

ROTORUA SPECIALIST SCHOOL - TE KURA PUKENGA O ROTORUA STRATEGIC PLAN: 2025 to 2027



***BOT Presiding Member - Terena Wara
Principal - Lorraine Northey***

ROTORUA SPECIALIST SCHOOL - TE KURA PUKENGA O ROTORUA

STRATEGIC PLAN: 2025 to 2027

Our Vision: To be the centre of excellence in specialist education in Aotearoa/New Zealand where students are nurtured to reach their potential.

Our Mission: Together we care, learn and excel/Ki a tātou, Ka awahi, Ka ako, Ka piki ake.

Students' Mission Statement: See us, Hear us, Know us, Empower us/Titiro mai, Whakarongo mai, Kōrero mai, Whakakaha i a mātou.

Our Values:

Respect	Independence	Community	Empowerment
Whakamana	Whakatipuranga	Hapori	Kairangi

<p>Strategic Intention One Students at Rotorua Specialist School are able to be the best they can be. NELP 1,2&4</p>	<p>Strategic Intention Two Rotorua Specialist School is a place of excellence in the field of special education. NELP 3&5</p>
<p>We achieve this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knowing and working with our families ● Listening to our students ● Putting the needs of our students first ● working from a “Strengths based model” ● Engaging students’ interests and preparing them for life outside school ● Valuing the input from our therapy team through effective implementation of the ‘Specialist Service Standards and Pathways ● Developing a physical environment that is safe and stimulating for students and staff ● Listening and responding to our community 	<p>We achieve this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Being inclusive ● Providing our school community with a safe, respectful, affirming and culturally responsive environment ● Employing quality staff ● Promoting best practice in all areas ● Providing staff with relevant, up to date professional development ● Valuing the work our staff and families do ● Having the best facilities and resources available ● Developing property that is fit for purpose ● Being active in our community ● Being proactive and supportive of others

NATIONAL EDUCATION AND LEARNING PRIORITIES (NELP)

The Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities (the NELP) is a set of priorities designed to guide those who govern schools and kura (state, state integrated, and private), to focus their day-to-day work on things that will have a significant positive impact for children and young people. The priorities can be used alongside their own local priorities, and in conjunction with delivering a rich local curriculum, to help every learner/ākongā to progress and achieve their aspirations.

Objective One		Objective Two		Objective Three		Objective Four	Objective Five
LEARNERS AT THE CENTRE Learners with their whānau are at the centre of education		BARRIER FREE ACCESS Great education opportunities and outcomes are within reach for every learner		QUALITY TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP Quality teaching and leadership make the difference for learners and their whānau		FUTURE OF LEARNING AND WORK Learning that is relevant to the lives of New Zealanders today and throughout their lives	WORLD CLASS INCLUSIVE PUBLIC EDUCATION New Zealand education is trusted and sustainable
Action One	Action Two	Action Three	Action Four	Action Five	Action Six	Action Seven	Action Eight
Ensure places of learning are safe, inclusive and free from racism, discrimination and bullying.	Have high aspirations for every learner / ākongā, and support these by partnering with their whanau and communities to design and	Reduce barriers to education for all, including for Maori and Pacific learners / ākongā, disabled learners / ākongā and	Ensure every learner / ākongā gains sound foundation skills, including language, literacy and numeracy.	Meaningfully incorporate te reo Māori and tikanga Māori into the everyday life of the place of learning.	Develop staff to strengthen teaching, leadership and learner support capability across the education workforce.	Collaborate with industries and employers to ensure learners / ākongā have the skills, knowledge and pathways to succeed in work.	Not applicable to our setting (Tertiary institutions only.)

	deliver education that responds to their needs, and sustains their identities, languages and cultures.	those with learning support needs.					
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GOAL ONE: LEARNING AND TEACHING (STRATEGIC INTENTION ONE)			
Learning and Teaching Goals	2025	2026	2027
	<p>Implement recommendations from the annual SSSR in 2024</p> <p>ERO Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consult with Mana Whenua to collaboratively develop and integrate a culturally responsive curriculum tailored to our local context i.e. Ngati Whakaue. ● All classes will take part in SPEC and STEM activities ● Consult with whānau re-whānau aspirations for our tamariki and rangatahi ● Apply to join the Māori Achievement Collaboration 	<p>Implement recommendations from the annual SSSR in 2025</p> <p>ERO Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to consult with Mana Whenua to collaboratively develop and integrate a culturally responsive curriculum tailored to our local context i.e. Ngati Whakaue. ● Consult with whānau re-whānau aspirations for our tamariki and rangatahi ● Continue with Māori Achievement Collaboration (MAC) 	<p>Implement recommendations from the annual SSSR in 2026</p> <p>ERO Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to gather evidence and monitor results to guide and inform practice in Bal A Vis-X, STEM, Lego and SPEC. ● Continue to consult with Mana Whenua to collaboratively develop and integrate a culturally responsive curriculum tailored to our local context i.e. Ngati Whakaue. ● Consult with whānau re-whānau aspirations for

