

Director's message:



The last 10 years has seen accelerating growth in the New Plymouth area supported by the agriculture and oil and gas sectors. This is an exciting time for the city but it is also a time of change, as the city considers options for diversifying the economy.

The underlying student population has increased, as have retention rates that are well supported by secondary-tertiary partnerships. This will result in continued pressure on our schools. We have also seen an increased demand for both Māori medium and Catholic education.

We know the New Plymouth community is supportive of the growth we're experiencing, but also cautious that we have the right infrastructure in place to manage it appropriately. We plan to use our existing school network to its fullest potential and utilise the strong network of walking and cycle ways within the city to help our learners get safely to their local school.

I am delighted to present this plan to support planning for the ongoing growth within the city and surrounds. Having the right provision in the right place at the right time will help deliver an education system that enables every New Zealander to achieve and be the best they can be.

Ngā mihi,

Jann Marshall

New Plymouth's growth story

New Plymouth has been identified as a High Growth Urban Area¹, exceeding 10% growth over a 10 year period. The city is projected to increase by an additional 7,000-12,840 people out to 2030, taking the population to approximately 89,000-97,000².

Council is planning for more growth within the city through intensification and infill housing. New urban areas are also proposed to the south-west, south and north-east of the city in the Upper Carrington and Junction structure plans, and the Frankley and Cowling Roads urban growth areas. Longer-term urban development is proposed for Glen Avon and the Smart Road urban growth area, with new transport infrastructure required before this proceeds.

To the northeast, there is ongoing development in the coastal corridor between Fitzroy and Waitara, particularly around Bell Block and Puketapu. Oakura, a small coastal town south-west of the city, has received significant infrastructure investment from Council to cater for growth. This area is anticipated to continue to grow rapidly as a result.

New Plymouth has a strong boarding community at both state and state integrated secondary schools. Boarding facilities provide approximately 600 out-of-town secondary students with places at the city's schools.

The majority of primary schools have now maximised their capacity. Schools with capacity are clustered in the central south-western area. These schools are expected to accommodate the infill growth in this area as enrolment schemes take effect. The other schools with limited capacity have rapidly increasing rolls.

What have we done so far?

- Between 2013-2017, we have spent \$6.5 million on 16 additional teaching spaces across the wider catchment. We established a wharekura at Te Pi'ipi'inga Kākano Mai I Rangiātea in 2014 and built four new specialist teaching spaces. In Budget 18, an additional teaching space was announced for Vogeltown School.
- We have supported schools to implement eight new enrolment schemes and ran a series of workshops to ensure the operation of the enrolment schemes supports the best use of the schooling network.

Planning for short-term growth (3 years)

- If growth projections materialise as expected, we will need to accommodate an additional 420-530 student places at the primary level. This is likely to occur at existing urban schools where infill development has seen the schools' rolls increase significantly. We expect there will be a need for the acquisition of land for future primary provision south of the city in the next 2-3 years.
- At the secondary level, an additional 70-140 student places will be needed by 2021. We expect rolls in our single-sex and Catholic secondary schools to be nearing capacity by 2021, with surplus capacity available at the co-ed college.
- In 2020, we will begin discussions with secondary schools to implement enrolment schemes. This presents an opportunity to be innovative, and we are already engaging with school and community leaders to determine what the future of secondary provision could look like.
- We will be working with all secondary schools to ensure network solutions (such as enrolment schemes, transport provision and integrated school maximum rolls) support the best use of the existing network.
- We'll also continue to support the revitalisation of schools to improve their education environment and parental appeal.

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

Peak growth is currently predicted between 2024-2026. Beyond this, growth in the school-age population plateaus. Here's how we'll manage this:

- We have identified existing schools that have sufficient space to accommodate an increase in students and will work closely with these schools to deliver additional capacity as demand increases.

- We are supporting schools with restricted spaces to effectively manage their enrolment schemes to reduce the risk of overcrowding.
- The secondary schools will require investment to meet the needs of the growing secondary population. We are already replacing buildings no longer fit for purpose. We will continue to work collaboratively with the secondary sector and closely monitor rolls and growth uptake, including what role integrated schools should play to manage this peak growth.
- While there is no site acquisition currently underway, we will continue to work closely with Council to predict when and where we require land to make provision for the longer-term developments.

