

PROPOSAL FOR LOCAL BOARD FUNDING TO PROGRESS STAGE TWO OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF THE AOTEA LEARNING HUB

This application is for: Running costs for terms two, three and four of the Aotea Learning Hub pilot year.

Amount sought: \$20,190

Person Making Request: Education Steering Group

Implementation: Kathy Cumming, Great Barrier Strategic Broker, will create a funding agreement with Aotea Family Support Group who administers the Aotea Learning Hub project

Timeframe: First week of term two (1st of May) to the last week of term four (14th of December)

Background

The community of Aotea (Great Barrier Island) has identified serious concerns about the education pathways currently available for secondary age learners on the island. For the current cohort of senior secondary students, who have chosen to remain on the island and enrol with Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu (Te Kura), the level of engagement has been very poor, despite the best efforts of the Te Kura Learning Advisor and subject teachers along with the teacher aides on the island. Consequently, the level of NCEA achievement for this year's cohorts is expected to be very low. There is consensus from the community, whanau, youth and educators that something must be done to address the growing normalisation of low achievement and consequent possible 'at risk' behaviours associated with groups of young people who have become disenfranchised with the education system.

There are multiple socio-economic, geographical and pedagogical reasons for current low engagement and poor achievement. Despite the dedicated work of the Te Kura teachers, it is agreed that a lift in achievement would be made possible through a more collaborative model of island educational provision. While boarding school is an option for a good percentage of secondary students, there is a group of young people (currently 25) who remain on the island, by choice, or as result of whanau being unable to afford boarding costs.

The island wishes to support their young people to develop the qualifications and vocational skills needed to support their future success and ability to contribute to the community and the economic prosperity of Aotea. Currently too many young people are disengaging by Year 11 and gradually leaving school over the next 1-2 years to become not in education, employment, or training (NEET) and/or to gain low skilled, seasonal, part-time employment. The island's average income is \$17,000. While the island's economy is complicated, improving academic achievement and upskilling youth is seen as a way to possibly increase average income.

Proposed Solution

It is proposed that Great Barrier Island develop and implement a new approach to secondary education. The current level of disengagement requires a structured solution with increased support and supervision. Further, senior students are highly motivated to be involved in vocational programmes and

a 3:2 model. The numbers are too small to consider a composite school and this would require consensus by the entire community.

A one year pilot that explores the value-add of a Learning Hub approach for Te Kura students would be of real benefit to the students of Aotea. A physical space such as a 'Learning Hub' could offer a structured, supervised and supported educational option for secondary students. Provision of a facility with resources would allow educators and other stakeholders to work together to develop and implement a model of education that works for Aotea.

It is proposed that the Aotea Learning Hub be a fit for purpose building for the 20-30 secondary students on island, which is centrally located, digitally connected, suitably resourced and managed facility. The facility would be staffed by a coordinator, tutors and community volunteers. It would bring together the current scattered teaching resource, address young people's feelings that they are under-valued and provide the structure and supervision that has been acknowledged as missing. Te Kura supports the idea of a Learning Hub which is appropriately staffed. They have been very clear however that the cost of the venue will need to be provided by other resources.

Proposed Implementation plan for the Aotea Learning Hub

The proposed pilot would be a collaboration of Te Kura Correspondence School, the Ministry of Education (Youth Guarantee) together with community stakeholders represented by an Education Working Group, working with students and their families. This will include material contributions from the island community through:

- Set up funding from the Great Barrier Local Board (GBLB) – should this be approved.
- Vehicles, resources and general administrative support from the Aotea Family Support Group (AFSG)
- Fit for purpose serviced and equipped venue from Awana Rural Women (ARW)

Aims and objectives

1. Improve participation and engagement in education for all secondary students of Aotea.
2. Improve the achievement of qualifications at NCEA Level 2 and beyond for all students of Aotea.
3. Support young people to build vocational pathways based on their interests and future economic demand factors.

The setup and management of the hub project will be governed by the Education Steering Group and led by a Hub Coordinator who in the setup phase during term one will be expected to

- ✓ Setup and manage the provided venue for use the secondary school students
- ✓ Ensure technology and connectivity needed for students is available
- ✓ Coordinate appropriate transport provision for secondary students
- ✓ Facilitate improved linkages with local expertise, organisations and businesses
- ✓ Develop approaches to better engage family in their students learning
- ✓ Canvas and develop the principle of whole of community focus on life-long learning
- ✓ Explore the Introduction of the Youth Employability programme - Licence to Work
- ✓ Maintain an overview of student achievement data
- ✓ Facilitate regular opportunities for students to contribute to developments and decisions
- ✓ Liaise with, and regularly report to, Te Kura Management and Learning Advisors
- ✓ Facilitate opportunities to connect with Ngati Rehua o Ngatiwai ki Aotea

Specifically, this will include

- Coordinating a teaching team for scheduled supervisories at the learning hub, working with the Teacher Aides employed by Te Kura and participating parents and volunteers
- Instituting a motivating structure and environment for self-study at the hub
- Organising 'open days' and other activities to improve parent engagement and student participation
- Arranging complementary recreational and sporting activities
- Providing applied skills development opportunities
- Facilitating speakers that emphasise the value of education
- Designing, and from term two, trialling a vocational pathways program with senior students, based on the '3 plus 2' model, (the '3 plus 2' model is only one option and each student will have the opportunity to cater to their learning needs on a case by case assessment)
- Developing a pilot plan with clearly defined stages and milestones, providing as a work plan to the steering committee for term one to four by the end of term one
- Fulfil the general objectives described in the Aotea Learning Hub Coordinator role description³

