

Whenuapai School

Sports Information

2026



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Sports at Whenuapai

At Whenuapai School, we recognise that involvement in sporting activities provides our students with essential learning experiences that extend far beyond the pitch. Physical participation benefits individuals by fostering teamwork and resilience, while also contributing positively to our school culture and connections within the wider community. We are committed to providing high-quality sports opportunities and cultivating encouraging environments where every student can develop, learn, and truly thrive.

Our goal is to ensure students have positive experiences that foster a lifelong enjoyment of physical activity. At Whenuapai, students can explore a wide range of sports, refine their technical skills, and celebrate successes both large and small. We strive to strike a meaningful balance, prioritizing universal participation so every student has a chance to be involved, while simultaneously supporting those with particular talents to extend themselves through appropriate competitive pathways.

To make this extensive program possible, we rely heavily on the generous support of our community. We are constantly looking for volunteers to fill vital roles, including dedicated coaches, supportive team managers, and help with transport logistics. If you can spare some time to assist, or if you have a passion for a sport and are willing to share your expertise, we would sincerely welcome your involvement. **Without our parent/caregiver coaches, our teams wouldn't be able to take the field!**

Sport Guiding Principles

Mana - Respect for Self

- Encourage participation regardless of ability, fostering confidence and pride in personal effort.
- Support students to strive for their own success and achieve their personal best.

Kotahitanga - Respect for Others

- Promote teamwork, fair play, and positive sportsmanship in all sporting activities.
- Value and support volunteers, coaches, and peers who contribute to the sporting community.

Ako - Respect for Learning

- Provide a variety of sporting opportunities that encourage growth, skill development, and a love of learning through sport.
- Encourage positive attitudes, resilience, and continuous improvement.

Kaitiakitanga - Respect for Environment

- Create safe, supportive spaces that inspire lifelong participation in sport.
- Uphold high standards of conduct, ensuring sport is played with integrity and care

Communication

- Primary communication is through the **HERO App**
- Secondary updates are via email.
- Once in a sports team, the communication method is decided by the parent coach/manager. Most teams use the TeamReach app.

Sports Uniforms

All children representing the school must wear the appropriate uniform for the sport.

- Basketball, Netball, Touch - school provided
- Other sports - Whenuapai PE uniform, or appropriate clothing decided by coach

If sports uniforms are not brought back at the end of the season, it is expected that parents will pay for the cost to replace the uniform.

Coaches and Managers

The successful running of any sports teams at **Whenuapai School** relies on parents to volunteer to help with the coaching and managing of teams. Each team will need a parent volunteer coach and a parent volunteer manager for the team to go ahead!

If an older sibling wishes to coach, a parent/manager must still be present at practices and games. **All volunteers must complete police vetting before coaching or managing.**

Prizegiving

At Whenuapai, we value students' contributions to sport, and like to acknowledge the students that have participated in sports throughout the year. To do this, we hold **two** Sports Prizegivings throughout the year. At these events, we will acknowledge participation, improvement, and excellence in sports.

Teachers and coaches will have the opportunity to nominate students that excel in sports for awards, such as Most Improved Player, Most Valuable Player, and various awards based around our school values. All students that participate in any sport will also receive a certificate for their participation.

Below is a list of what sports will be acknowledged at each sports prizegiving:

Term 2 Prizegiving	Term 4 Prizegiving
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Touch• Summer Football• Flippaball (dependant of team changes)• Basketball (Term 1/2 season)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Netball• Hockey• Flippaball (dependant of team changes)• Netball• Basketball (Term 3/4 season)
Students that place at Term 1&2 Norwest days	Students that place at Term 3&4 Norwest days

Health and PE (teaching and learning)

Health and Physical Education (PE) is a learning area of the New Zealand Curriculum.

There are four strands of this learning area:

- personal health and physical development
- movement concepts and motor skills
- relationships with other people
- healthy communities and environments

Our teachers teach these strands through a mixture of Inquiry topics, unit plans, and through explicit PE instruction. At present, the NZC is undergoing change, with the 'new' Health and PE learning area scheduled to be taught in 2027.

