APPLICANT INFORMATION PACK

Classroom Teacher – 0.6 FTTE (including 0.2 FTTE Learning Support Coordinator)

Pūrākaunui School | Mihiwaka Station Road, Port Chalmers | Starting 28 January 2027

KIA ORA KOUTOU – A WELCOME FROM OUR TUMUAKI

Tēnā koe, and thank you for your interest in joining us at Pūrākaunui School.

We are a small rural school on the coast, about 25 km north of Dunedin, serving the neighbouring villages of Pūrākaunui, Osbourne and Long Beach. With one class of tamariki from new entrants to Year 8, we know every child and their whānau well, and we shape learning around each of them.

Our days are full of learning. We are a certified Enviroschool, we are growing our te reo Māori and tikanga every year, and we are serious about giving every child strong foundations in literacy and numeracy.

We are looking for an experienced teacher who will enjoy teaching across Years 0–8 in one class, who loves practical, project-based learning, and who wants to make a real difference for tamariki who need extra support. In a school our size, you will be a valued member of a close, supportive team.

What I love most about Pūrākaunui School is the unique environment we get to teach in every day—the views are truly stunning, and the natural surroundings genuinely act as a 'third teacher' for our tamariki. I feel deeply privileged to work alongside the wonderful families in this beautiful community and to build such close, meaningful relationships within our school. Above all, there is a lovely feeling of fun, inclusivity, and genuine kindness here that makes it a special place to learn and grow.

Kā mihi nui,

Tumuaki | Principal, Pūrākaunui School

OUR VISION AND VALUES

A vibrant, inclusive learning community where every learner is empowered to grow, achieve, and contribute with curiosity and confidence.

Manaakitaka *(kindness)*	"Kia atawhai – kia whakaute – kia tautoko." Be kind, be respectful, be supportive.
Manawanui *(resilience)*	"Kia kaha – kia māia – kia manawanui." Be strong, be brave, be resilient.
Ako *(reciprocal learning)*	"Mā te kimi ka kite, mā te kite ka mōhio, mā te mōhio ka mārama." True learning is an active process of exploration and reflection.
Kaitiaki *(guardianship)*	"Toitū te marae a Tāne, toitū te marae a Tangaroa, toitū te iwi." Our wellbeing depends on how well we look after the land and the ocean.

Our tamariki have helped plan and design images for Ako and Kaitiaki, working with the education facilitator at Puketeraki marae.

OUR SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

Location	Rural coastal community about 25 km north of Dunedin, near Port Chalmers
Roll	7 tamariki at the start of 2027, with 4 new entrants joining during the year
Class	One multi-level class, Years 0–8 (Phases 1–3), taught with a tuakana–teina approach

Our team	Teaching principal (tumuaki), the new 0.6 FTTE teacher, kaiāwhina (teacher aide), office manager, caretaker, cleaner, and a kaiako who runs our playgroup
Playgroup	Little Pipi playgroup runs on Monday and Tuesday mornings and supports our transition to school.
Partnerships	Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki, Port Otago, Enviroschools, PB4L, and a network of small-school principals

TEACHING AND LEARNING AT PŪRĀKAUNUI

Strong foundations in literacy and numeracy

- Structured literacy is grounded in the science of reading: explicit "I do, we do, you do" teaching, daily phonological awareness and grapheme–phoneme practice, and decodable texts for learners who need them.
- Literacy acceleration, with one-to-one and small-group teaching for tamariki who need extra support.
- Mathematics using Numicon and Mathletics, following the curriculum scope and sequence, with acceleration programmes for Years 0–6 and Years 7–8.
- Writing development for senior students using Scribo.
- Assessment using the IDeaL platform, DIBELS and phonics checks, linked to the new curriculum progress descriptors.
- An individual learning plan for every child.

