



PROSPECTUS

2026

"Be transformed by the renewal of your mind"
Romans 12:2

A State Integrated, Christian School · Years 1–13
2 Tarewa Road, Morningside, Whangārei



Mission Statement

- To provide for students a sound, basic Christian Education that is loyal to the Bible, Christ-centred, promotes those values and standards and recognises that Christian spiritual values permeate all curriculum areas.
- To provide for parents/guardians an alternative choice of school for developing their children to their full potential in God.

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Romans 12:2

Principal's Message

Renew School developed from a vision planted in 1977, coupled with the passion of a group of parents who started the school in 1993. It became an Integrated Special Character Area School in 1996 under the name 'Christian Renewal School', and was renamed 'Renew School' in 2020.

The staff and I are grateful to work in a place where we can encourage our students that "the name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe" (Proverbs 18:10), that our students are of immeasurable value since they are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26), that God says of His people "for I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11), that they can become part of God's people when they understand that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16), and that their lives have purpose because "we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).

We value the wellbeing and success of each individual student, and maintaining good parent-school relationships.

The pages that follow will give you some insight into our school.

Barend Blom

Principal

Renew School at a Glance

Renew School is a Christian school for students from Year 1 to Year 13, situated close to town at 2 Tarewa Road, Morningside, Whangārei. Pupils come from a variety of backgrounds and environments, but the families who choose Renew are committed to the school's Special Character.

The school's roll cap is 240 students, supported by a staff of teachers, teacher aides, and other support staff across the Primary and Secondary school.

Enrolling children at Renew School gives parents an opportunity to choose a different and distinctive education environment. Christian Education is based on Biblical principles, where respect, honesty and other traditional values are encouraged and expected — creating a climate for academic excellence throughout the school.



Christian Education

Motto: Be transformed by the renewal of your mind — Romans 12:2

Renew School is an integrated Christian school for students from Years 1–13. We exist to see every student flourish — spiritually, academically, socially and physically — because we believe that's what education is actually for. There are two things that make a Christian school genuinely different from any other kind of school.

ONE: A curriculum shaped by God, not decorated with Him

Every subject we teach sits inside a bigger story. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6), and we take that seriously enough to let it shape how we teach, not just what we teach.

That means we don't treat Christian content as something added on top of an already-complete curriculum — a verse before the lesson, a chapel slot in the timetable. God isn't a subject at Renew School; He is the source of all knowledge. History, science, maths, art — each one is taught from within a Christian understanding of the world, because we believe that's the only way to teach any of them completely. Leave God out of history and you've left out the biggest part of the story. Leave Him out of science and you've missed why the created world is orderly enough to study in the first place.

“I'm afraid that the schools will prove the very gates of hell, unless they diligently labour in explaining the Holy Scriptures and engraving them in the heart of youth.”

Martin Luther

This shapes what we're actually trying to achieve. We want students to:

- Glorify God — to know their worth and purpose come from relationship with Him, not from achievement.
- Grow a Biblical worldview — to learn to see the world, and think about it, the way God does — not as a subject studied once, but as a lens carried into every decision.
- Love and serve God, and love and serve others — because that's what the whole of Scripture comes down to.

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men” (Luke 2:52) — growth that's spiritual, intellectual, social and physical all at once. That's the whole student we're aiming to grow.

TWO: A community that forms character, not just holds it

Education doesn't happen in a vacuum — it happens in a community, and that community shapes who a student becomes just as much as any lesson does.

Our staff are more than role models. They're committed followers of Jesus whose everyday habits — how they teach, how they pray for their students, how they treat the people around them — are themselves part of what students are learning. Faith at Renew School isn't only taught in a lesson; it's caught in the ordinary rhythms of school life. Ask our past students what they remember most, and it's rarely a specific lesson — it's teachers who genuinely cared, who prayed for them, and who lived out what they were teaching.

