



NGĀTI TOA SCHOOL

Ahi mo te Ao - Fire for the World
Kindled by heritage and sparked by learning to fuel the future

Ko te Rāmere te 27 o Hune 2025

Subject: Principal Appointment – Crystal Southey-Willis

Kia ora e te whānau,

We are delighted to announce that, following a thorough recruitment process, Crystal Southey-Willis, or Ms S-W as she is known to our tamariki, has been appointed Tumuaki/Principal of Ngāti Toa School.

Crystal will be stepping into the Tumuaki role at the start of term one 2026. Until then, she will continue in her current role as Tumuaki Tuarua/Deputy Principal, and Rhys McKinley will continue in his role as Interim Principal. This will allow for a smooth leadership transition and timely backfilling of Crystal's current roles.

Crystal already knows our kura inside out, and has warm, mana-enhancing relationships with ngā ākonga me ngā whānau (students and families) me iwi. She brings strong commitment to te reo Māori me ngā tikanga Māori and a passion for inclusive education. Her experience, vision and mana put us in an excellent position to continue the positive momentum we've built together.

Thank you for your ongoing support through the leadership transition. For questions or feedback, please email bot@ngatitoa.school.nz

Ngā mihi,

Ngāti Toa School Board

Fiona King (Presiding Member), Jeff Hunkin, Trishleigh Masoe (Iwi Representative), Jude Nieland (Staff Representative), Jessica Paea, Rebekah Siave