Hands-on, local and project-based

- Certified Enviroschool, with Garden to Table and garden and grounds projects.
- Term studies using our local environment, such as the Pūrākaunui Inlet.
- Weekly forest play, and open-water swimming and water safety at our local beaches and estuary integrated with NZCurriculum.
- Education outside the classroom, including overnight camps such as our noho at Puketeraki marae and Quarantine Island.
- Daily fitness, weekly visual art, music and singing, and drama woven into literacy.
- A Years 7–8 leadership programme that extends learners and prepares them for secondary school.

Te reo Māori and tikanga

- Te reo Māori taught from Year 1, with daily mihi and karakia.
- Tamariki are learning to lead mihi whakatau to welcome visitors, with adult support where appropriate.
- Kapa haka on our outdoor stage, performing at the East Otago Matariki hui and Otago Polyfest with neighbouring schools.
- Our Matariki hāngi brings past, present and future whānau together.
- Tamariki share their pepeha and learn the local stories and place names of our area.

Wellbeing and belonging

- Hauora is at the heart of what we do.
- We are part of PB4L, and our tamariki and staff are continuously building a shared behaviour matrix around our values.
- A Graduate Profile is being developed with our tamariki and whānau.

WHERE WE ARE HEADING

We are consulting with our community on our 2027–2028 strategic plan. Our current goals focus on:

- **Culturally responsive:** a rich, local curriculum that reflects our place and honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- **Engagement and achievement:** strong foundations in literacy and numeracy, with tamariki engaged through their interests and strengths.

- **Community partnerships:** whānau who understand and are actively involved in their children's learning.

We are also working with a Ministry of Education curriculum advisor and other small schools on how best to teach the new national curriculum across Phases 1–3 in one class. English and mathematics are already in place, and science and social sciences follow in 2027. You would be part of this work.

THE ROLE

Position	Permanent part-time Classroom Teacher, 0.6 FTTE (3 days per week; days to be agreed)
Made up of	0.4 FTTE classroom teaching, and a 0.2 FTTE Learning Support Coordinator component. The LSC role is active and hands-on, working directly with tamariki to accelerate or support their classroom learning.
Allowance	Cultural Leadership Allowance available for the right person who can lead our te reo Māori programme and continue to foster tikanga at our school
Start	Term 1, 2027 – school starts Thursday 28 January 2027. Teacher call-back days before the start of term will be notified and agreed on appointment.
Agreement	Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement; unified base salary scale according to qualifications and experience

Full details are in the attached job description.

SUPPORT FOR YOU

- A teaching principal who plans and teaches alongside you, and a kaiāwhina in the classroom.
- Professional learning in structured literacy, mathematics and the new national curriculum.
- The Ministry's LSC induction courses and professional learning pathway, and local LSC networks.
- Connection with neighbouring small schools and principals.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and CV to principal@purakaunui.school.nz by 5:00 pm, Friday 20 November 2026.

Your application must include:

- A chronological summary of your work history for at least the past five years, including the positions you held and the organisations you worked for.
- Your teacher registration and practising certificate details.
- Any professional organisations you belong to that are relevant to this role.
- Any licences relevant to the role, such as a driver's licence.
- Any other relevant qualifications, including those gained since registering as a teacher.
- The names and work contact details of at least two professional referees, including your current or most recent employer.

[You are welcome to visit the school before applying. Please get in touch to arrange a time.]

What happens next

Applications close	5:00pm, Friday 20 November 2026
Shortlisting	Week of 23rd-27th November
Interviews	7th-11th December
Reference checks	By phone or video call after the interview, using the same questions for every applicant. We do not rely on written references.
Appointment	12th December, subject to safety checking

Safety checking

Appointment is subject to safety checking under the Children's Act 2014. This includes identity verification, Police vetting, a check of your work history, and reference checks that include questions about your suitability to work with children.

Your privacy

The information you provide will be used only to assess your application for this position. It will be kept secure and confidential, seen only by those involved in the appointment, and handled in line with the Privacy Act 2020. Information from referees will be kept confidential unless the referee agrees to it being shared with you. You may ask to see or correct the information we hold about you.

Kā mihi – we look forward to hearing from you.