Our students grow fastest in a community that's also seeking to follow Jesus. We're intentional about building a school culture where faith is normal rather than exceptional, because who we spend our days with shapes who we become (1 Corinthians 15:33). That's part of the thinking behind our enrolment approach, and why we invest as much in the relationships between students as we do in what happens in the classroom.



Curriculum

Motto: Be transformed by the renewal of your mind — Romans 12:2

A curriculum has to be built on some basic beliefs about the world we live in. At Renew School, those beliefs are:

- We live in a world created, ordered and sustained by God.
- God isn't a subject we study — He is the source of all knowledge, which is what gives students a complete understanding of the world they live in.
- Education is how we learn about, interpret, and find our place in that world.

The curriculum aims to help students respond to God and find their place in His world, serving Him by developing the skills and abilities He's given them — while covering the full New Zealand Curriculum.

Renew School is unashamedly Christian. Every subject is taught from within a Christian understanding of the world, not alongside it — Biblical principles run through all curriculum areas, and Scripture memory is an integral part of student learning.

Primary (Years 1–8)

The Primary School lays the foundations for success later in the school. An advantage of the Christian school is that students progress from Year 1 to Year 13 in the same school, so staff are clearly able to monitor academic progress.

The focus for New Entrants is to establish good foundations in basic learning skills, with a real emphasis on learning to read, write and begin to master numeracy. As students move through the Primary School, they learn using a variety of curricula — always with a Christian emphasis. Some of the features of the Primary School include:

- Low student-to-teacher ratios
- Staff committed to seeing students learn to their potential
- Learning support for all ākonga (learners) who need it, with teacher aides
- High achievement levels
- Major emphasis on numeracy and literacy
- Specialist Science, Technology, Music, Drama and Visual Arts teaching
- Specialist Health and Physical Education programme
- Sports programme, and swimming in heated city pools
- Outdoor Education (camp) programme

- Te Reo and Tikanga Māori taught
- Second-language options from Year 7
- Technology classes for Year 7 and 8 students, delivered off-site at Manaia View School (a minimal materials charge applies — see Finance)

Secondary (Years 9–13)

Success in the Secondary School builds on the academic success achieved in Primary School. The secondary school follows the NZ Curriculum from a Christian perspective. Students develop their God-given gifts and are well prepared for assessment in NCEA. Core subjects are taught by experienced teachers, and some subjects may be taken through Te Kura (The Correspondence School), monitored by a teacher aide and support teacher. Some of the features of the Secondary School include:

- Horizontal Form classes for Years 9–13, with students also divided into vertical Rākau (house) groups — Matai, Rimu, Totara and Tawa — encouraging relationships across peer groups and a family atmosphere.
- Many students achieve above the national average in NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3, with a number gaining Merit and Excellence endorsements.
- A number of students have attempted, and succeeded well in, Scholarship examinations.
- English, Maths, Sciences and Art continue to be real strengths.
- We are committed to excel as the school of choice for Performing Arts.
- Gateway and STAR programmes let students explore different work environments, following the path God has gifted them for.
- Trades Academy courses are available for key students.

Subject choices:

Full subject options for Years 9–10 and Years 11–13 are set out in our Subject Options Booklets, available from the school office or website. If a subject you're looking for isn't listed, let us know — we'll work with you on a solution to help you reach your goals.



Pastoral Care

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As a Christian school, discipline at Renew isn't separate from the rest of what we do — it's part of how we teach and train children according to Biblical principles. Our staff are professing Christians committed to building into the lives of young people, and that shows up as much in how we handle behaviour as in how we teach a lesson. We have a school counsellor to help students with life challenges. Because we want that support to actually work, it's important we're clear about our expectations and boundaries — what we do affects others, and brings consequences, good or bad.

Behaviour Management

One of the distinctives of the Christian school is our commitment to work with parents in helping them educate and prepare their children for service. Behaviour management is a joint venture between the school and the home. Obviously, there are issues that arise daily where students require immediate correction, and the school has policies and procedures for dealing with these.