Weekly lessons

Students can expect to have at least one PE session per week. These sessions focus on either skills or concepts relating to different sports or types of sports with increasing complexity. As an example, in the Junior school, students begin by learning to run, jump, and throw, whereas in the Senior school, students are honing their skills in particular sports, or learning about the mechanics of sports. Leading up to in school events, we also have specific training sessions within our teams/classes; e.g. Cross Country in Term 3, and Athletics in Term 4.

Many of the concepts within the Health curriculum link with our PB4L values and behaviour curriculum, and are taught as a part of our day to day teaching and routines. The other concepts are usually taught integrated with our Inquiry focus for each term.. Additionally, in the Senior school (Year 5-8) we use an external service to teach Puberty. Parents may choose to opt out of this if they prefer.

Events throughout the year

As a school, we hold school sports days throughout the year. These are used to teach sports skills, sportsmanship, and work towards the senior school where the days are more competitive and lead on to external competitions. They are also a great opportunity for students to represent their school house, show school spirit, and earn house points.

For 2026, our planned in-school sports events are:

- Cross Country (Early Term 3)
- Athletics Day (Early-Mid Term 4)

Long-Term Sports (Seasonal Team Sports)

Sports on offer

- **Basketball Y0 - 8, Terms 1 & 2 and Terms 3 & 4**
 - Played at The Y Massey Gym and Leisure Centre
 - Sign ups open in **January** for Season 1, and in **June** for Season 2
 - The minimum number of players per team is 7. Teams will not be entered with less.
- **Netball Y1 - 8, Terms 2 & 3 at Netball West Harbour**
 - Played at West Harbour School on Saturday
 - Sign ups open in **March**
 - The minimum number of players per team is 9. Teams will not be entered with less.
- **Splash Polo Y3 - 6, (Flippaball) all terms at North Harbour Water Polo**
 - Played at AUT Millennium on Sundays
 - Sign ups open mid term (**January/February** before Term 1)
- **Touch Y1 - 6, Term 4 and following Term 1 at Kumeu Touch**
 - Played at Kumeu Rugby Club on Thursdays
 - Sign ups open in **July**
- **Summer Football Y5 - 8, Term 4 and following Term 1 at West Coast Rangers**
 - Played at West Coast Rangers Football Club on Tuesdays
 - Sign ups open in **August**

Please note: team availability depends on student interest, but most importantly, parent involvement. Each team requires a coach, manager, and parent helper to go ahead.

We intend to hold whānau hui to support those who may be able to give time to support a team, but may need help with sports knowledge or managing students.

Registrations and Fees

The fee structure for sports at Whenuapai is as follows:

- Fees are set based on the cost of registering a team, divided by the required number of players. Please note that registration fees differ from sport to sport.
- An additional contribution of 15% will be added per season to cover the cost of equipment and uniforms.
- If there is a larger number of students in a team than the minimum required, the fees do not change - this allows for more equipment and uniforms to be purchased/allocated for the extra members. Fees are based on the minimum number of players (for example, 7 for basketball and 9 for netball).
- Managers and coaches will receive a 50% discount on their child's fees to acknowledge their contribution to the school and sport.
 - This is based on one coach and one manager per team.
 - If the role of coach or manager is a shared responsibility, then a 25% discount will be applied to each person.
 - If the coach or manager has more than one child in their team, then the discount will be applied to one child only.

School Subsidy Statement - Due to the large number of long-term sports teams and affiliated sporting programmes offered throughout the year, the school is unable to subsidise these programmes. The scale and breadth of participation across multiple sports makes subsidising fees financially unsustainable. We aim to keep costs as transparent and fair as possible by dividing registration costs evenly and only adding a minimal contribution for equipment and uniforms.

All children who register by the announced date are eligible to play if we have enough players to make up teams. **Fees must be paid at the point of registration through school Kindo, or within a 7 day time period.** If you require a payment plan, please get in touch. Without the nominated sports fee, the registration will not be valid and the child not able to play. Fees will be on the HERO App with the notice asking for registrations.

Any late registrations will only be considered if we are not decreasing playing time from other players due to late registration or if there is a viable space in a team.

Fees for the teams are paid to the managing organisations at the start of the season. We are unable to process refunds for players that choose to leave the team after the season has started.

The majority of these sports teams are for students in Year Three through to Year Eight, however some of these sports are available to students in the junior school (Years One and Two).