	<p>(MAC) in 2025</p> <p>Create stronger links between teachers' pedagogical decision making and student learning and engagement. Links will be reflected in documentation. Developed within a multidisciplinary team.</p> <p>Grow our people, places, systems and structures to meet the future growth of our school.</p> <p>Ensure that our school environments are healthy, safe, well organised and can respond to the range of learners at RSS-TKPOR now and in the future</p> <p>Develop a coaching culture at RSS-TKPOR to ensure that all staff have the support they need to be confident, competent, knowledgeable, reflective practitioners</p> <p>Continue with BSLA (Better Start Literacy) Prof Development</p> <p>Implement 'Team Teach' to assist pupils through emotional regulation and teaching of prosocial behaviours</p>	<p>Grow our people, places, systems and structures to meet the future growth of our school.</p> <p>Ensure that our school environments are healthy, safe, well organised and can respond to the range of learners at RSS-TKPOR now and in the future</p> <p>Develop a coaching culture at RSS-TKPOR to ensure that all staff have the support they need to be confident, competent, knowledgeable, reflective practitioners</p> <p>School Picnic to reinforce manaakitanga</p> <p>BSLA</p> <p>SPEC</p> <p>Matariki Ball</p> <p>PD in the NZC Curriculum as part of the ongoing MoE curriculum update.</p> <p>School Psychologists will provide support where</p>	<p>tamariki and rangatahi.</p> <p>Grow our people, places, systems and structures to meet the future growth of our school.</p> <p>Ensure that our school environments are healthy, safe, well organised and can respond to the range of learners at RSS-TKPOR now and in the future</p> <p>Develop a coaching culture at RSS-TKPOR to ensure that all staff have the support they need to be confident, competent, knowledgeable, reflective practitioners</p> <p>The Occupational Therapist(s) and Physiotherapists will support hauora & physical wellbeing through individualised programmes.</p> <p>School Picnic to reinforce manaakitanga</p> <p>Matariki Market to promote significance of Māori New Year -</p>
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	<p>School Picnic to reinforce manaakitanga</p> <p>Introduce HERO to all parents. This platform will enable teachers to share students achievements and successes with parents and whānau.</p> <p>Matariki Market Day to promote significance of Māori New Year - Whakawhanaungatanga</p> <p>Mathematics - Continue with Numicon PD and additional resourcing in Mathematics.</p> <p>The Occupational Therapist(s) and Physiotherapists will support hauora & physical wellbeing through individualised programmes.</p> <p>Strengthen our connections with whānau, host schools, community agencies, services and each other.</p> <p>PD for the Health and PE Curriculum as part of the ongoing</p>	<p>required for individual pupils and whanau.</p> <p>The Orientation Therapist(s) and Physiotherapists will support hauora & physical wellbeing through individualised programmes.</p> <p>We will continue and extend Bal-A-Vis-X throughout the school.</p> <p>The Speech Language Therapists will advance communication skills for pupils to amplify life skills.</p> <p>Provide support for our qualifying low vision pupils by the Orientation and Mobility Therapist.</p> <p>English, Mathematics and Stats can now be explored. Taught in 2025</p> <p>Science, Tech and Arts Explored in 2025</p> <p>Strengthen our connections with whānau, host schools,</p>	<p>Whakawhanaungatanga</p> <p>The Speech Language Therapists will advance communication skills for pupils to amplify life skills.</p> <p>School Psychologists will provide support where required for individual pupils and whanau.</p> <p>The Orientation Therapist(s) and Physiotherapists will support hauora & physical wellbeing through individualised programmes.</p> <p>We will continue and extend Bal-A-Vis-X throughout the school.</p> <p>The Speech Language Therapists will advance communication skills for pupils to amplify life skills.</p> <p>Provide support for our qualifying low vision pupils by the Orientation and Mobility Therapist.</p>
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	<p>MoE curriculum update.</p> <p>Sustainability teaching and learning programme (recycling, gardening, technology, wearable arts programme.)</p> <p>End of Year Production - (The Te Arawa Journey)</p> <p>Kahui Ako Goals Improving teacher capability in</p> <p>To lead professional development for staff regarding Takiwātanga - Autism - Attention Autism PD</p> <p>For example, one session per term in a staff hui.</p> <p>Goal Two Employment Pathways To work with SLT (Senior Leadership Team) regarding employment pathways for our adult students.</p> <p>Goal Three Mathematics To help support Numicon delivery in our school—once per term. Start of Maths Whizz - Ngati Whakaue funded.</p>	<p>community agencies, services and each other.</p>	<p>English, Mathematics and Stats can now be explored. Taught in 2025</p> <p>Science, Tech and Arts</p>
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	<p>School Psychologist to provide support where required for individual pupils and whānau.</p> <p>The Occupational Therapist(s) and Physiotherapists will support hauora & physical wellbeing through individualised programmes.</p> <p>The Speech Language Therapists will advance communication skills for pupils to amplify life skills.</p> <p>Provide support for our qualifying low vision pupils by the Orientation and Mobility Therapist.</p> <p>English, Mathematics and Stats can now be explored. Taught in 2025</p> <p>Science, Tech and Arts Explored in 2025</p>		
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GOAL TWO: CULTURE (STRATEGIC INTENTION TWO) Barrier Free Access			
Ba	2025	2026	2027
	<p>Schoolwide staff only day to explore local tikanga.</p> <p>Normalise the use of Te Reo Māori at RSS - TKPOR</p> <p>School Haka to be developed with support by Matua Aiden and Matua Daryl.</p> <p>School Picnic to reinforce Manaakitanga.</p> <p>School Production to promote the arts curriculum. Te Arawa Journey</p> <p>Matariki Market to promote significance of Māori New Year -</p>	<p>Pasifika focus.</p> <p>Enter a pupil Biannually in the secondary schools 'High Achievers' award.</p> <p>School Picnic to reinforce Manaakitanga.</p> <p>Active Sports Programme to promote healthy living, social skills, general wellbeing and participation (eg cross country, swimming, athletics and special olympics.)</p> <p>School Camps for Senior Learners.</p>	<p>Matariki Ball to enhance life skills opportunities and celebrate significance of Māori New Year.</p> <p>School Picnic to reinforce Manaakitanga.</p> <p>Active Sports Programme to promote healthy living, social skills, general wellbeing and participation (eg cross country, swimming, athletics and special olympics.)</p> <p>School Camps for Senior Learners.</p> <p>Sailing programme for Senior Learners.</p>