Outcomes

The success measures that will be evaluated jointly by stakeholders at the end of the one year pilot and on-going thereafter are

- Lift in student engagement: Attendance rates and completion of Te Kura units
- Improvements in family engagement: Attendance at parent meetings and Learning hub activities
- Lift in student achievement: Improvement in NCEA pass rates
- Increase in vocational pathway opportunities: Participation in vocational courses and work experience placements
- Improvements in post school outcomes: Progression to further learning and/or work. (within reason, this might be hard to gauge in so little a time frame)

Resources

Venue:

The Barleyman's cottage of the ARW is situated in the central part of the island, ten minutes from Claris Service Centre. The meeting rooms are furnished and have off-street parking, a commercial grade kitchen, a bathroom, safety equipment and an outdoor recreational space is available. The building is adequately insured, regularly serviced (weekly) and has internet and telephone connections. The ARW will support the initiative with telecommunications installation and subscriptions as well as cleaning and consumables at no charge for term one.

Running costs:

Rental for space term 2-4 = \$1350

For cleaning term 2-4 = \$600

Transport:

AFSG will provide the 10-seater Community Van for three mornings every week for the hub staff or volunteers to transport students from Tryphena, Medlands and Claris to Okupu. There are no correspondence students coming from the north of the island, at this stage.

Running costs:

If we continue with 3 day per week = \$45 p/w = \$1,350

If we upgrade to a 5 day week = \$75 p/w = \$2,250

Staffing:

In addition for one-to-one time allocated to specific students, 12 hours of Teacher Aide from Te Kura (@\$15.25/h) is available for group supervision. This would be used for 3x 4hours 9-1pm morning sessions.

A full-time Hub Coordinator employed for at least 30h/week.

Running costs: No cost to the Local Board.

IT:

It is intended that all course work takes place online, with the transition from paper based work to be completed this year. While students are expected to provide their own computer, and financial assistance is available to families with a community services card, at least two computers plus another for the Hub Coordinator are required at the hub. A laser printer will be donated by the AFSG.

Running costs: \$333 per term or for term 2-4 = 1,000

Teaching resources and consumables:

Some basic classroom resources include a whiteboard, as well as some sports equipment, such as a basketball hoop and ball, are required at the outset and budgets for consumables and group activities thereafter. This should also include the provision of some healthy and varied snacks and beverages which will motivate and reward students.

Running costs costs: \$2,200 per term or term 2-4 = 6,600

Travel:

The coordinator will need to travel both around the island and regularly to Auckland to liaise with families, education providers, employers and other collaborators.

Running costs: 3,000

Total budget required for project:

\$20,190 (May differ on what days we run transport variable)

	Initial board funding	Projected rest of year funding	Rest of year Funding			
			Term one.	Term two	Term three	
Cost of Hub set up / Going forward						
<u>Venue:</u>						
300/month plus 100 reserve: 2,500		3,000				
\$45pw rental for up to 5 days a week use. = 450 per term	Free		450	450	450	1350
Cleaning is \$20pw x 10 weeks = \$200 per term	Free		200	200	200	600
<u>Transport:</u>						
A 30km return trip 3x week for three terms will need to be subsidised with \$2500 going forward. (projected)		2,500				
(\$15/day x 3 Days = \$45p/w) x 10= 450 per term (Discounted rate)	Free		450	450	450	1350
(\$15/day x 5 Days = \$75p/w) x 10= 750 per term (Discounted rate)	Free		750	750	750	2250
<u>Staffing:</u>						
In addition for one-to-one time allocated to specific students, 12 hours of Teacher Aide from Te Kura (@\$15.25/h) is available for group supervision. This would be used for 3x 4hours 9-1pm morning sessions	Free		Free	Free	Free	
A full-time Hub Coordinator employed for at least 30h/week.						
At \$25/h for 100h/month for the period 16 Feb to 15 April = 5,000	5,000		Free	Free	Free	
Running costs:						
Salaried position employed by MoH for the remainder of the year with a \$40,000 budget. (projected)		40,000				
<u>IT:</u>						
Project setup expenses:						
Three note book computers @1,500ea, plus \$500 for supplementary equipment	5,000					
Running costs:						
Misc equipment (scanner, peripherals) and consumables = 1,000		1,000	330	330	330	990
(Internet at \$25 p/w) x 12 weeks per term = \$300	free		300	300	300	900
<u>Teaching resources and consumables:</u>						
Project setup expenses:						
Classroom resources 1,000 + consumables 200 + snacks 1,500	2,700		1500	1500	1500	4500
Running costs:						
Activity resources 200*3 terms + consumables 500*3+ snacks 1500*3 = 6,600		6,600	2,200	2,200	2,200	6600
<u>Travel:</u>						
Project setup expenses:						
Mileage and monthly flights = 1,000	1,000					
Running costs:						
Mileage and monthly flights = 3,000		3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	3000
Total Funded by local board so far:	13,700					
Projected rest of year funding		56100	7180	7180	7180	
					21540	20190
Second funding round funding requirements						\$20,190
Original quote	5,000+5,000 +2,700+1000 = 13,700	2,500+2,500 +40,000+1,000 +6,600+3,000= 55,600				