

## A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora! Thank you for choosing Taupō-nui-a-Tia College. We would like to extend our warmest welcome to you, and we look forward to you joining the Taupō-nui-a-Tia community and whānau.

At Taupō-nui-a-Tia College our aim is to provide the best learning experiences for the students in our care. Academic achievement is paramount for us, but we also place great emphasis on a set of Cornerstone Values that help to shape our students' character.

To help shape our students into awesome human beings we not only encourage academic success, but we also encourage involvement in the many extra-curricular activities that our wonderful school has to offer. We offer an extensive range of sporting and cultural activities which, we believe, help to develop the whole person. Balancing achievement in the classroom and involvement in the wider life of the school enables our students to be challenged, extended, and motivated in many facets of real life. Taking advantage of all our school has to offer will help our students to be better prepared for their individual pathways when they eventually leave Taupō-nui-a-Tia College.

At Taupō-nui-a-Tia College you will be supported by a passionate group of senior leaders, teachers, and support staff, governed by a hardworking and caring board of trustees. Our amazing students continue to experience success in and outside the classroom, and this success is testament to the hard work, teamwork, and collaboration of all of these groups of people. We are proud of our school!

We are sure you will get a sense of the pride we have for Taupō-nui-a-Tia College when you explore the pages in this prospectus, and we look forward to meeting you in the future.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui – be strong, be steadfast, be willing.

Ngā mihi

**Ben Claxton**  
Principal

*“The forward thinking and motivational leadership provided by the principal, board chair and key staff members underpins the school's ongoing focus on improving teacher practice and student outcomes.*

*The high-quality leadership is also contributing to the positive learning environment where students are able to succeed and excel.”*

ERO Report





# OUR VISION

*All learners empowered to participate in our community, locally, nationally, and globally.*

*E whakamana ana ngaa taura katoa ki te whai waahi atu i te hapuu, i te haukainga, i ngaa motu me te ao whaanui.*

*“Cornerstone Values are well embedded and underpin all aspects of school philosophy, life, and practices. The school is committed to building character through advocating, modelling, and teaching the values of responsibility, respect, kindness, compassion, obedience, duty, consideration, and concern for others. The school is viewed as a safe place by students.”*

- ERO Report

# OUR MISSION

To achieve our vision, all members of the Taupō-nui-a-Tia College community will strive to:

- ▶ Model our cornerstone values
  - ▶ Seek, use and create knowledge
  - ▶ Show resilience, enterprise, and creativity
  - ▶ Confidently grasp opportunity and manage risks.

# OUR VALUES

Our values shape our decisions and actions and therefore influence our journey through life.

Taupō-nui-a-Tia College was the first secondary school in New Zealand to become an accredited Cornerstone Values school. The values that we have adopted are traditional in nature but have stood the test of time and are relevant today. We place high importance on students understanding, adopting, and modelling these values. These are values that they will take into adulthood.

Most importantly our values create an environment of stability and safety in which our students can grow to become confident and successful learners who interact positively in their community, nationally, and globally.



Our students will experience and model the Cornerstone Values of:

- ▶ Consideration and concern for others
- ▶ Honesty and truthfulness
- ▶ Responsibility
- ▶ Compassion
- ▶ Obedience
- ▶ Kindness
- ▶ Respect
- ▶ Duty



Along with the Cornerstone Values, our students are also encouraged to value:

- ▶ **EXCELLENCE** – striving to achieve their personal best and overcoming obstacles
- ▶ **DIVERSITY** – having respect for themselves and others
- ▶ **EQUITY** – treating others fairly and equally
- ▶ **PARTICIPATION** – learning through being actively involved in their school and wider community
- ▶ **SUSTAINABILITY** – caring for the environment and learning about their role as Kaitiaki for the Earth's resources

*A progressive school based on traditional values*





## STUDENT WELLBEING

Taupō-nui-a-Tia College is committed to the wellbeing of all students. This focus on wellbeing ties together the curriculum's vision, principles, values, key competencies, and learning areas. Wellbeing clearly positions learners and their development as confident young people.