	<p>Whakawhanaungatanga</p> <p>Art Exhibition to promote the Arts Curriculum.</p> <p>Active Sports Programme to promote healthy living, social skills, general wellbeing and participation (eg cross country, swimming, athletics and special olympics.)</p> <p>Participation in Special Schools Kapa Haka Festival (new initiative).</p> <p>School Camps for Senior Learners.</p> <p>Sailing programme for Senior Learners.</p> <p>Enhance whanau ownership of Rotorua Specialist School by celebrating akonga success through social media platforms (Facebook, HERO, and School Loop)</p> <p>Promote staff and community identity through a corporate</p>	<p>Participation in Special Schools Kapa Haka Festival (new initiative).</p> <p>Sailing programme for Senior Learners.</p>	<p>Participation in Special Schools Kapa Haka Festival (new initiative).</p>
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	<p>dress attire</p> <p>Introduce leadership opportunities for senior students - manukura to lead school assemblies, school events. To lift the school spirit.</p> <p>Review school RAMS as per policy review to ensure that the safety and welfare of all akonga on EOTC activities are prioritised.</p>		
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GOAL THREE: RESOURCING (STRATEGIC INTENTION TWO)			
Resourcing Goals	2025	2026	2027
	<p>Monitor the 10 Year Property Plan and 5 YA</p> <p>Replace 20 older ipads.</p> <p>PMP Activities for base.</p> <p>Replace school van/s as per van replacement schedule.</p> <p>Learner Support Coordinator to</p>	<p>Monitor the 10 Year Property Plan and 5 YA</p> <p>Replace a van as per van replacement schedule.</p> <p>Update / replace PMP Equipment</p> <p>Resourcing for additional five classrooms for Bal-A-Vis-X programme or equivalent</p>	<p>Monitor the 10 Year Property Plan and 5 YA</p> <p>Replace older ipads.</p> <p>Replace a van as per van replacement schedule.</p> <p>Update / replace Gym equipment (eg rowing machine, treadmill.)</p> <p>Resourcing for remaining</p>

