

Waitati School Strategic Plan 2026

(03857) 1121 Mount Cargill Road, Waitati, RD 2, Otago 9065



Principal:

Rebecca (Bex) Williams

Kaiako:

Year 5-8: Debbie Donaghy

Year 3-4: Charlotte Homan, Beatrice Lee

Year 0-2: Antoinette O'Flanagan

Our Vision:

Light the mind, Fire the heart, Engage the whānau.

Objective:

Our primary focus for 2026 is to ensure every student achieves to the best of their ability through high-quality teaching, consistent attendance, and a safe learning environment.

Current Situation:

We are a rural school located 20km north of Dunedin. We are centred in the heart of Blueskin Bay, with 51 children currently enrolled and 10 on our cradle roll.

We have extensive grounds, with many native trees and grassy areas for the children to play. Our school is home to a flying fox, which the community raised funds for in 2025 to reinstate.

We have a diverse community, with many different backgrounds and cultures.

Strategic Goal 1:

NELP Objective 1	<p>LEARNERS AT THE CENTRE Learners with their whānau are at the centre of education</p>		
Goal:	What do we expect to see by the end of the year?	Our Initiatives	Our Success
<p>Annual Target -Create a stable roll</p>	<p>Waitati School Whānau are clear about what makes us exceptional, leading to a stable roll.</p>	<p>1. School-wide attendance meets the 80% target: at least 80% of students present for 90% of the term.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approval of the 2026 Attendance Management Plan (AMP) to trigger interventions at 5, 10, and 15 days of absence. - Data from Edge SMS - Every day matters in termly reports.
		<p>2. Provide a safe physical and emotional environment for ākonga.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IYT (Incredible Years for Teachers) will be completed by two staff members. - PB4L will have a straightforward response form which kaiako follow. - Data from Edge, SMS, will show a decrease in repeated minor and major events.
		<p>3. Develop the relationship between Waitati School and Blueskin Playcentre to help with the transition to school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playcentre 4-year-olds visit the Year 0-2 class once a week to build relationships. - Bex will visit the Playcentre 4 x per term. - Create a 4-year-old club, where once a month, those who aren't in the playcentre can come and visit.

Strategic Goal 2:

NELP Objective 3:	Quality Teaching and Learning Quality teaching and leadership make the difference for learners and their whānau.		
Goal:	What do we expect to see by the end of the year?	Our Initiatives	Our Success
Implement new literacy and math curriculum.	Waitati School Kaiako and Akōnga will be successful in using and learning through the new Te Mataiaho	1. Kaiako confidently understand the new literacy and numeracy curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kaiako attend PLD around structured literacy through Learning Matters. - Kaiako attend PLD around Math as a part of the cluster.
		2. Akonga continues to achieve success in literacy and numeracy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All learners make progress and are engaged in foundation skills. - Reading EOY results will be at 80% or above. - Writing EOY results will be at 70% or above - Math EOY results will be at 70% or above.
		3. Use of SMART (Student Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting Tool) to provide scaled-score progress data to the Board twice annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and implement an assessment plan. - Monitor achievement data against the new Progress Descriptors in mid-year and end-of-year reports.

Strategic Goal 3: Barrier free success

NELP Objective 2:	Barrier Free Access Great Education opportunities and outcomes are within reach for every learner.		
Goal:	What do we expect to see by the end of the year?	Our Initiatives	Our Success
Annual goal: Creating a safe, pride-inducing physical space that supports ākonga wellbeing and community use.	Waitati School has developed and implemented a maintenance plan covering the playground and the school.	1. Develop a playground Maintenance Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A tree maintenance plan is implemented. - A Procedure of what does what in creation. - Zero "High Risk" hazards in the 2026 Health & Safety Audit.
		2. Develop and implement a maintenance plan for the school buildings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A building maintenance plan is implemented successfully. - A Procedure of what does what in creation. - Zero "High Risk" hazards in the 2026 Health & Safety Audit.