



## WELCOME

# WELCOME TO VAUXHALL SCHOOL

“ONWARD – MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER”

## VAUXHALL SCHOOL

Morrison Avenue Devonport Auckland 0642  
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[www.vauxhall.school.nz](http://www.vauxhall.school.nz)

### WELCOME TO VAUXHALL SCHOOL

With such bright and caring children, a strong, supportive community and dedicated, passionate staff, we are a very fortunate school. We continue to innovate and strive for excellence

Our vision is to provide a secure, caring environment where the unique potential of each student is fostered so that they will develop into confident, open-minded thinkers with a positive attitude to life-long learning.

Please come along and visit us and discuss your child’s schooling. The relationship we have together is vital to our success.

Kind regards

Gary Lawrence  
Principal

### Variable Space Schooling

Vauxhall School is a variable space school. Our classes are grouped together within year levels so that children move between spaces and work with more than one teacher during their day. We use variable spaces:

- To create the best possible learning situation for all children.
- To cater for individual educational needs.
- For children to develop a sense of belonging (whanaungatanga), responsibility, respect and perseverance.

### Team Teaching

Teachers learn from each other’s strengths and children are able to bond with more than one teacher a year. Teachers work co-operatively to identify children’s learning needs and then teach groups of children accordingly.

Teachers may move children between groups as their learning and social needs change. Teachers support each other to create safe, nurturing classrooms where children can achieve to their individual potential. Curriculum delivery is also improved through the utilisation of teacher strengths.

### Curriculum

At Vauxhall we strive to develop a culture that is focused on learning and is characterised by respect, inclusion empathy, collaboration and safety. The Vauxhall School curriculum has been designed to operate over a two year cycle with each student covering the essential learning areas: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, Technology, The Arts, Physical Education and Health.

### Values

At Vauxhall School we live and breathe our values. From day one our children are taught the meaning of our values and how live by them.

### Whanaungatanga

We all belong to the Vauxhall School Community

### Respect

We respect ourselves, others and property.

### Resilience

We will show courage and perseverance

### Responsibility

We will take ownership of our learning and behaviour.



**Family Atmosphere Beautiful Grounds Supportive Parents**  
**Professional Teachers Keen students Outstanding Resources**

### STAFFING

#### Leadership

**Gary Lawrence** Principal [garyl@vauxhall.school.nz](mailto:garyl@vauxhall.school.nz)

**Sue Roberts**

Deputy Principal [suer@vauxhall.school.nz](mailto:suer@vauxhall.school.nz)

**Melanie Bell**

Deputy Principal [melb@vauxhall.school.nz](mailto:melb@vauxhall.school.nz)

All other teacher email addresses can be found at [www.vauxhall.school.nz/contact/staff](http://www.vauxhall.school.nz/contact/staff).

### SCHOOL HOURS

The school hours are:

- 8.55am – 3.00pm
- Morning break is from 10.30 – 11.00am
- Lunch break from 12.40 – 1.30pm.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### Enrolment Process

Vauxhall School welcomes new entrants at school for preschool visits.

Before your child’s fifth birthday you will need to complete the Enrolment form. Please bring your child’s BIRTH CERTIFICATE and IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATE. You are welcome to make an appointment to meet the Principal and have a tour of the school at any time.

#### 6 week visit

After your child’s first month at school there will be an opportunity for you to come in and discuss your child’s progress with the Miro Teachers.

### Hints for Parents of 5 Year Olds

Give your children a variety of experiences and talk about them. Read to your children daily.

Teach your children their address, phone number, how to write their name, recognise colours and count to 10. Become familiar with the school grounds.

### Home Reading

As children learn to read by reading, material will come home most days for them to share with you. This home reading session should be short and enjoyable. Your child will be affected by your attitude to their reading so always be positive. Value the reading that is done and praise the effort. Good feelings about reading lead to success.

### Syndicates

The classrooms are divided into syndicates which are named after the native trees of New Zealand.

The syndicates are:

- Miro - New Entrants to Year 1
- Rimu - Year 2
- Nikau - Year 3
- Kauri - Year 4
- Totara - Year 5 to 6

### Reporting to Parents

Formal reporting on the children's progress is conducted at regular intervals throughout the year.

**Term 1:** Meet the Teachers – Week 1 and parent interviews/ reporting later in the term.

**Term 3:** Reporting / parent interviews

Teachers talk through your child's learning with you at parent interview.

We have found this to be more popular and valuable with parents than written reports.

### Communication

Communication is kept up to date through the newsletter every second Wednesday outlining events or information about the school. Each syndicate sends home a newsletter at the start of each term advising of special syndicate events and curriculum topics being covered for the term.

If you wish to communicate to the school by email the address is [office@vauxhall.school.nz](mailto:office@vauxhall.school.nz). The school's website is [www.vauxhall.school.nz](http://www.vauxhall.school.nz).

### Activity Charge

The activity charge covers out-of-school trips and programmes within the school that offer opportunities to extend the curriculum for our children. The charge is invoiced at the beginning of each term. It will vary from term to term and from syndicate to syndicate.

### School Donations

School donations are an essential revenue component for the school and we request you to please pay this donation before March 31. We would not be able to offer the level of education we currently do without the school donation.

### Class Lists

At the beginning of each year we request permission from each parent to make available your child's name, parents' names, address, email address and phone number. The class lists are then made available to the wider school community.



### Swimming

Swimming is a compulsory part of the Physical Education programme. We are lucky enough to have our own pool to help our children learn to swim.

If your child is unwell and unable to swim, a note must be written to the teacher.

Our senior children enjoy learning **beach safety and sailing skills** (Waterwise) when they walk down to Narrow Neck beach each week during the summer.

### Sun Smart

During Term 1 and 4 every child must wear a hat outside of the classroom. Children without hats will only be permitted to play in the shade.

### Absentees

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please phone the school before 9am to ensure the whereabouts of each child can be checked. The office staff will contact parents of children absent without notification before 10am.

### Homework

Homework is set for all students. Children in the first two years at school will, on most days, bring home their 'reader' plus weekly interest books, poems or stories to share. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children, as they are ready, may have spelling and/or mathematics homework and are encouraged to read every night. Occasionally they may bring unfinished work from class home to be completed.

### Library

All children have the opportunity to borrow books from the school library during school time and at lunchtime.

### The Fundraising Team

The fundraising team works extremely hard and contributes a high level of funding towards the operation of the school with projects that directly benefit the students and their learning. We are extremely grateful and encourage all parents to support our fundraisers as best they can.