	<p>apply for funding for tamariki eg bikes, RDA, swimming.</p> <p>Resourcing for 'Maths Whizz' by Ngati Whakaue Education Endowment Trust.</p> <p>Sensory room upgrade for Base.</p> <p>Art Murals upgrade for Base.</p> <p>Activity Centre upgrade.</p>	<p>programme(s).</p> <p>Review smartboard programme and replacement for older models.</p>	<p>classrooms for Bal-A-Vis-X programme or equivalent programme(s).</p> <p>Review smartboard programme and replacement for older models.</p>
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ANNUAL PLAN - 2025

STRATEGIC INTENTION ONE - LEARNING AND TEACHING

What are our goals?	Who is responsible?	What is resourcing?	How did we do?
Implement recommendations from the SSR completed in 2023	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison, Anne Dooley.	Specialist budget	
Mathematics - Start Maths Whizz PD and additional resourcing in Mathematics.	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison and Shelley Hönig	PD Budget Maths Budget	
Continue to implement Aotearoa NZ Histories Curriculum Team (new curriculum) reflecting a goal with Te Ao Maori of the Kahui Ako.	Daryl Watene and Aiden Taipeti	PD Budget Māori Budget Social Sciences Budget	
We will consult with Mana whenua re : localised curriculum - developed by Ngati Whakaue across all classrooms reflecting a goal with Te Ao Maori of the Kahui Ako.	Daryl Watene and Aident Taipeti, BOT and Leadership Team	Social Sciences Budget	
We will extend SPEC to all classrooms. Each class will run daily lessons.	Zac Markham, Campbell Harrison and applicable classroom staff.	SPEC & Health and Wellbeing Budget	

PD will continue to be provided in relation to the Kahui Ako Achievement Objective for Hauora and Wellbeing.	Zac Markham and Rawiri McKinney	Kahui Ako has ended	
School Psychologists will provide support where required for individual pupils and whanau.	Estelle Albert -Ubels and Campbell Harrison	Specialist Budget	
The Occupational Therapist(s) and Physiotherapists will support hauora & physical wellbeing through individualised programmes. New Sensory Room to be set up in 2025	Katharina Hall	Specialist Budget and Sensory Room Budget	
The Speech Language Therapists will advance communication skills for pupils to amplify life skills.	Mandana Rastgoo	Specialist Budget	
Provide support for our qualifying low vision pupils by the Orientation and Mobility Instructor.	Michelle Bunce	Specialist Budget	

ANNUAL PLAN - 2026

STRATEGIC INTENTION TWO - CULTURE

What are our goals?	Who is responsible?	What is resourcing?	How did we do?
Schoolwide staff only day to explore local marae	Lorraine Northey, Matua Aiden, Matua Daryl, Leadership Team.	PD budget	
Normalise the use of Te Reo Māori at RSS-TKPOR	Matua Aiden Taipeti and all staff	Te Reo & Kapa Haka Budget	
School Haka to be developed with support by Matua Aiden and Matua Daryl.	Matua Aiden Taipeti	Te Reo & Kapa Haka Budget	
School Picnic to reinforce Manaakitanga.	Lorraine Northey and Senior Leadership	Wellbeing Budget	
School Production Te Arawa Journey	Rawiri McKinney	Production Budget	
Matariki Market to enhance entrepreneurial skills and independence.	Shelley Hönig and Matariki Roopu	Matariki Budget	
Active Sports Programme to promote healthy living, social skills, general wellbeing and participation (eg cross country, swimming, athletics and special olympics.)	Iain Picken	PE Budget	
Participate in the annual Special	Matua Daryl	Te Reo & Kapa Haka Budget	

