

Director's message:



E rau rangatira mā tēnā koutou katoa. The northern Waikato region has been experiencing significant growth over the last decade. The majority of this growth has been in the main centres, mostly in Hamilton. However, growth has also started to expand out of the main centres, into traditionally small rural towns such as Cambridge and Te Kauwhata. This growth looks set to continue in the decade ahead.

We are planning now to meet the school age population growth in the area to ensure we have enough space in our local schools for our local students. This growth plan looks at Te Kauwhata, a town north of Hamilton and seeks to complement the other growth plans for the Waikato region including Hamilton East, Hamilton West and Cambridge.

I am very pleased to present the following plan for growth for Te Kauwhata out to 2030. The plan, like our other Ministry growth plans, takes a holistic look at growth and our existing schooling catchments, while also taking account of community aspirations and need. We are also acutely aware of the need to maintain our role as stewards of the education system for all New Zealanders and that we use our taxpayer funding wisely.

Noho ora mai

Paula Rawiri

Te Kauwhata's growth story

Historically, growth in Te Kauwhata has been steady, with sufficient capacity within the local school catchment able to accommodate demand. However, we know that this is about to change.

Te Kauwhata is earmarked as a priority growth area for the north Waikato / south Auckland area through the region's FutureProof Strategy. Re-zoning of 132 hectares of rural land for residential development has recently been approved. Also, the Waikato District Council has been successful in securing \$38 million in MBIE's Housing Infrastructure Fund loans to fund new infrastructure associated with this development.

The current funded capacity of the town's primary school network is 370 student places. The current capacity of the town's secondary school network is 524 student places.

Stats NZ figures are yet to capture projected growth in Te Kauwhata. The local council data indicates a six-fold increase in the population of Te Kauwhata to around 11,000 by 2045. Our own projections modelled out to 2035 expect us to see an additional 1,600-1,850 students accessing local schools.

What have we done so far?

- Four additional teaching spaces have been funded through Budget 18, with two temporary classrooms required to fill a gap while these classrooms are built.
- An enrolment scheme is already in place at the primary school. The site is well optimised, with limited options to add new capacity. The addition of four teaching spaces will see it reach its optimum site potential.

Planning for short-term growth (3 years)

By 2021, we forecast an additional 150-250 students in the primary network.

- We will work with schools to implement enrolment schemes to manage population growth and enrolments in the short term.
- We expect that additional teaching space for the primary school will be needed to temporarily accommodate an extra 200-300 students prior to a new school opening. We are looking for opportunities to partner with local councils, including use of a reserve as playing fields in the short-term while temporary classrooms are placed on the school site.
- Site acquisition for two new primary schools in Te Kauwhata is underway. A new primary school could be built there within six to 10 years; by 2023 at the earliest. We are planning to engage with the community later this year to determine how these two new primary schools will look.
- We will also need to expand Te Kauwhata College as the primary-aged cohort moves through into secondary schooling. We plan to do this by re-developing the school to increase the capacity to 1,200 student places and early master planning discussions are already underway with the school.
- It's not just the schools in town that will grow either. We expect that some of the rural schools close to where the planned growth is will need additional teaching space in the next few years too.

Planning for medium-term growth (3-10 years)

Network analysis suggests that additional demand will be in the order of 800-900 primary student places and 820-950 secondary student places by 2035. We are planning now to accommodate this growth:

- We will continue to monitor school rolls and the uptake of future residential growth to ensure a proactive response to growth is provided.

- We expect that one to two additional primary schools will need to be established in the second half of the decade.
- Continue to collaborate with the Kāhui Ako and wider community in relation to community preferences and governance for new schools.

Beyond 2030

Beyond 2030, growth is expected to continue at a slightly slower rate. Long-term Council projections for the Te Kauwhata township in 2045 indicate around 1,100 Y1-6 students and about 1,100 Y7-13 students. However, this is an underestimate of projected rolls as both the primary and secondary schools cover an area larger than the town itself. The site acquisition currently underway is anticipated to provide adequate schooling provision to 2043.

Māori medium

Within the Te Kauwhata catchment, there is one kōhanga reo. Beyond kōhanga, there is no pathway for Māori medium education in Te Kauwhata. The nearest Māori medium options are Rangiriri for Y1-8, and Huntly for Y9-13 taura.

There is no Māori medium network strategy in the Waikato to support seamless provision of total immersion schooling from kōhanga reo to wharekura. We are beginning to look at a strategy for Hamilton City that might provide direction for the Te Kauwhata area. Our intention is to consult and develop an appropriate strategy for Te Kauwhata in order to provide a response to the demand in the area.