*Our students feel secure in the knowledge that when they face challenges, the college has very transparent and well established systems in place for managing them.*

*We always encourage a sense of belonging and inclusiveness in our cohesive learning community.*

### The ways in which we look after our students include:

- ▶ parents and students being welcomed with a powhiri into the Taupō-nui-a-Tia family on day one
- ▶ having pastoral care specialists, our Deans, whose prime objective is to ensure the welfare and academic needs of the students are met. The Deans can be contacted to discuss any aspect of your child's education
- ▶ whanau teachers who work closely with the students and undertake academic mentoring. These teachers stay with the same group throughout their years at college
- ▶ the friendly office staff, who are always ready to help our students and their families
- ▶ our guidance counsellor, who provides a confidential service for advice and support
- ▶ our careers advisor, who helps students determine their positive future pathways
- ▶ the BayTrust Health Centre, where students can access a nurse, physiotherapist, doctor and other outside agencies. This is also where belongings can be cared for in a secure environment
- ▶ peer mediators, who are trained to support other students
- ▶ Diversity Rainbow Group student led wellbeing committee, who encourage a sense of belonging and wellbeing.



*“Students’ academic pathways are well supported by effective pastoral care networks and teachers who are supportive and know their students well.”*



# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Taupō-nui-a-Tia College is able to provide a rich and varied range of subjects at all levels.

The subjects provide opportunities across all the essential learning areas from the New Zealand Curriculum and reflect the learning needs of all our students from the wider Taupō community. This curriculum provides the best possible opportunities for success in the student's chosen pathway.



## YEAR 9

### Areas of learning include

- English | Mathematics
- Health & Physical Education
- Science | Social Studies
- Digital Technology
- Fashion Textiles
- Design and Visual Communication
- Food & Nutrition | Hard Materials
- French | Spanish | Te Reo Māori
- Art | Drama | Music | Dance
- Outdoor Education
- Young Enterprise
- Maori Performing Arts
- Enhanced Performance Dance
- Advanced Literacy Programme for literacy support



## YEAR 10

### Areas of learning include

- English | Mathematics
- Science | Physical Education
- Social Studies
- Design and Visual Communication
- Art | Drama | Dance
- Digital Technology | French
- Spanish | Music
- Māori Performing Arts | Te Reo Māori
- Fashion Textiles
- Food & Nutrition
- Hard Materials
- Outdoor Education
- Enhanced Performance Dance



## YEARS 11, 12, AND 13

NCEA Levels 1, 2, and 3

### Areas of learning include

- Accounting | Agricultural Science | Biology
- Calculus | Chemistry | Civic Studies | Classics
- Dance | Design and Visual Communication
- Digital Technology | Drama
- Driver Education | Economics
- Employment Skills | Engineering | English
- Enterprise Studies | Farming Skills | French
- Spanish | Geography | Health | History
- Hospitality | Licence to Work
- Mathematics | Māori Performing Arts
- Media Studies | Music | Outdoor Leadership
- Physical Education | Physics
- Science | Sport and Outdoor Education
- Sport and Recreation
- Statistics and Modelling
- Fashion Textiles | Food & Nutrition
- Hard Materials | Te Reo Māori
- Tourism | Trades Academy
- Visual Arts: Painting, Photography and Design



"The school continues to provide a broad and meaningful curriculum that is responsive to the ongoing needs of students... In recent years the school has extended the range of vocational courses and subject choices that reflect the local environment and employment opportunities. Students who require additional learning support and extension are provided with appropriate programmes..."

Students' academic pathways are well supported by a strong focus on strengthening students' literacy skills across the curriculum."



# A RESPONSIVE CURRICULUM

To provide an engaging coherent school curriculum that empowers students to participate locally, nationally and globally.

At Taupō-nui-a-Tia College, students will experience learning to prepare them for their future which includes:

- ▶ Encouraging students to extend their learning beyond the classroom
- ▶ Learning that has purpose with authentic and relevant contexts
- ▶ Opportunities to seek, use, and create knowledge
- ▶ A curriculum that readies students for the next stage of their lives and enables them to be adaptable enough for a fast changing world
- ▶ With our commitment to e-learning, teachers are engaging and evaluating their practices with learning opportunities tailored to the students' interests and individual needs as well as improving their engagement and achievement.
- ▶ Junior students will have the opportunity to develop cross-curricular links

# FUTURE PATHWAYS

Which career pathway to follow is one of the most important decisions a young person will make. Taupō-nui-a-Tia College offers a high level of careers support and guidance. Our students benefit from a comprehensive service that enables a seamless transition into tertiary study or the workforce.