General Principles

Our Special Character describes an environment where children, parents and teachers experience godly relationships — showing the character of Christ in love, discipline, respect, honour and trust. Behaviour management is one of the places that gets tested and lived out, not just talked about.

The goal is always the home and school working closely together: the Bible places first responsibility for discipline on the home, so where a student is struggling, we work with parents rather than around them.

We want to be honest about what this is and isn't. Renew isn't a corrective institution, and we can't promise a particular outcome for every student — real change depends on the student being willing to be taught, and on training being reinforced at home as well as school. What we can promise is a community genuinely committed to that work, which is also why many families choose Renew: to be part of an environment shaped by these values, for the sake of every student in it.

Specific Rules

Students are expected to act in an orderly and respectful manner, maintaining Christian standards of courtesy, kindness and honesty — showing respect to those in authority over them, and to other students, their property, and school property.

- All behaviour is to reflect and uphold good Christian standards and principles. Unacceptable behaviour will result in consequences determined by the nature of the behaviour.

- Students must exercise care with their own and others' property, and must not deface or destroy school property. Damage that isn't accidental is expected to be replaced or reimbursed.
- Students will not threaten, harass, or hurt another student, nor in any way actively seek their unhappiness.
- Students may not buy from, sell to, or exchange items (including money) with other students on school property, unless part of an approved curriculum or fundraising activity.
- Students are expected to obey the adult in authority while on school grounds, on field trips, or at any school function.
- The use or possession of tobacco, drugs or weapons is forbidden at school or at any school function.
- Chewing gum is not permitted at school at any time.
- All personal property, books and equipment should be clearly named.
- All staff and supervising adults are to be treated with respect and addressed by Mr, Mrs or Miss, followed by their surname.
- Bicycles, scooters or skateboards are to be ridden to and from school responsibly, by their owners only, with a helmet worn.
- No electronic equipment (laptops, tablets, cell phones, smartwatches, etc.) may be used within the school except where required for school use.
- Cell phones may be brought to school but must remain switched off and unused during school hours, except with a teacher's supervision and permission.

