



see you at

Tahuna

www.tahuna.school.nz

2026
OPEN NIGHT
7PM TUESDAY
4 AUGUST

the adventure begins...

Starting out at intermediate is the beginning of a journey, where you will gain the confidence and experience to achieve all your goals.

It is an adventure in which you will make new friends, try exciting new things, and discover skills, talents and passions you never knew you had.

Intermediate school is a transition – socially, physically and academically – from your childhood to your teenage years. In short, it is one of the most exciting times of your life! So it is important that you feel confident and inspired in your choice of intermediate school.

Tahuna's wide range of subjects and activities, and top teaching team, guarantee your individual needs are catered for. Our positive learning environment ensures that learning is safe, cooperative, challenging, interesting and fun!

Plus, we are a special teacher training school with very close ties to the University of Otago College of Education. That's what the word "Normal" in our title means. We have enthusiastic student teachers adding to our educational environment, and we keep up-to-date with the latest developments in educational research. The student teachers are supported by qualified teachers of the highest calibre.

You may have some ideas already about what you want to do with your life. If so, there is no better place than Tahuna to pick up a ball, bassoon or book, and gain confidence to succeed at your goals.

Or, you may have no idea what the future holds for you. Tahuna is a school where you will discover exciting new ideas. When you leave us in two years, you will be older and wiser, with new skills, new goals and a new base of lifelong friends.

You will be as well prepared as possible to start out on your next adventure!



positive learning environment

Tahuna is committed to creating an environment that is safe, positive and best suited to the needs of all our students, regardless of their abilities.

The staff at Tahuna Normal Intermediate School are specialists in early teenage education. We are dedicated to the task of helping you learn independently, think creatively, and make the most of the huge range of opportunities available to you.

Tahuna takes great pride in students seeking challenges and excelling in a wide range of programmes and activities. There is a positive culture of celebrating achievement and 'doing the best you can'.

Tahuna provides support and extension programmes for gifted students seeking greater challenges and welcomes students with special needs to our school.

We have a policy of inclusive education that ensures all students work alongside their peers in regular classes, and that special assistance is provided when required.

We focus on developing a positive environment for students to thrive in. The curriculum includes a number of programmes designed to help you make wise choices about your health and safety.

"The school has a comfortable learning environment with modern learning spaces"

At Tahuna, learning is more than knowing facts (although that's important too). For us, learning is a way of life!

We have a vision of students who are logical and creative, open-minded and questioning, and confident in their ability to take risks, solve problems and challenge themselves. This is the academic environment we promote, through high quality teaching that emphasises the joys of learning and celebrates success.

Learning in mathematics sees students engaging with activities and using many hands-on resources. The programme is based on sound, current research and builds knowledge, confidence, and strategies to solve problems.

Our maths extension programme fosters the development of exceptional mathematicians who regularly place in the top three at the O'Mathalon and Problem Solving Challenge.

Tahuna is fortunate to be able to provide extensive reading resources and books, tailored to these two special years of schooling. Teachers have expectations that everyone will improve and work hard to develop life-long reading habits. Our top readers compete at the New Zealand Literature Quiz in Wellington.

Our students learn by actively engaging in authentic and personally meaningful projects. Students work on their project over an extended period of time – ranging from weeks up to a term – challenging them to solve a topical problem or answer a complex question. They demonstrate their knowledge and skills by creating a public product or presentation for a real audience.

As a result, students develop deep content knowledge as well as critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication skills.

Individual tuition is available for music from talented, enthusiastic instructors.

academic



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specialist subjects

One of the main highlights at Tahuna is that students attend E-Tech, food technology, hard materials, music and visual art as part of our specialist teaching programme.

In E-Tech you will explore the exciting possibilities of 3D printing, bringing your digital creations to life, and mastering the precision of laser cutting to craft intricate designs. From concept to creation, E-Tech ignites your passion for technology while fostering problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

In hard materials you will discover the world of woodworking, where you'll develop practical skills and unleash your creativity. From classic techniques to modern methods, you'll master essential processes like joining, shaping and finishing. Get experience with

specialised tools, from saws and planes to drills and sanders, learning the safe and effective use of each. You will follow the design process to create functional final projects.

In food technology you will explore sensory science, gain knowledge of nutrition and learn how ingredients function. You will design and make delicious food products in real-life contexts.



Visual art will inspire your creativity whilst you have fun and explore a variety of skills and techniques. You will learn to use a variety of materials, discover your own unique talent, solve problems and fix inevitable mistakes.

Tahuna has a dedicated music suite that is well equipped with fabulous instruments of all kinds. The music programme provides a wide range of practical music experiences. As you develop an understanding of literacies in music and theoretical skills, you will listen and respond, sing and play, then create and improvise.



Leadership



Success



Creativity



Responsibility



Respect

Today's children are tomorrow's leaders, so developing leadership skills is an important focus at Tahuna. You'll have the chance to become a house leader, librarian, team captain, class councillor or a volunteer for a range of community programmes. These skills will help carry you through life.