This service includes:

- ▶ A careers advisor who is at the cutting edge of current employment trends and research
- ▶ Bulls-eye careers software to help students gain clarity about their future pathway
- ▶ Careers expos and visits to tertiary institutions & workplaces
- ▶ Individual goal setting to plan future pathways
- ▶ Liaison with Universities, other tertiary providers and also other visiting career specialists
- ▶ A personalised testimonial for eligible students on completion of their education
- ▶ The Gateway programme which builds the links between school and employers allowing us to offer contextualised workplace learning opportunities through student placement
- ▶ Trades Academy which is a partnership between school and tertiary to further explore career options
- ▶ Close association with Taupō Pathways - a community organisation working with youth



### Authentic Learning

Authentic learning typically focuses on real-world, complex problems and their solutions, including the use of role-playing exercises, problem-based activities, case studies, and participation in virtual communities of practice.

Students access/experience...

- ▶ 'Real life' contexts for learning
- ▶ Relevant, meaningful, valuable skills and knowledge
- ▶ Cross subject study and collaboration
- ▶ A focus on learning
- ▶ Ongoing feedback/forward
- ▶ High level thinking skills to explore complex issues
- ▶ Application of learning to a wider audience beyond the classroom

*A progressive school based on traditional values*



# MONITORING FOR SUCCESS

Leaving school with the qualifications and academic results to enable our students to fulfil their future goals is of utmost importance at Taupō-nui-a-Tia College. There are high expectations of achievement and we provide an environment where success is celebrated and hard work recognised. We focus on every student aiming for and achieving his or her best. We encourage every student to aim for a level which stretches and challenges them whilst at the same time providing the enjoyment that learning should bring.

- ▶ Meeting regularly with your whanau teacher
- ▶ Development of close relationships with family/whanau so we can support students in their academic journey
- ▶ Assay3 tracking system which allows whanau teachers, whanau and students to review progress on a regular basis
- ▶ Whanau Days where students, parents, and whanau are invited into the school to set goals with the whanau teacher
- ▶ Subject Days where students, parents, and whanau get to discuss student progress and next steps to further enhance their learning
- ▶ Encouraging parents, caregivers, and whanau to be active participants in their children’s education
- ▶ Personalised education and goal setting to suit each student’s individual needs
- ▶ Targeted literacy and numeracy programmes
- ▶ Kia Eke Panuku (Building on Success) – a school wide programme based on international research to enhance Māori student achievement
- ▶ A future focused school with 21st century facilities and digital technology tools
- ▶ A well qualified, progressive, and passionate teaching staff
- ▶ Website access to student’s progress

*Taupō-nui-a-Tia College is proud of its long tradition of academic success, with our top students being amongst the best in New Zealand. Our students consistently perform well above national averages making us one of the top schools in the central North Island.*



### Parent Feedback from Whanau Day

*“I liked the Assay3 system. Very easy to see the areas that my son needs to work on. The whanau teacher was very organised and highlighted comments from report. Nice to not be in a crowded hall with lots of noise, so can have a detailed personal conversation.”*

*“The teacher had all of the information about my child on the board ready to see when we got there and it was very informative. It was good for him to set goals and the teacher helped him do this in a positive way.”*

*“This was very positive in the sense that I know exactly where my son’s at and what he needs to work on to improve his performance in school.”*

*“Actually getting the kids to go through subjects & thinking overall about ongoing focus/goals/study etc.”*

*“More personally relevant. More private and therefore more effectual. Much more informative. Made parent feel more relevant in child’s education.”*



**A progressive school based on traditional values**



# SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES

Taupō-nui-a-Tia College is a top sporting college. The school is renowned both locally and nationally as a nurturing ground for fine young sportsmen and sportswomen, a number of whom move into professional sport. Every year we are proud of the achievements of our students, with an impressive line-up of national achievers across different codes.

Our aim is for students of all ages and abilities to get involved in being active as it provides fitness, social opportunities, experience in working as part of a team, and enhances their learning. There are multiple opportunities for students to participate in sporting activities:

- ▶ Using the sporting equipment available from 'the HUB' sports store at interval and lunchtime
- ▶ Inter-whanau and inter-house sports competitions
- ▶ Joining social and competitive teams in over 30 different sports
- ▶ School athletics day
- ▶ Cross country
- ▶ Swimming sports

"Sport is an integral part of the college. The school offers students extensive sporting opportunities over a wide spectrum of codes."

ERO Report



Athletics

Badminton

Basketball

Clay Target Shooting

Cricket

Cross Country

Duathlon

Equestrian

Football

Swimming

Gymnastics

Moto-cross

Hockey

Golf

Orienteering

Kayaking

Mountain Biking

Sailing

Skiing

Snowboarding

Croquet

Adventure Racing

Squash



In the senior school, the range of sporting based subjects includes: physical education, sport and outdoor education, health, services preparation and outdoor leadership.