Beyond 2030

Growth beyond 2030 looks likely to be at a slower pace. Following recent growth, the region is now considering future growth drivers to reposition itself going forward. This makes the future growth path uncertain, however Council's long-term planning for greenfield development and associated investment in infrastructure points to the likelihood of additional schooling provision being required across the New Plymouth region beyond 2030.

Māori medium

New Plymouth has the region's second highest Māori student population however only 3% of these students access Māori medium education (MME). The region's Māori population accounts for a third of the student population and is projected to continue to increase.

Māori medium is accessible in the south west of the city but has limited capacity and limited opportunities for expansion. In this catchment, there are two te kōhanga reo and one composite kura. The kura has a roll of 99 taura enrolled in Māori medium immersion (Levels 1 and 2).

The pathways for MME are very limited and we have a growing Māori population. We will be listening to our iwi partners to determine how to best support the aspirations of whānau within the education system. We anticipate the need for land acquisition to support this initiative.

Learning Support

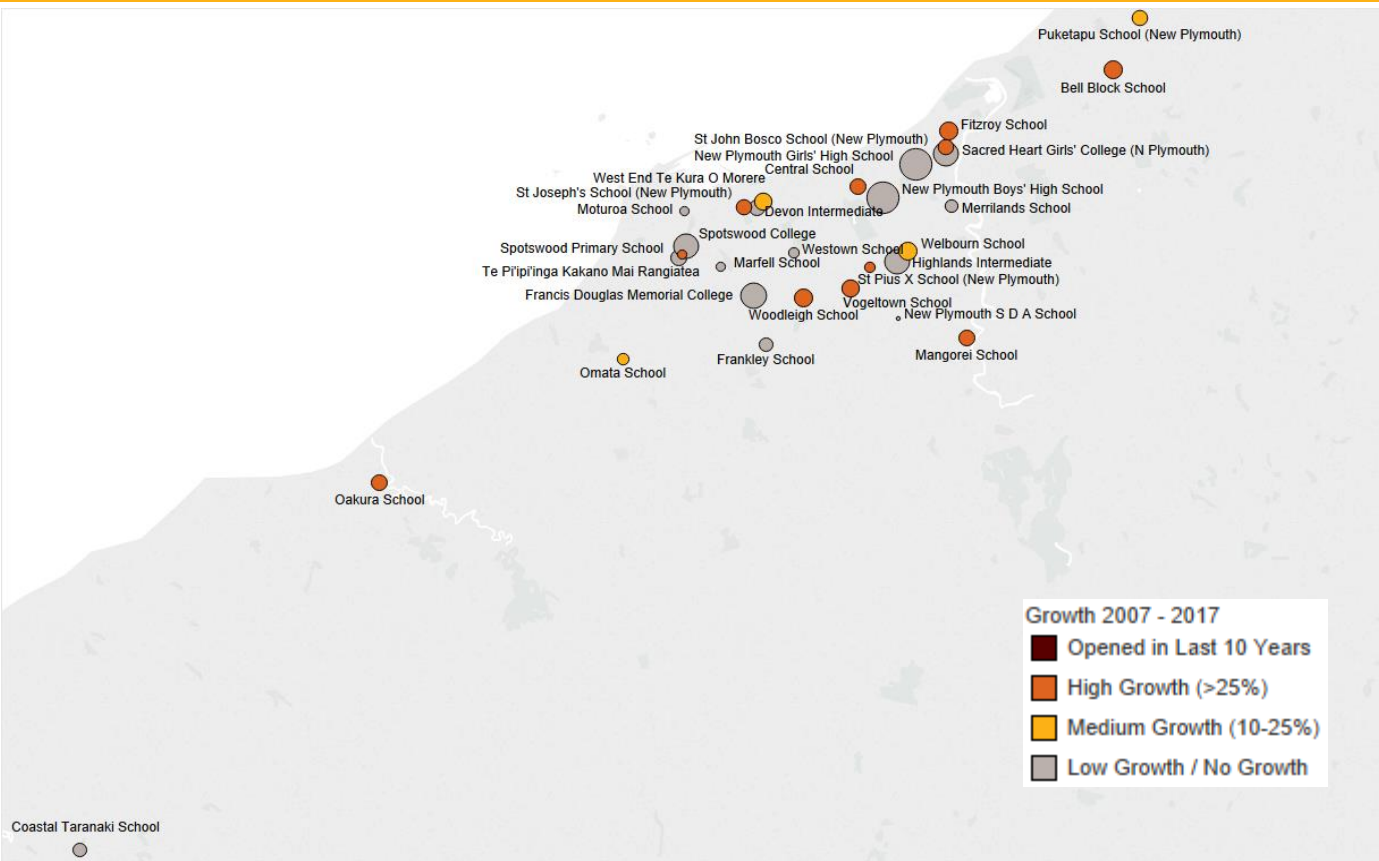
We know we have increasing demand from students accessing specialist learning support facilities. In response to this, we will need additional provision for these children. We have revitalised some of the property at Spotswood College, including a large purpose-built facility designed to meet the needs of the increasing number of students with very high learning support needs.

