



TAUHOA SCHOOL

Learning to live | Living to learn



TAUHOA TATTLER #11

1st August 2023

Attendance Issue

Ngā mihi o te tau hou.

I am using this week's Tattler to discuss the new, (but old), regulations we must now ensure we enforce.

As you may be aware, the Government is responding to the many children who are currently not attending school, not attending regularly enough and are regularly late to school. They have increased funding to create more attendance officers. In our region, North Auckland, a new, far more proactive Attendance Service is now in place.

The School Board has reviewed and updated the Attendance Policy for the School, and I am committed to enacting this policy and following these procedures. Not only because having your children attend school every day is vital for their education and their futures, but the law requires me, on behalf of the School Board, to do so. This has been the case for many years, but the 2020 Education Act has addressed this further.

Nothing is new. What has happened is that the Government now, through the online student management systems we all use, can now monitor student absences more closely and oversee schools and their actions when dealing with absenteeism.

Why has it become so important now?

The simple answer is partly due to our friend 'the covid pandemic'. When covid struck, we encouraged you to keep children home when sick to stop the spread of covid. Then schools closed, and children were sent home to learn. Teachers throughout New Zealand took to the Internet to teach from their homes. For some, this was successful. Some didn't even have connectivity, some didn't even bother engaging. This was true for our students too. We all became very ok with having children away from school.

Aside from that, we also have the situation that it is always cheaper to go away in term time rather than at scheduled holiday time. This has been the case for a long time but more people are flying overseas for holidays now that covid pandemic is 'over'. Therefore more students aren't at school.

So, what's happening now?

I have attached the Policy and School Procedures to this Tattler for your reading pleasure, but here it is in a nutshell:

- Students must attend school from the age of 6 in NZ. Once enrolled, they must attend school full-time and for the whole of the school day.
- For a legitimate reason, the Principal can allow your child to be away for up to five school days at a time. (In a row)
- It is unjustifiable for your child to take days off school for birthdays, parent appointments and holidays within term time. (Other examples are in the policy)
- After five days of absence without a justifiable reason, the Principal rings the parents and Whanau. Further days off will activate the Attendance Service.
- Students may be taken out of school by their parents for outside tuition only at the Principal's discretion. Students may only be taken by parents/caregivers from school during the school day with prior arrangements and/or permission of the school staff.
- Constant continuous illness over weeks will be questioned and possibly referred to Attendance Service
- The school is "open for instruction" as advised by MOE with daily time intervals of 8.30 am-10.30 am, 11.00 am-12.30 pm and 1.20 pm-2.30 pm. Students must be at school by 8-30 am to start the day on time, or will be deemed late.
- Students who are constantly late to school will be referred to the Attendance Service.

I know this may sound really heavy, but I make no apologies. For us, not actioning the legislation makes us in breach and not doing our jobs.

We want your children at school. Children with little coughs and colds can normally be at school.

Medical and mental health issues can be addressed and supported in some way. We only need to be contacted.

I look forward to seeing all your children at school nearly all the time.

What Is Coming up

August

- **2nd Parent Pupil Teacher Conversations from 3 pm to 5-30pm**
- **3rd School closed 12-30 early For PPTC's**
- **3rd Parent Pupil Teacher Conversations 1-30 to 7-45pm**
- **18th School Speech Contest**
- **25th Friday MID TERM BREAK School Closed**
- **31st RRS Speech Contest**

Term Reminders For Term 3

- Please return all your pool keys.
- **Students who like to use the field require a change of clothes in their bag**
- Students will no longer need to wear school hats.
- Please ensure your child brings their book bags to school every day.
- We are a healthy lunch school. If you choose to send a lunch to school, please supply a healthy lunchbox <https://nutritionfoundation.org.nz/lunchbox-ideas/>
- We keep personal stationery at home and use school supplies only at school.

Trivial Pursuits Night

This was a fun night, and we had five tables competing for the win! We raised over \$750 dollars towards our school fundraising budget.

Lunches

Our lunch menu over the next two weeks is:

Week 1	Week 2
Vegetarian pasta bake Chicken salad wraps Beef fried rice Vege soup and garlic roll Spaghetti and meatballs	Butter chicken and rice nachos Fish burgers Cowboy casserole (beef) Teriyaki chicken drumsticks

Our chef is amazing, and the food is delicious!

I challenge you to get your child to eat our school food! Take a job out of your day! A healthy morning tea and brain break snack is all you need to send. And remember, we have Hobbit Breakfast too!

Cross Country training

Cross-country will be going ahead in September. We have started training for this, so please be aware kids could get muddy.

Animals for Ag Day

A reminder that any animals that will be on show at Ag Day must be born after July 1st. Please let the school know if you want your child to have an animal and need help getting a lamb etc. We have our contacts.

Lost Property

A special person has washed this and is in a box in the office. There is super clothing in there, Brand named clothes. Please come and check this box, as it will be donated to the op shop shortly.

Parent, Pupil, and Teacher Conversations

These are being held over two days as our school is too large to fit into one night. It is a time to discuss your child's learning and review any information or concerns you have with the mid-year report. Please book on Skool Loop or phone the office for assistance.

School sports Uniforms

Please can everyone check at home for sports uniforms. We did an inventory at the end of term 2, and there are many students who have not returned them. Invoices will be sent to those that have not returned with our next Tattler.

Our Tattler comes out every fortnight. Please feel free to add community news by contacting the office.

Tae noa ki muri.

Vivienne Goldsmith
Principal

School Contacts

Staff and Board Contact Details 2023

Principal:

Vivienne Goldsmith; principal@tauhoa.school.nz

Deputy Principal and Teacher Hoteo Room:

Ms Annette Bryant; annetteb@tauhoa.school.nz

Teacher Atiu Room,

Mrs Rebecca Kelly; Rebecca@tauhoa.school.nz

Teacher Cleasby Room

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Teacher Aid / Kids Kare Supervisor

Alice Cunningham; office@tauhoa.school.nz

Teacher Aid

Jaz Anderson; office@tauhoa.school.nz

Reading Recovery Teacher

Vivienne Goldsmith; principal@tauhoa.school.nz

Office Manager

Ms Jody Otway; office@tauhoa.school.nz

Property Manager:

Alpha van der Velde; office@tauhoa.school.nz

Presiding Member of School Board:

Mrs Bridget Boler; boler@outlook.co.nz

Keeping in touch

We use many ways to keep you informed. Have you:

- Joined Tauhoa Community Facebook Page and Tauhoa School Page
- Download the Skool Loop App onto your phone and select Tauhoa School and the groups you need to hear from (FOTS General and your child's class). This information is on the administration side of the school.
- Sign up to Class Dojo, and download this onto your phone. This app allows you to see what your child is doing at school and receive messages from your class teacher.
- Read the Tattler and other notices that come home!