Learning Environment

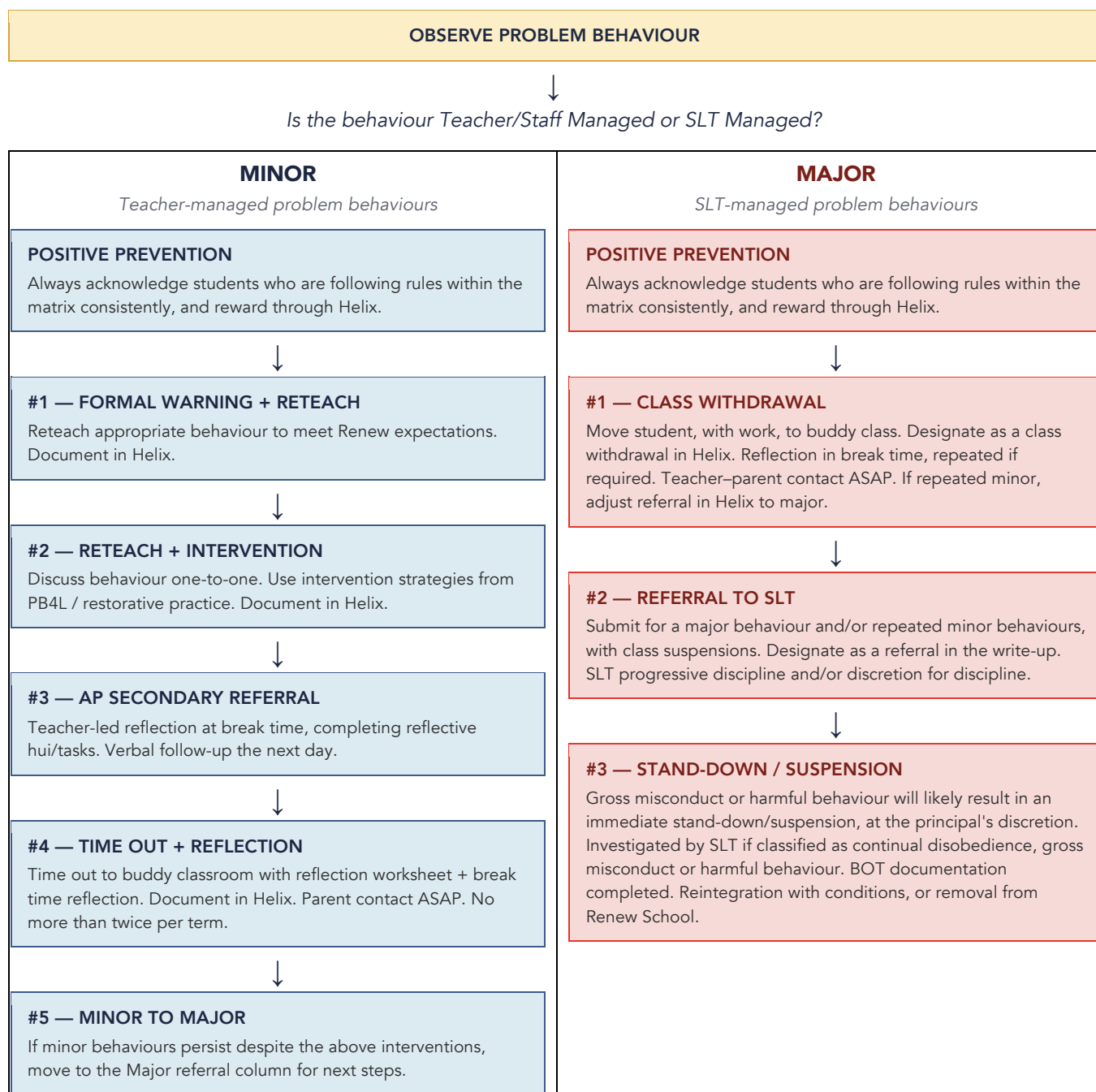
The focus of the Christian school is education — learning and growing in wisdom, knowledge and understanding. For this to happen effectively, teachers must be able to teach and students must take responsibility for their own learning. While appropriate guidance and pastoral assistance will be given to help change inappropriate behaviours and attitudes, the learning of the whole class takes precedence over that of the individual.

Consequences

Where students choose to break rules there will be consequences. The expectation is that students will, with parents' support, complete the tasks or impositions placed on them. Where a student negatively impacts the learning of others by disrupting the learning environment, consequences will include detentions or removal from the learning environment, and may lead to stand-downs, suspension, or exclusion. Most consequences will impact the student's own learning, and they may be required to catch up on work later.

Behaviour Intervention Flow Chart

The flow chart below sets out how staff respond when a behaviour is observed, and how minor, teacher-managed behaviours differ from major, SLT-managed behaviours.



Examples by category (a guide, not a comprehensive list):

Category	Minor (teacher managed)	Major (SLT managed)
Defiance	Saying “No” repeatedly; not doing any work; not listening.	Sustained defiance (more than a few minutes); leaving campus or classroom without permission.
Disrespect	Talking back; making faces; body gestures.	Verbal threats of aggression against a teacher or student; harassment of any kind.
Disruption	Talking/screaming; throwing an object; online chat groups.	Sustained interruption (more than a few minutes); classroom-level disruption.
Bullying behaviour	Teasing; messing around.	Seeking to harm or intimidate; repeated bullying towards a student.
Language	Cussing to self; name calling; using unkind words.	Hateful/racist comments; sexual harassment; profanity (incl. gestures) directed at a person.
Physical contact	Hitting/pushing; pinching; tripping/kicking.	Intent to harm: hitting, pushing or punching; tripping or kicking; sexual harassment.
Property	Throwing, dropping or breaking an object.	Vandalism of personal or school property of high value.
Possession	Non-school-appropriate items.	Possession of illegal items: drugs/alcohol; vape/lighter; weapons.
Technology	Use of cell phone, headphones, or other technology without permission.	Cyber-bullying; inappropriate images/sites.
Stealing	Petty theft with little or no value; item returned to individual.	Major theft with high value; minor theft without item returned.