Road Cycling

Tennis

Touch Rugby

Triathlon

Volley Ball

Waka Ama

Lawn Bowls

Rowing

Ki-o-rahi

Rock Climbing

Rugby

Netball

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# PERFORMING ARTS

Taupō-nui-a-Tia College is renowned for its performing arts with a tradition of students moving into this area as a career choice. Across all areas, students are provided with a huge range of opportunities.

**Music** forms an integral part of the education of many of our students. It can be selected as one of their subjects or be studied separately with specialised tuition. Students may also choose to be a part of a school band or music group that exist in the college and perform regularly.

**Drama** is a popular choice by many students. Our thriving drama department provides students with opportunities through school productions, drama festivals, competitions, and also as a subject through to NCEA level three.

**Dance** is a strong part of many students' lives in Taupō. Our performance dance programme provides students with NCEA qualification opportunities in choreography and performance. These classes make use of the purpose built dance studio.

Te Awhiorangi, our **Kapa Haka** group, has built a powerful reputation throughout the region. The group has represented the community at many civic events and also performs with distinction at Kapa Haka competitions. Māori performing arts is also an NCEA subject available to students.



Productions: High School Musical, Rock of Ages, Little Shop of Horrors

Visiting Artists Shakespeare Sheilah Winn Kapa Haka



Concerts Vocal Group

Acapella Group Maori Performing Arts Stage Challenge Dance NZmade Chamber Music

Specialised Music Tuition





# ACCELERATING ACHIEVEMENT

*“Teachers have a high level of commitment to helping students to achieve well. Their openness to new ideas within a culture of ongoing reflection places them in good position for continual improvements to teaching and learning.”*

ERO Report



The Taupō community is brimming with talented students across the academic, sporting, and cultural arenas. Taupō-nui-a-Tia College offers a wide range of opportunities, with high expectations, for the most capable students to reach the highest levels in their chosen field, through:

- ▶ Opportunities for our top achieving senior students to begin university study whilst still at college
- ▶ Zenith – A weekly club for students to learn and develop public speaking skills
- ▶ Specialised music programmes – performance opportunities, entrance into music competitions and tuition from a range of leading teachers and performers
- ▶ Enhanced Performance Dance (EPD) – timetabled classes offering NCEA credits to extend and recognise our talented dancers. Entrance and success in national dance competitions
- ▶ Opportunities to participate in a range of local and national academic competitions and examinations including: Australasian Examinations; Maths Matters; Young Enterprise Scheme; Monetary Policy Challenge and participation in Education Perfect in a number of subjects particularly language.
- ▶ Seminars for students and parents on study techniques, motivation for success and accelerated learning to enhance academic potential
- ▶ State of the art equipment, modern facilities and digital technology in a BYOD environment to stretch and extend all our students
- ▶ Innovative programme design responding to the ever-changing needs of our students
- ▶ A learning community where students and teachers alike are striving to further enhance outcomes for students
- ▶ Scholarship opportunities for students



Forper



*“There is a culture of high expectations for staff and students.”*

ERO Report



*A progressive school based on traditional values*



# SPRIT AND PRIDE



From the moment you walk into Taupō-nui-a-Tia College, you will feel the positive vibe in the place. There is an enviable school spirit and a strong sense of pride.

At the heart of many school activities and events is the college inter-house competition. All students belong to one of the four houses: Tongariro, Ngauruhoe, Ruapehu and Tauhara. The sense of loyalty and pride that students have in their house makes inter-house competitions keenly contested.

House points are awarded over a number of different areas such as athletics 'colours day' with the famous marching and chanting of the colours, cross country, swimming sports, academic opportunities, achievement vouchers, service to the school community, and Spirit Week.

Learning is fun and memorable. Taupō-nui-a-Tia College is a vibrant and exciting place to learn, with many events and activities that students will look back on with nostalgia. For many students, the highlight of their school year is Spirit Week. Often copied but never matched, Spirit Week includes action packed activities, crazy fun, and competitions to celebrate being part of a positive school community.



