Gonville School



Leap into Leadership at Gonville School …

Are you looking for a vibrant, heart-led kura where connection, genuine laughter and shared success are at the core of every single day?

At Gonville School, powerful learning and empowered learners are who we are and what we do. After six wonderful years, our valued Deputy Principal has made the tough decision to move on, leaving behind a strong foundation and opening the door for a passionate, dynamic and collaborative leader to join our senior leadership team.

This is an amazing opportunity for an aspiring leader looking for their next strategic step in leadership. With intentional leadership development, active coaching and mentorship, you will be fully supported to grow your leadership capacity, lead whole-school initiatives and step into Acting Principal duties seamlessly when required.

Our supportive and forward-thinking Board works intentionally to (as much as possible) keep this a walking DP role giving you floor time and operational space to support Kaiako, lead SENCO/LSC and attendance portfolios and coach staff across the kura. However, classroom teaching as required is part of this role, so we are seeking someone who embraces flexibility as a strength as is ready to step into teaching spaces as necessary.

Our tamariki are awesome, creative, authentic and full of potential. They thrive in an environment rich in warmth, structure, predictability and fun. If you bring a calm and steady presence, high emotional self-regulation, high relational intelligence, an unshakable belief in every child and a great sense of humour, you will love it here.

School visits and other enquiries welcome. Please contact principal@gonville.school.nz . We look forward to hearing from you.

Tēnā koe,

In applying for this position we require you to submit the following:

- Application form
- Cover letter outlining suitability to position against the person specifications
- Curriculum Vitae

Our strategic goals and initiatives can be found on our school website: www.gonville.school.nz .

We look forward to receiving your application.

Ngā mihi
Sarita Payne
principal@gonville.school.nz

This multi-faceted Deputy Principal role provides a rich opportunity to engage in many aspects of leadership across our kura. Key areas of responsibility include (but are not limited to):

- SENCO & LSC Leadership: Leading special education needs, learning support, Tier 2/3 wrap around care and interagency collaboration.
- Attendance Management Oversight: Implementing, monitoring and following through on the school's Attendance Management Plan.
- Support Staff Leadership: Providing strategic oversight, timetabline, PLD and daily management of the Teacher Aide support staff team.
- Coaching and Mentoring: Supporting, modelling, mentoring and coaching teaching practice across learning spaces.
- Executive Leadership Support: Supporting the Principal and assuming Acting Principal duties when required.

PERSON SPECIFICATIONS

We are seeking a Deputy Principal who demonstrates proven experience in – or a strong commitment and willingness to develop capability in – the following person specifications:

- Champions Gonville School's vision, values and strategic goals and leadership philosophy, aligning daily practice with agreed school-wide approaches to create a seamless environment for tamariki.
- Possesses exceptional relational intelligence, is warm and approachable, communicates effectively with tamariki, staff and whanau, and enriches our team with a great sense of humour.
- Meets tamariki and whanau where they are, holding an unshakable belief in every child's ability to succeed while offering tailored support and unconditional acceptance.
- Demonstrates high-quality teaching, learning and assessment practice underpinned by the NZC Refresh and embedded school approaches (e.g.,

structured literacy and mathematics), combined with the confidence and flexibility to teach across Years 0-6 when required.

- Brings strong knowledge and practical expertise relevant to SENCO and LSC roles, including managing diverse learning needs, navigating funding application processes, coordinating wrap-around support and implementing proactive behavioural support strategies.

- Demonstrates high emotional self-regulation, composure and personal resilience – responding to dysregulation or high energy with empathy, de-escalation and a calm, reassuring presence.

- Empowers Kaiako through modelling, mentoring, coaching and constructive learning conversations, viewing mistakes as natural opportunities for learning and growth.

- Proactively monitors and nurtures team Hauora, supporting team members with empathy, practical assistance and a solutions-focused mindset.

- Holds middle or senior leadership experience with the capability to support the Principal seamlessly (assuming Acting Principal duties when required) while serving as a constructive bridge between staff and the executive leadership team.

- Maintains an active, visible presence across the school and wider community while managing clear, manageable administrative systems.

APPLICATION TIMELINE



Please note the timeline for this appointment:

- Tuesday 3 November 2026: Advertisement to Education Gazette
- Monday 16 November 2026, 9.03am: Applications close
- Shortlisting by Wednesday 18 November 2026
- Interviews completed by Wednesday 25 November 2026
- Position offered by Friday 27 November 2026
- Position commences Term 1 2027