A final note: our first priority is training in Biblical standards and Christian character, and that shapes how we respond when things go wrong. We want every family at Renew to be here because they want this, not just because they're managing consequences — and we're always happy to talk with families about whether Renew is the right fit.



Family

Motto: Be transformed by the renewal of your mind — Romans 12:2

The family still has the most significant influence in a child's life — it shapes attitudes long before a child reaches our gates, and those attitudes show up in behaviour. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 makes teaching a parent's role first; Renew School exists to walk alongside that, not replace it. We see the school as an extension of what's already happening — or should be happening — in a Christian home, not a separate track running in parallel to it.

That's why one of the things that makes a Christian school different is a genuinely close working relationship with parents across every area of a student's development, not just academics — though we take seriously our role in helping students achieve academically and gain the qualifications they need.

Because character and learning grow together, there are real expectations that come with this partnership — for the school environment, and for what happens at home. We'd ask you to consider the following as practical keys that will positively build into the lives of your children:

- Have family devotions, including daily Bible reading and prayer — this helps lay strong foundations in children's lives.
- Teach and expect good manners, respect and obedience from your children.
- Pray regularly for the staff, students and the school.
- Co-operate with staff in matters of behaviour management.
- Bring any concerns about school staff or policy directly to us, so we can work through them together.
- Ensure children have tasks they can help with around home, and expect them completed on your timeframe, not theirs.
- Read to or with your younger children — ideally daily. Reading helps academic success.
- Establish boundaries and limits in your home, especially for internet, music, TV and friends.
- Follow through on any work, assignments or slips to be signed.
- Ensure your children are punctual, and provide an explanation for absences.
- Train your children to respect the property of others.

Communication

Communication about any area of school life is crucial, for the school and for your children. Please let us know anything that could affect your child's academic success, and keep us updated on any change of address or email contact. We'd also ask that you're diligent in reading newsletters, attending parent meetings and interviews, and checking the school website.



Students & Character

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At Renew School, growing Christ-like character isn't a separate goal from academic learning — it's part of the same thing. The same approach that shapes how we teach maths or history also shapes how we help students grow in attitude and behaviour: not bolted on, but built in, through the ordinary practice of school life alongside people who are living it out themselves.

We're upfront about this because it matters, especially as students move into the Secondary years: Renew works best for families who want this kind of formation, not just an education that happens alongside it. That shapes real expectations around standards and boundaries — not rules for their own sake, but part of how character actually grows.

Appearance

Please see the Appearance and Uniform section of this Prospectus, and our Dress Code page on the website, to understand what we expect.

Inter-Student Relationships

Relationships are part of how character forms too — who we spend our days with shapes who we become, just as much in the playground and common room as in the classroom. As students get older those relationships get more complex, so we're intentional about creating a healthy, co-educational environment where boys and girls can build real respect and lasting friendship, without the pressure that can come with growing up.

That intentionality is reflected in our policy on this:

- Conversation of a sexually explicit nature, or that is racially or gender insensitive, is forbidden — including sexual innuendo, jokes and language.
- Displays of physical affection are not acceptable, unless between members of the same family.
- Physical contact is limited to curriculum activities, and only under staff supervision.
- There is to be no pairing off between students with the intent of pursuing a romantic relationship. Renew School does not support the forming of “romantic” relationships at school, since they can unnecessarily isolate students from the wider community. If you have any questions about this, please make an appointment with the principal.

- Older students must respect and care for younger students, who don't need to be drawn into conversation more suited to older students.
- Mentoring of younger students by older students is encouraged through the Vertical Form system.

Appearance & Uniform

Undergarments

Thermals or a short-sleeved T-shirt or similar undergarment may be worn underneath the school uniform, but must not be visible.

