Rotorua Boys' High School

Job Description

Position / Tūranga:	**Guidance Counsellor**
Responsible to / E here nei ki tēnei hunga:	**Principal and the School Board via the Head of Guidance**
Functional relationships with / He hononga tāu me tēnei hunga:	**Teaching staff** **Support Staff** **Deputy Principals** **Principal** **Students** **Parents and Caregivers**
Dated / Marama:	**October 2026**
Position Term / Roanga:	**Fixed Term**

School background:
Ngā hitoria o te kura :

Rotorua Boys' High School is a State boys' secondary school of approximately 1200 students. It is one of five Rotorua high schools and caters for students from Year 9 to Year 14. The school opened in 1914 as the Rotorua District High School before becoming Rotorua High and Grammar School in 1927. Rotorua Boys' High School evolved from these beginnings in 1959.

The school includes an off-site attached unit known as the Rotorua Activity Centre, or more commonly known as Awhina School. The School also has a 140 bed Hostel known as Tai Mitchell House.

Rotorua Boys' High School is known to many in the community as 'Raukura'. Don Stafford explains the historical background to this name.

> *"It has always been my understanding that 'Raukura', though literally referring to a feather or special plume, in fact conveyed a much more significant shade of meaning. In some measure those described as possessors of the 'Raukura' were of particularly significant stature. They were considered to have justified such a privilege by reason of illustrious lineage, extremely noteworthy leadership or some remarkable achievement in another field – perhaps warfare, diplomacy or unparalleled knowledge. Being considered worthy of the 'Raukura' would undoubtedly have been an accolade sought by aspiring tribal members in the past. When ultimately bestowed (by general consensus) on a deserving individual, it clearly indicated a level of excellence of the greatest merit. Academic achievement has, particularly during the 20th century, been recognised as the single most vital element in the*

advancement and well being of us all. I can only presume that this was clearly apparent to those of the 1920's whose efforts resulted in the establishment of Rotorua High and Grammar School in 1927. The remarkable and farsighted education endowment made by the Ngāti Whakaue people some 40 years even before that, is evidence enough of their support of and belief in education. I have no doubt that the use of 'Raukura' was a subtle message of encouragement for all to take advantage of education, to seek excellence and thus justify the 'Raukura'."

Ngā Taonga a Raukura

- The concept of 'Raukura'
- The administration block
- The school's relationships with Ngāti Whakaue
- The foyer and Memorial Hall carvings
- The Trevor Nathan Sculptures "Raukura" and "Te Hokinga"
- The Roi Toia Sculpture "Tāne Raukura"
- The school magazine that carries the title '*Raukura'*
- The trees that adorn the school's grounds
- The prefect system
- The house competition
- The house group system
- Tai Mitchell Hostel
- The Former Students of the school
- The 'Hall of Fame'
- The 'Pro Patria' Rolls of Honour
- The Annual Prizegiving Ceremony
- The Harwood Library
- The Ryder Gates
- The Millennium Centre

Our motto:
Tā mātou whakapepeha:

"AD ASTRA PER ASPERA"
"To the stars through hard work"

This motto is, so far as I have been able to determine, not a quotation from ancient literature. It may well have been composed by the school's foundation Principal. If so, he almost certainly had in mind the famous motto of the Royal Air Force (and the Royal New Zealand Air Force) PER ARDUA AD ASTRA, which means "Through steep ways to the stars" and makes the same suggestion as the school motto. The RAF motto was created for the Royal Flying Corps (forerunner of the RAF) in 1913; the reference to the stars was, of course, particularly appropriate for that body, but the motto as a whole was certainly intended to have the wider implication indicated above. *(Dr W.F. Richardson, Senior Lecturer in Classics, University of Auckland)*.

Our motto caters for our students who come from all walks of life, and who bring with them their own special talents and needs. Our motto helps us to work with each of our students and to assist them to succeed, whilst at the same time providing them with the tools to make that success possible.

Our original Latin motto and the equivalents in both Māori and English combine together to give us as a school not only a special identity, but also a common purpose.

"WHĀIA TE ITI KAHURANGI"
"Aim high despite all difficulties"

Our vision is:
Tā mātou whakakitenga:

To become the outstanding Boys' High School in New Zealand

To achieve the vision, we will focus on:

- The academic achievements of our students.
- The sporting achievements of our students.
- The achievement of our students in cultural activities.
- The development of leadership qualities of our students.
- The development of citizenship qualities in our students.

Key responsibilities and outcomes
Ngā haepapa me ngā whakataunga

Objectives:

- To help students to discover, measure and understand their own particular capacities, abilities, real interests, personality traits, strengths and weaknesses and thus develop a sense of identity.
- To help students and staff recognise and develop good interpersonal relationships.
- To detect students with specific problems and make arrangements to meet their needs either within the school or in the community
- To provide the opportunity for individual counselling for students experiencing personal difficulties.
- Assist the Principal in special assignments as required from time to time.
- Support Te Ao Māori and celebrate the success of young Māori achieving success as young Māori.
- Support Rotorua Boys' High School as a high performing school where academic excellence, sporting achievement and participation in a range of quality cultural endeavours are emphasised.

General duties:

- Participate in the co-curricular (sporting and/or cultural) programme of the school.
- Meet all requirements of Board policies, including those that apply to staff dress.
- Assist the Principal in special assignments as requested from time to time.
- Maintain and develop own professional development skills, and establish professional development programme.
- Take part in the annual performance management processes.
- Meet annual objectives as agreed by the Principal and School Board.

Specific duties

- Supporting student health and wellness.
- Counselling students.
- Liaising with parents including home visits.
- Working with Social and Government agencies. E.g Police, Youth Justice
- Maintaining up to date records.
- Working with difficult students, school refusers and truants.
- Providing a loan system for school uniforms and assistance with other needs such as stationery.
- Attendance at weekly Pastoral Committee meetings.

- Undertaking referrals to the Special Education Service.
- Supporting suspended students and whanau.
- Supporting our Alternative Education or Activity Centre facility as part of the Management Committee.
- Providing a mediation service for students and their peers.
- Keeping students and staff informed of Guidance Counsellor's role and responsibilities.
- Keeping the SLT/Deans informed of 'At Risk' students.
- Maintaining confidentiality.

Person specifications
Ngā Tautuhitanga

Essential requirements:

- Degree and Teaching Qualification
- Senior teaching experience
- A high degree of personal presentation and professional skill.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Knowledge of the Privacy Act.

Signed by	**Date**
Signed by John Kendal on behalf of the School Board	**Date**