Schools Kapa Haka Festival in Tauranga			
To support teacher wellbeing;	T.1. – Te Roopu Kea - Campbell Harrison T.2 - Te Roopu Karearea - Iain Picken T.3. – Te Roopu Pukeko - Shelley Honig T.4 – Christmas Function - Board	Wellbeing and End of Year Budget	
School Camps for Senior Learners.	Senior Class teachers.	Senior Camp Budget and Personal Contributions.	
Sailing / Squash programme for Senior Learners.	Senior Class teachers. Karen Roberts - Physiotherapist	PE Budget	
Enhance whanau ownership of Rotorua Specialist School by celebrating akonga success through social media platforms (Facebook, HERO and School Loop)	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison, Shelley Hönig and Iain Picken	Advertising and ICT Budget.	
Promote staff and community identity through a corporate dress attire	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison, Shelley Hönig and Iain Picken		
Introduce leadership opportunities for senior	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison, Shelley Hönig and Iain		

students - manukura to lead school assemblies, school events. To lift the school spirit.	Picken		
Review school RAMS as per policy review to ensure that the safety and welfare of all akonga on EOTC activities are prioritised.	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison, Shelley Hönig and Iain Picken	Professional development budget	

ANNUAL PLAN - 2026			
STRATEGIC INTENTION THREE - RESOURCING			
What are our goals?	Who is responsible?	What is the resourcing?	How did we do?
Monitor the 10 Year Property Plan and 5 YA	Lorraine Northey, Campbell Harrison and Bernard Needham	MoE	
Purchase 20 Ipads / Chromebooks & repurpose senior ipads / chromebooks for junior classes as required.	Campbell Harrison	ICT Budget	
PMP Activities for base.	Iain Picken, Karen Roberts	PE Budget	
Play based learning resourcing for junior school.	Shelley Hönig	Junior Class Budget	
Learner Support Coordinator to apply for funding for tamariki eg bikes, RDA, swimming.	Carey Bennett	Funding Applications	

Resourcing for SPEC	Zac Markham	SPEC Budget	
Resourcing for 'Maths Whizz' by Ngati Whakaue Education Endowment Trust	Shelley Hönig	Ngati Whakaue Education Endowment Trust	
Sensory Dark room upgrade for Base, activity centre upgrade.	Lorraine Northey, Michelle Bunce	Maintenance Budget	
Art Murals for external classroom displays	Lorraine Northey	Capital Item / Property	
Activity Centre upgrade	Lorraine Northey, Bernard Needham	MoE and BoT Funding.	

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

One of the purposes of the Education & Training Act (2020) is to establish and regulate an education system that honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi and supports Māori-Crown relationships. Section 9 sets out the main provisions of the Act in relation to the Crown's responsibility to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. These provisions include obligations in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi for school boards, tertiary education institutions and education agencies. A primary objective of the board of Te Kura Pūkenga o Rotorua – Rotorua Specialist School is giving effect to te Tiriti o Waitangi. We do

this by:

- Working to ensure our plans, policies, and curriculum reflect Ngati Whakauetanga, mātauranga Māori, and te ao Māori
- Taking all reasonable steps to make instruction available in tikanga Māori and te reo Māori
- Achieving equitable outcomes for Māori students
- Providing opportunities for our akonga to appreciate the importance of te Tiriti o Waitangi and te reo Māori.

Partnership

Te Kura Pūkenga o Rotorua – Rotorua Specialist School aims to work in partnership with our local Ngati Whakaue Māori community to support rangatiratanga/self-determination. We actively seek the guidance of our local kaumatua and Māori community to help us better meet the needs of our ākonga Māori and ensure they experience educational success as Māori.

We consult with our local Māori community on the development of our charter/strategic plan to make sure it reflects and upholds appropriate tikanga Māori and te ao Māori. We seek opportunities to collaborate with Māori to invest in, develop, and deliver Māori-medium learning

(NELP Priority 2).

Protection

Te Kura Pūkenga o Rotorua – Rotorua Specialist School actively protects and upholds mātauranga Māori, te reo Māori, and tikanga Māori, and ensures they are meaningfully incorporated into the everyday life of our kura (NELP Objective 5). We actively engage with Ka Hikitia - Ka Hāpaitia Education in New Zealand.

We take all reasonable steps to make instruction available in te reo Māori and tikanga Māori.

We support our Kaiako to build their teaching capability, knowledge, and skills in te reo Māori and tikanga Māori. We provide opportunities for kaiako to develop their understanding and practice of culturally responsive teaching that considers ākonga contexts (NELP Priority 6).

Participation

Te Kura Pūkenga o Rotorua – Rotorua Specialist School has high aspirations for all akonga. We encourage the participation and engagement of students and their whānau in all aspects of school life. Our relationships with our kura community help us meet the needs of all akonga and sustain their identities, languages, and cultures. The participation of whānau and our wider Māori community actively informs the way we design and deliver education to ensure ākonga Māori experience educational success as Māori (NELP Priority 2).