Hair and personal appearance

Students' hair must be clean and tidy at all times, and a hairstyle must not be intended to draw attention to oneself. We prefer hair is not dyed, but if it is, natural colours only. Students with long hair may be asked to tie it back where it poses a health and safety risk (e.g. PE or science). We prefer boys are cleanly shaven rather than growing facial hair.

- Make-up is not necessary at school, but if worn must have a natural look.
- Students are asked not to wear jewellery to school — including rings, necklaces, armbands and earrings — except female students may wear a single stud or sleeper in each ear.
- Where a student has received a taonga from whānau, an exception may be made after discussion with the principal.
- Tattoos are not encouraged. Where a student has a visible tattoo, parents and student should meet with the principal to discuss whether it needs to be covered.

Uniform

At Renew School we have a mix-and-match school uniform, which every student is required to wear for all school activities, including the sports uniform for PE. Students are expected to wear their uniform correctly at all times — at school, travelling to and from school, and when representing the school.

School uniform is purchased through Bethell's Whangarei (The Strand, Shop 14/Vine St).

Years 1–8 (Primary)

Year 1-8 PRIMARY Renew School Uniform



**Renew School
Polo and Bucket Hat
for
Boys and Girls**

BOYS



**Renew School
Boy Shorts**



Renew School Long Pants

GIRLS



**Renew School
Girl Skorts**



Renew School Long Pants



Renew School Jumper



Renew School Soft Shell Jacket



Renew School PE Shirt (Available soon)



**Plain Black Modest Active Shorts
(Kmart, Warehouse, etc.)**

Years 9–13 — Girls

Year 9-13 GIRLS Renew School Uniform**Renew School Girls Short Sleeve Blouse****Renew School Girls Long Sleeve Blouse****Renew School Girls Skirt****Renew School Girls Lavalava****Renew School Girls Long Pants****Renew School Jumper****Renew School Soft Shell Jacket****Renew School PE Shirt (Available soon)****Plain Black Modest Active Shorts**
(Kmart, Warehouse, etc.)

Years 9–13 — Boys

Year 9-13 BOYS Renew School Uniform**Renew School Boys Short Sleeve Shirt****Renew School Boys Long Sleeve Shirt****Renew School Boys Shorts****Renew School Boys Long Pants****Renew School Jumper****Renew School Soft Shell Jacket****Renew School PE Shirt (Available soon)****Plain Black Active Shorts (Kmart, Warehouse, etc.)**

Polo shirts may be worn out with shorts, but must be tucked in when worn with the sweatshirt.

	Boys	Girls
Shoes	Plain black lace-up, low-heeled shoe. No other colour on the shoe. No high tops or boots.	Plain black lace-up, single buckle or strap, low-heeled shoe. No other colour on the shoe. No high tops or boots.
Sandals	Plain black sandals, worn with a back strap. Not with socks or trousers.	Plain black low-heeled sandals, worn with a back strap.
Socks	Black socks with shoes; sandals are an alternative to closed shoes.	Black ankle socks, or black/natural stockings, worn with shoes only.

Dress code for education outdoors, camps and swimming

Clothing and footwear must be appropriate for the outdoor activity taking place. General guidelines:

- T-shirt with short or long sleeves
- Shorts and leggings mid-thigh length
- Girls' swimsuit: one piece
- Boys' swimsuit: swim shorts
- Rash shirts and hats are highly recommended to protect students from sunburn



Finance

Attendance Dues

Attendance Dues are a compulsory charge made by the Proprietor of an Integrated School, in agreement with the Ministry of Education, to cover the costs of Capital Development — land and building purchase, and repayment of loans used to develop the buildings the school uses. This funding is not used for the delivery of education to your child, but for development of the facilities the school uses. The Proprietor of Renew School is Christian Renewal Trust, and these payments are made to the Trust.

Please use account number 03-0497-0298016-00 for Attendance Dues, Special Character Donations, or any other curricular costs.