- Our spirit and pride can be seen through:**
- ▶ Te Awhiorangi Kapa Haka Group rousing performances locally, nationally, and globally
  - ▶ Easter bunnies hopping around the school delivering eggs to every student over Easter
  - ▶ Random Act of Kindness wall for students and staff to show their appreciation for all the hard work that others do
  - ▶ Our students raising the New Zealand flag every day
  - ▶ The compassionate nature of our students, raising thousands of dollars for charity through multi-days, daffodil day, cupcake day, and other student led initiatives
  - ▶ ANZAC Day - our students show their respect marching with the returned servicemen and women in our community
  - ▶ The willingness of our students to share their successes and to acknowledge the support that they receive
  - ▶ The school ball which is a sophisticated and glamorous night for senior students and staff
  - ▶ The pride our students take in representing their college in a range of formal occasions
  - ▶ LGBTQI+ - actively promoting a safe and inclusive environment that enables and supports an acceptance of diversity



*A progressive school based on traditional values*



Achieving our Vision through

## ENRICHING OUR STUDENTS

Opportunities exist within the college in a range of other areas where our students can excel, including:

- ▶ A well qualified, progressive and passionate teaching staff
- ▶ Extensive range of leadership opportunities including:
  - ▶ Head students
  - ▶ Board of Trustee representative
  - ▶ Year level student councils
  - ▶ A full student council
  - ▶ Student committees
  - ▶ Senior executive
  - ▶ House leaders
  - ▶ Student Volunteer Army
- ▶ Zenith – a weekly club for students to learn and develop public speaking skills
- ▶ Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Scheme
- ▶ Year 9 Achievers Award
- ▶ Year 10 Achievers Award
- ▶ Year 10 Expeditions – students are encouraged to participate in a week long expedition into the great outdoors
- ▶ Year 9 Activity Week - students participate in a week of educational and recreational experiences.
- ▶ Kiwi Forever Programme
- ▶ Spirit of Adventure
- ▶ Overseas trips related to academic subjects, performing arts, cultural activities and sporting ventures (e.g. Amazon, Australia, Japan, Mediterranean, Nepal, Vietnam, Hawaii)
- ▶ International student exchanges
- ▶ CACTUS - NZ Police Leadership Course
- ▶ Greening Lake Taupō
- ▶ Pink Shirt Day
- ▶ 'A Team' (Cafe for Youth)
- ▶ International students enriching our students



*"I felt welcome by all students across all year levels when I arrived at Nui. They made me feel embraced and part of a family. Everyone is here to support you."*

Student



# TAUPO-NUI-A-TIA COLLEGE LEARNER PROFILE

STUDENTS WILL BE			STUDENTS WILL HAVE	
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Empowered participants in a changing world	Culturally Located and Connected	Values Driven	Well-being Hauora	Positive Pathways
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributing</li> <li>Independent</li> <li>Effective communicators</li> <li>Collaborative</li> <li>Creative</li> <li>Curious</li> <li>Critical thinker</li> <li>Motivated</li> <li>Enterprising</li> <li>Confident</li> <li>Resilient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sense of identity and culture</li> <li>Language understanding and awareness</li> <li>Interacts positively with a diverse range of people in varying contexts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respectful</li> <li>Honest</li> <li>Kind</li> <li>Compassionate</li> <li>Empathetic</li> <li>Responsible</li> <li>Considerate to others</li> <li>Obedient</li> <li>Dutiful</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental and Emotional - Taha Hinengaro</li> <li>Physical - Taha Tinana</li> <li>Spiritual - Taha Wairua</li> <li>Social - Taha Whanau</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life skills</li> <li>Employability skills</li> <li>Appropriate qualifications to pursue broad career choices</li> </ul>



Stunt men

NZ Polo Team

Blackstick

WB

Triathlete

Top Beer Brewer

Singer

**All learners empowered to participate locally, nationally, globally**

**A progressive school based on traditional values**

Members of Parliament Financier Actors Musicians Barristers Lawyers Entrepreneur Innovator Teacher Dancer Cyclist  
 Lighting Technicians Geological Engineers Stone Masons Top Fashion Designer Bricklayer Volcanologist



# BELONG TO TAUPO-NUI-A-TIA COLLEGE

Ko Tongariro, ko Tauhara, ko Ruapehu,  
ko Ngauruhoe nga maunga  
Ko Taupō te moana  
Ko Waikato te awa  
Ko Rangatahi te marae  
Ko Tia te wharenuī  
Ko Karikaroa te wharekai

Ko nga akonga mataou o  
te kareti o Taupō-nui-a-Tia.

The mountains are Tongariro,  
Tauhara, Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe  
The lake is Taupō  
The river is Waikato  
The marae is Rangatahi  
The wharenuī is Tia  
The wharekai is Karikaroa  
The college is Taupō-nui-a-Tia

We are the students of  
Taupō-nui-a-Tia College