Make your views heard! Each class elects two class councillors to attend school council meetings, discuss matters relating to the school and organise mufti days, social events and fundraisers.

The chance to help those in need is offered throughout the year, as students volunteer to help worthy organisations, including raising funds.

Local environmental monitoring is also a feature of the school year, helping students understand the importance of a healthy eco-system in our lives. This includes Tahuna students being actively involved in the ongoing environmental monitoring programme of nearby Tomahawk Lagoon.

"Everyone gets a chance to take on a leadership role"

Water testing at Tomahawk Lagoon with Andrew Innes of Ecotago

sports



Shooting hoops, scoring the final goal, going underwater, or skiing the moguls on a snowy mountain – Tahuna has the sport for you!

Tahuna has many sporting opportunities and our teams compete across a number of competitive and non-competitive competitions. There's basketball, waterpolo, volleyball, netball, touch, rugby, rippa rugby, football, futsal, badminton, golf, hockey, cross-country, athletics and much more.

This is a great chance to socialise, learn new skills and compete against others of the same age group; with a focus on fitness, fun and fair play.

"...sometimes you want to play them all"



Prepare to be deafened by the cheers of your schoolmates as you participate for your house group in big sporting events such as the cross-country and athletics.

Tahuna's sporting centrepiece is our outstanding roofed, all-weather court and artificial turf which opened in 2024. It is the first of its kind in Dunedin.

There are also expansive grassed areas, a gymnasium, and basketball, tennis and fives courts – fantastic facilities for whatever sport you wish to play.

performing arts

Tahuna's various performing arts groups entertain and engage audiences at local festivals, in the community and at school events, consistently receiving high praise.

Join our school choir and experience the excitement of performing with others! In an enthusiastic environment, you'll develop a deeper understanding of how to blend your voice with other voices, confidently hold harmonies, and immerse yourself in the enjoyment of creating music together.

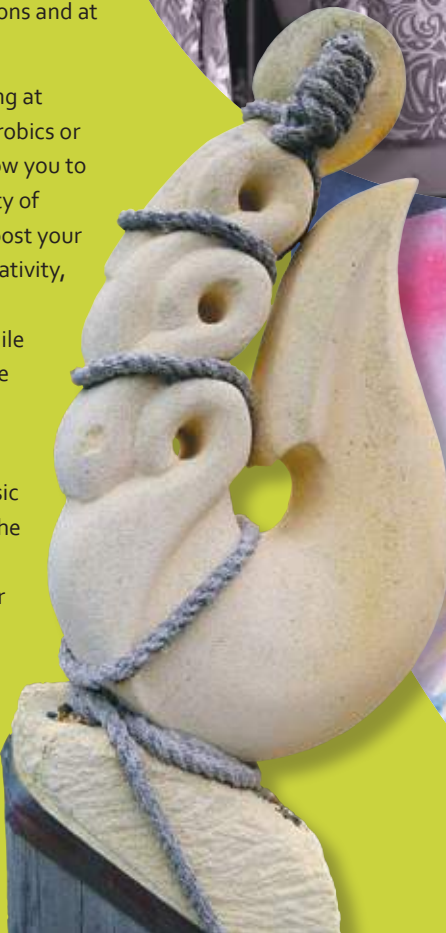
Our Te Taiopeka and Pasifika groups are popular choices for students, displaying stirring performances and exploration of Māori and Pacific Island cultures through song and dance.

If music is your passion then you can join a marimba band, a rock band, the popular bucket drumming group, or our school orchestra of talented musicians.

Tahuna music groups hone their performance skills at school assemblies, community events, music competitions and at workshops.

Dance is alive and thriving at Tahuna. Our hip hop, aerobics or Tahuna dance group allow you to gain exposure to a variety of exciting dance styles, boost your fitness, unleash your creativity, and develop valuable teamwork skills — all while preparing for memorable performances in the community.

At Tahuna, itinerant music tutors visit throughout the week for instrumental lessons and we also offer after-school art classes.



"Imagination is more important than knowledge" - Albert Einstein



clubs and activities



*"The more you get involved,
the more fun you'll have!"*

Be a star on the stage, a computer whiz, or sink a hole-in-one. Tahuna will give you the opportunity to hone your skills and try something new.

Our elective options will provide you with the opportunity to discover and learn almost any activity, including Māori, French, German, robotics, cheerleading, chess, Masterchef, Lego animation, theatresports, kapa haka, art, cartooning, marimba and wearable arts.

Away from school, students can also apply to take part in our Rakiura Stewart Island camp, skiing at Coronet Peak and rock climbing.



Details of the school policy, rules and uniform are available from the school office or www.tahuna.school.nz

creativity
responsibility
respect
success

enrol

tahuna.school.nz/enrol/

We look forward to your child taking advantage of the many opportunities our school has to offer, including an excellent education; many cultural, creative and physical activities; and nurturing friendships old and new.

Hono mai ki a maatau: join us



**2026
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Phone (03) 455-3994

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Web www.tahuna.school.nz

Enrol online at www.tahuna.school.nz/enrol/

Check out our website www.tahuna.school.nz