Children	Family Discount	Total (Per Family)	12 Monthly	26 Fortnightly
1	—	\$977	\$81.42	\$37.58
2	5%	\$1,856	\$154.67	\$71.38
3	10%	\$2,637	\$219.75	\$101.42
4+	15%	\$3,321	\$276.75	\$127.73

Proprietor's Special Character Donation

As an integrated school, the Ministry of Education allows us to integrate our Christian special character through all aspects of the school's operation and curriculum. However, not all of this — including resources and professional development — is funded by the Ministry.

The Proprietor therefore encourages parents to make a tax-deductible donation of \$80 per student per year (\$20 per student per term), used specifically to deliver and nurture the Christian faith of our students and develop in them a Biblical worldview, with corresponding values and standards. Payment qualifies for a donations tax credit, and a qualifying receipt is issued by the Proprietor at the end of the tax year.

Other Financial Costs

Tuition costs are covered by Ministry of Education grants, including swimming.

Technology classes for Year 7 and Year 8 students are provided off-site at Manaia View School; a minimal per-year charge covers the cost of materials used, payable to the school.

Stationery items are purchased by parents. For convenience, families can order via NZ School Shop's Back-to-School portal, which offers a 5% rebate on parent purchases (1 November – 28 February, with some exclusions) — see our Stationery Lists page on our website for details and year-level lists.

There may be other costs to cover EOTC (Education Outside The Classroom) camping trips.



Enrolment Procedures

Parent / Guardian

A parent is a biological parent responsible for the upbringing and care of a child. A legal guardian is an adult responsible for the upbringing and care of a child, with the same responsibilities as a biological parent. This also includes Whāngai — an informal Māori customary adoption recognised by the Justice Department, usually involving a child being raised by grandparents, whānau or extended family, arranged directly between the birth parents and the mātua whāngai (the family raising the child).

Preference Enrolment

Families who want to be considered as Preference Enrolments need to have the pastor of their church complete the Preference Enrolment Form. Preference is not the same as Enrolment: it is given to the parents of a child, not the child, and is determined by the Proprietor.

Preference of Enrolment, as defined in our Integration Agreement, applies where parents have established a particular or general philosophical or religious connection with the school. Connection is the relationship between the parent/caregiver applying and the beliefs, values and standards that define the school's Special Character — best demonstrated at home, where the parent(s) live out those values and the child is prepared to make a positive contribution to the school.

Renew School is required to take reasonable steps to verify a parent's commitment to the Special Character. This is normally done by requesting a reference from a recognised church before preferential status is granted; further questions may also be asked during the interview process.

Non-Preference Enrolment

A limited number of places are available to students who do not meet the preference criteria above. As a state integrated school, Renew School may accept up to 5% of the total roll as non-preference enrolments.

Non-preference applicants are considered on the basis that the beliefs, values and standards upheld at Renew School are mutually acceptable to both the child and the parents/guardians, and that their place in the school is conditional on their participation in the programme. Non-preference students are accepted on a first-come, first-placed basis; those who cannot be enrolled immediately may be placed on a waiting list, by date and number, and contacted if places become available within the calendar year.

Enrolment Process

- Contact the school if you have any questions about possible enrolment or the process.
- An application form is completed online via the school website at renew.school.nz. If you don't have the resources to complete an online form, please make an appointment with our enrolment officer.
- A separate application form is required for each student.
- Parents, and all children over 13 years old, must read the Prospectus.
- If desired, a school visit can be arranged by phoning the School Receptionist between 9.00am–3.00pm, Monday to Friday. Prospective parents can be personally escorted around the school by the principal, an associate principal, or the enrolment officer.
- Once all requested information has been received, it will be checked by the enrolment officer and Senior Management Team. It's the parents' responsibility to furnish documentation, and the school may contact the parent — or the contributing school — where further clarification is required.
- An interview will be arranged with suitable applicants, including parent(s)/caregiver and child(ren), the principal, an associate principal, and a representative from the Proprietor.
- All parents will be notified by the principal of the outcome of their application.

Please note that waiting lists can and do occur, and submission of an application form does not constitute automatic or immediate enrolment.