



19 February 2025

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We are writing to inform you that Kathleen O'Hare, our Tumuaki (Principal), has made the decision to step down with her last day at Ngāti Toa School being Friday, 11 April 2025.

We want to acknowledge Kathleen's significant contributions to our school over her time with us. She has fostered a strong, connected learning environment for our kaiako, kaimahi and our tamariki. Her contribution to our school's curriculum, culture, and community has made a huge impact and has brought us from strength to strength.

Kathleen's leadership has helped shape Ngāti Toa School, and we will have the opportunity to celebrate her mahi before she leaves. We give our heartfelt thanks to Kathleen and are sure you'll join us in wishing her all the best for the future.

We know that leadership changes can raise questions, and we want to reassure you that:

- Student learning and the well-being of our students and staff remain our highest priority.
- We will ensure a stable leadership team, providing strong support for our kaiako (teachers) throughout this transition.
- The School Board is working with the Ministry of Education and Te Whakarōputanga Kaitiaki Kura o Aotearoa (New Zealand School Boards Association) to lead a careful and inclusive recruitment process to find the best next leader for our school.

What happens next?

- The Board will soon confirm our interim leadership arrangements and communicate this with you.
- We will be welcoming whānau input into what qualities you believe are important in our Tumuaki.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email to bot@ngatitoa.school.nz or by making an appointment at the school office.

Ngā mihi,
The Ngāti Toa School Board

Fiona King (Presiding Member), Jeff Hunkin, Rebekah Siave, Michael Rongo, Jessica Paea, Jude Nieland, Trishleigh Masoe