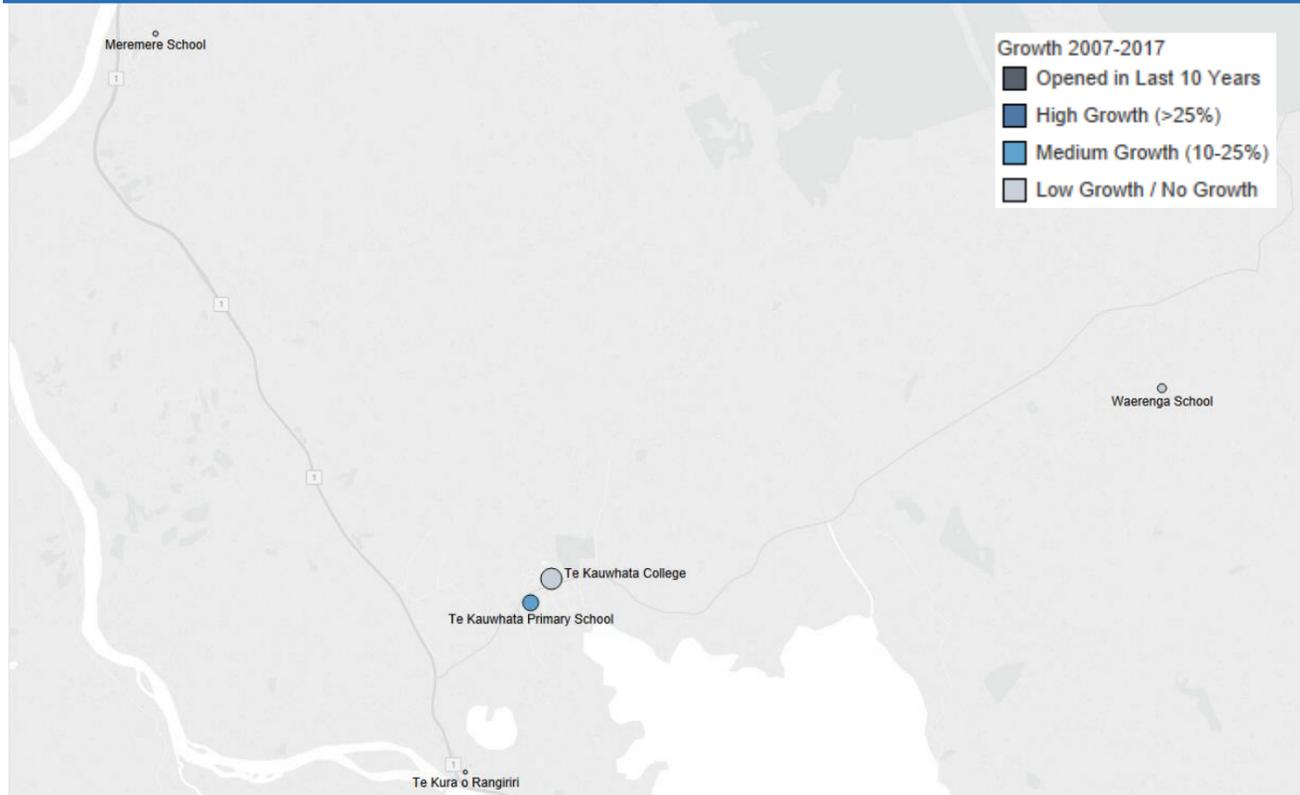
Learning Support

There is currently no specialist Learning Support space in the Te Kauwhata catchment area for ORS-funded children. Learning support needs for students are managed by the schools at primary school level. Secondary students travel to Parkside School in Pukekohe for their schooling. Tō Tātou Tere Haerenga – Our Journey Kāhui Ako are actively seeking to implement the new Learning Support model in order to continue to deliver positive learning outcomes for children who have additional learning needs.

All new schools will be considered for provision for learning support space.

Te Kauwhata: Blueprint for Growth

New Zealand Education Growth Plan to 2030



This growth plan covers the Te Kauwhata area in the Waikato education region. In the Te Kauwhata catchment there are 5 state schools including: 3 contributing primary, a full primary, and a secondary school. As at July 2018, this catchment had a combined **school roll of 863 students**, including 17 students enrolled in Māori Medium education and 3 ORS students.

What's influencing the Growth Plan

Large scale residential developments



Growth is expected in Te Kauwhata as part of the Auckland to Hamilton Corridor Strategy. Waipa District Council (WDC) has recently re-zoned 132 hectares of rural land for residential development. WDC has secured \$38 million in HIF loans to fund infrastructure associated with this development.

More population grow than projected



Council projections anticipate a six-fold increase in the town's population to around 11,000 by 2045. By 2035, we forecast this could mean an additional 1,600-1,850 students accessing local schools.

Current network will reach full capacity



The primary school has reached its current capacity. Additional teaching spaces will see the site reach its optimum potential. The secondary network has some capacity currently available.

Here's what's already underway that's giving us a head start to meet growth in the region



» Enrolment schemes in place at Te Kauwhata Primary School, and Waerenga School.



» Acquisition is currently underway for two primary sites in Te Kauwhata.



» Four additional teaching spaces funded for the primary school, with two temporary spaces in place while these are built.

Growth Plan to 2030

2019

2022

2030



Hui with community



Re-development of college



Potential new primary school



Potential new primary school – timing TBC



Acquisition of two sites



150-250 additional student places required by 2021



Enrolment zones

» We will work with schools to implement enrolment schemes where they are necessary to manage growth and out-of-zone enrolments.



Network solutions

» We plan to re-develop and expand Te Kauwhata College to increase the capacity to 1,200 student places. Early master planning discussions are already underway with the school.



Roll growth funding

» Provision for an additional 150-250 student places is required in the primary network by 2021.



Establish New Schools

» We know that we need more space in the primary network. We expect at least one new school will need to be established.



Expanding Provision Type

» There is no pathway for Māori medium education in Te Kauwhata beyond kōhanga reo.
» There is no specialist Learning Support provision in Te Kauwhata. Learning support needs for primary students are managed by the primary schools. Secondary students travel to Parkside School in Pukekohe for their schooling.
» All new schools will be considered for provision for Learning Support space.