support we receive from the following organisations:

- The ASB
- Vodafone NZ
- Main freight NZ
- Fonterra
- Sanitarium
- Kids Can Trust

Vodafone Support

Vodafone in particular supports our “Phone Home Good News Project” by supplying every teacher with a mobile phone so that students can contact parents at work or home via voice, txt or sending a picture or video. Students are asked to celebrate their academic, sporting and cultural achievements with whanau as soon as possible by their teacher.

Receiving a positive call from school helps us to reinforce the progress made by each student in partnership with our parents and whanau. If you receive one of the 400 calls made each week then please celebrate with your child by thanking them and showing them how proud you are in your own special way.

Sometimes we also have to make challenging calls to parents and seek your support in helping us work with your child on their learning and behaviour. This is often the first step we take to open the dialogue with our parents as soon as possible.

HOW TO FIND US

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Address: 7 Rhode Street, Dinsdale, Hamilton, New Zealand.

P.O. Box 15231

Phone: 07 847 7245 Fax: 07 846 1168

Email: winnie@rhodestreet.school.nz

