



KAMO HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Caregivers

OUR SCHOOL

Kamo High School situated on the northern boundary of Whangarei, was founded in 1960 and is the largest co-educational secondary school in Northland. We are acknowledged for our commitment to excellence, innovation and citizenship based on strong learning relationships and the high expectations we have for all of our students in every aspect of their education.

GOVERNANCE / MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

A hard working Board of Trustees, chaired by Mrs Karen Wilkinson, has a clear strategic vision for the school as outlined in our Strategic Plan 2008-2011, which is implemented by the Senior Management Team [Principal, Deputy Principal, Assistant Principals (2)]. Every curriculum/ learning area has a Head of Department who is responsible for the preparation and delivery of the curriculum. They play a key role in ensuring teaching staff have the best possible programmes and resources which are harnessed and directed at further enhancing student achievement.

STAFF

Teachers and support staff display a genuine passion for what they do. Teachers are extremely well qualified and dedicated. This commitment is evidenced through the wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities they provide to their students. They work diligently to establish meaningful learning relationships with every student in their care and their families/whanau.

FACILITIES

Special facilities exist for the teaching of Computing, Computer Assisted Manufacturing, Horticulture, Hospitality, Media Studies, Photography and Technology. As well there are well-equipped Science laboratories, two Gymnasiums, Swimming Pool, Astro-turf (four tennis courts), Library, Music Suite with keyboard laboratory, Stationery Shop, Canteen, four major sports fields and an Arts Centre, providing modern facilities for Art, Photography, Sculpture, performing Arts, Dance and Music. The school has just completed the upgrade to the main administration area.

PURPOSE

To enable students to connect and participate socially, culturally, economically and physically, both in their community and in the global context.

WE VALUE

- Learning and achieving excellence
- Being enterprising and innovative
- Providing and seizing opportunities
- Showing respect and affirming individuality

OUR VISION

A centre of excellence for the changing and varying needs of every student.

CURRICULUM

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

All students are challenged to achieve personal excellence in all aspects of their learning. Student achievement is acknowledged and celebrated throughout the year.

JUNIOR SCHOOL (YEARS 9-10)

Student placements are based on academic ability.

All students must take a set of core subjects in line with the New Zealand Curriculum Statement: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Technology (Year 9 only), Health and Physical Education. In addition, students select from an extensive range of option subjects.

The underlying goal of the Junior Programme is to prepare students for success in the NCEA (National Certificate of Educational Achievement) while providing an innovative and safe learning environment that prepares the whole child for the rapidly changing world.

There is a strong emphasis on personalised learning and the use of the latest technologies within all learning programmes. All junior students work toward achieving the K.H.S Junior Diploma.

SENIOR SCHOOL (YEARS 11-13)

Students at this level study towards the New Zealand national qualification of NCEA. The school operates a five period, six day cycle, and students in Years 11 and 12 must take six subjects.

In Year 11 they must study English, Mathematics.

English is compulsory at Year 12.

Students in Year 13 study five or six subjects.

We encourage students to maximise the strengths of the NCEA by studying where appropriate at various levels within the NCEA.

A strong Careers/advice programme assists students to make the best possible option selections.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The school provides a huge range of opportunities for students to achieve on the national and international stage. A range of programmes is provided to support students who shoot for the stars. The key curriculum-based qualifications and activities are offered:

- NCEA
- Scholarship
- Australian Mathematics, Science and English Examinations
- High Performance Sportspersons Programme
- Young Enterprise Scheme
- Personalised Learning/Tutors – Senior School

LEARNING SUPPORT

Individual or small group learning support is provided through a range of programmes.

- High Performance Academic/Cultural
- ESOL classes
- Literacy skills
- Numeracy skills
- Gateway
- Lunchtime and after school tutorials
- Enhanced Sport Programme

PASTORAL SUPPORT

GUIDANCE SERVICES

The Deans' Centre provides academic and careers guidance and support. There is a Dean for each year level and in conjunction with the teaching staff, work to ensure all students are guided toward meeting the high academic and social expectations we have for them.