¹ National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity, an instrument issued under Section 52(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991

² Statistics NZ population projections, 2013 base (Medium and High scenario)

New Plymouth: Steady Growing

New Zealand Education Growth Plan to 2030



This growth plan covers the New Plymouth network in the Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatū education region. In the New Plymouth catchment, there are 30 schools including: 24 state and 6 state integrated schools; 15 contributing primary schools, 6 full primary, 2 intermediates, 2 composite schools and 5 secondary schools. As at July 2018, this catchment had a combined **school roll of 11,562 students**, including 96 Māori Medium students and 128 ORS students.

What's influencing the Growth Plan

Infill suburb intensification



Central City, Mangorei, Whalers Gate and the Frankley/Cowling areas are identified as high infill growth areas.

Green field developments



The Upper Carrington and Junction areas in the north-eastern suburbs are experiencing both green field and infill growth. This is our primary growth area. Bell Block and Puketapu have large planned developments.

Satellite township growth



Growth in Oakura is driven by existing investment in infrastructure and is expected to continue.

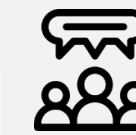
Here's what's already underway that's giving us a head start to meet growth in the region



70% of primary schools have enrolment schemes or maximum rolls. Further enrolment schemes are in the exploratory/implementation stage.

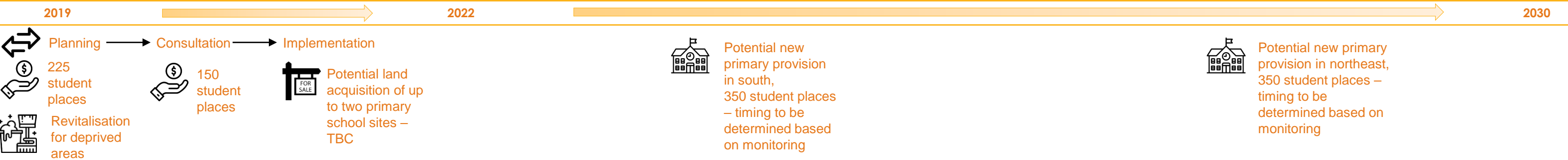


Additional roll growth teaching spaces will be added to high growth areas of the network.



Invested in additional learning support provision. Exploring the possibility of expansion of the MME pathways. Design innovative re-purposing of existing spaces.

Growth Plan to 2030



Enrolment zones

» We will work with the sector to co-construct enrolment schemes, re-configure enrolment schemes and support schools to implement enrolment schemes to ensure the best use of the existing state network.

Roll growth funding

» We plan to build permanent capacity where it is needed. We will also deliver temporary spaces to schools where and when short term capacity is required.

Network solutions

» Growth within the existing state schools can mean the network structure no longer fits the purpose of a quality, accessible, equitable and resource efficient education network. We will explore with schools whether re-organisation remains a viable option as part of a wider network solution.

» Revitalisation of schools has the potential to improve efficiency of schools across the network.

Establish New Schools

» We will establish new schools where and when required.

» We are collaborating with the New Plymouth District Council and their partners to understand the future residential growth and proactively plan to ensure the right provision is in the right place at the right time

Expanding Provision Type

» Secondary schools will require investment to meet the needs of the growing secondary population. We are already rationalising buildings no longer fit for purpose and understand the need to provide a schooling network where all students' needs are met and that is reasonably accessible where possible. We will continue to work collaboratively with the secondary sector and closely monitor rolls and growth uptake.