STUDENT SUPPORT CENTRE

The Student Support Centre (SSC) provides counselling, career advice, Health Nurse, visiting Doctor and Family Planning staff, and a sick bay and meeting room for various groups. The SSC provides a professional and caring service designed to assist our young people as they face the many challenges experienced during the teenage years. Students are also involved in mentoring and supporting others.

SCHOOL WHANAU ORGANISATION

The school is arranged into five Whanau – Kaha, Moana, Rangī, Tapere and Waima. Each Whanau is made up of a group of Whanau classes. Each Whanau class consists of approximately 28 students ranging from Year 9-13. This encourages students to mix widely and provides a 'family' for support. There is school wide participation in swimming, tabloids and athletics days, which help build Whanau spirit. As much as possible, students remain with the same Whanau class and Whanau teacher while they are at school. The Whanau Whanui (School Council) provides a strong student voice in all areas of school development and progress.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Kamo High School hosts students from other countries around the world including Sweden, Thailand, Korea, Vietnam, China, Brazil, Japan, Germany, Italy and USA. The international students have the same experiences and opportunities as the Kamo High School students. Getting to know students from other countries broadens the experiences and encourages cultural acceptance. Many life long friendships are made.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of sporting, cultural, citizenship and social activities. Assistance from interested parents is welcomed and valued.

ARTS

Kamo High School Arts Department has a part-time Arts Co-ordinator whose main role is to bring an awareness of the Arts to the students, as well as opportunities that allow students to participate in outside art related activities. We also have a link with the community by bringing to the students a variety of outside artists; this allows the students a different aspect for achieving to the highest level.

- Stage Challenge
- Sheila Winn Shakespeare Festival
- WOW Quest
- The Big Sing
- Chamber Festival

- Smokefree Rock Quest
- NCEA Art Folios Exhibition
- Ilford Photography Competition
- Kidslines Art Competition
- Ugly Shakespeare Company

CULTURE

- Choir
- Debating
- Kapa Haka
- Language Week
- Music Bands
- Performing Arts
- School Production

DRAMA

Every three years (2008, 2011) Kamo High School performs a musical production. Over 200 students are involved – performing on stage, playing in the orchestra, working behind the scenes creating an extraordinary production.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a programme of activities designed to challenge the individual taking part. It is not competitive. Duke of Edinburgh is set up into three main levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. The parts of the awards are Expedition, Service, Skills, and Physical Recreation. There are many different activities you can do for the expedition including Mountain Biking, Horse Trekking, Cycling, Kayaking, Boating, Tramping and many more.

LEADERSHIP

There is a huge range of leadership opportunities at all levels.

Prefects

Junior Ambassadors

Whanau Executive/Whanau Leaders/Whanau Whanui

Year 12 Leaders' Programme

Arts' Council

Sports' Council

Duke of Edinburgh

Kiwi Buddies

Health Committee

Environment Committee

Student Support Committees:

- SADD
- STAB
- KSST
- Mediators
- Mentors

SPORTS

The Kamo High School Sports Department consists of a full time Sports Co-ordinator and a part-time Sports Administrator whose responsibility it is to provide sporting opportunities for students to allow them to participate, to learn and improve their sporting abilities and to achieve at their highest level. Assistance from the student Sports Council, parents/caregivers and community is warmly welcomed and accepted.

School Championship Events –

- swimming, athletics, triathlon, tennis, table tennis, surfing, golf, cross country and badminton.

School Teams

- athletics, badminton, basketball, beach volleyball, cricket, cross country, cycling, equestrian, golf, hockey, mountain biking, netball, rugby, rugby, league, shooting, soccer, surfing, swimming, table tennis, tennis, touch, triathlon, volleyball, waka ama.

Whanau Activities

Staff –v–Students Challenges

Lunchtime Activities

Coaching and Umpiring Opportunities

Yours sincerely

Bernard J. Taffs
Principal

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