Team Selections

- **Junior School (Y1-3)** Teams are **not trial-based** and are usually based on friendships and classmates. Emphasis is on participation and enjoyment.
- **Middle School (Y4-6):** When you sign your child/ren up for a sport, we will ask for their 'experience' in the sport. This is not to determine who can or can not play, it is to support us with creating teams that have students with similar ability levels, and/or to make sure that our teams are balanced and entered into the most suitable grade.
- **Senior School (Y7-8):** Trials are part of the selection process. Teams are trialed where possible by neutral sporting code representatives.

In the event that sports are **over prescribed** (too many players for the number of teams), parents that are available to coach or manage will have a spot guaranteed for their child. The other members of the team will be drawn from the pool of students that have been registered with fees paid (any students that aren't drawn will of course have their fees refunded).

If new students join Whenuapai during the year, we will endeavor where possible to slot them into sports teams. However, they may need to wait for the following year if the teams are full.

Other Sporting Options

Students may also play weekly sports through local clubs (football, rugby, cricket, swimming). We aim to avoid double-ups with clubs, as we believe at this age having a club experience is sufficient and allows children time for other sports.

Short-Term Sports - Norwest Zone Days

What are Norwest Zone Days?

As a school, we are a part of the Norwest sports zone, with over 15 other schools. Throughout the year, there are numerous opportunities for students in Years 5-8 to participate in a variety of sports. We do require parent support for these days to go ahead.

Here is a list of the Norwest Zone days planned for 2026:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Teeball Y5/6 Softball Y7/8 Tag Y7/8 Cricket Y7/8 Swimming Y6-8 Orienteering Y7/8 Tennis Y7/8	Football Y5-8 Hockey Y5-8 Table Tennis Y7/8 Basketball Y7/8	Netball Y5-8 Cross Country Y5-8 Volleyball Y7/8	Badminton Y7/8 Touch Rugby Y7/8 Cricket Y5/6 Athletics Y5-8 Tag Y5/6

Signing up

Students are asked at the end of each term (or the beginning of term in Term 1) which sports they may like to participate in for the following term. From there, teams are created based on the number of entries. If the interest outweighs the number of places on a team, the students may be selected through trials, a first come first served basis, or from teacher observations.

For competitive events, such as Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming, we take the top performing students from our sports days. In some cases, we may choose to send any AIMS teams to the Norwest days for their sport as practice leading up to AIMS.

Parent permission is required, along with an element of parent support. We will request permission through Hero, and will detail how much parent support is needed. We endeavour to hold trainings/practices before the zone days, but in some cases this may not be possible due to time constraints.

Norwest Zone days are additional to our in-school Physical Education program, so depending on the trip, a small fee of up to \$20 may be charged to cover transport costs.

Behavioural expectations

Students are expected to embody the school values on Norwest Zone days. As these days are during school time, it is a privilege to be able to attend. If students are not consistently showing the school values back at school, or are not up to date on their school work, they may be asked to step away from the event.

Special Sporting Days

Throughout the year, there are a few externally run sports days that parents may wish to sign their child/ren up for. All but the Rippa Festival (information below), are one day events.

These events are run by external providers, and usually have a cost associated with them. If your child attends, there will likely be an additional fee for transport.

Here is a list of special sporting events that Whenuapai often attends:

- Shore to Shore Fun Day: April - All ages
 - Sign ups are independent from school, open in mid-Term 1
- Rippa Rugby Festival: Two days Term 2/Term 3 - Year 3-6
 - Sign ups are through school, open early Term 2
- Tough Guy and Girl Challenge: August - Year 3-8

Sign ups have two parts, through Hero/Kindo and the organisers, open late Term 2

Competing at the Zespri AIMS Games

Every year, the Zespri AIMS Games give Year 7 & 8 students the opportunity to represent their school in a **week-long competition** against other students from around New Zealand in a wide variety of **team and individual sports**. Whenuapai School always tries to send a variety of teams. The sporting code is based on the student interest and participation.

Key points

- **Our goal for AIMS**

Whenuapai School's goal in attending AIMS is to allow our athletes to be a part of an amazing competition (that has more athletes than the Olympics), enjoy team bonding, and to improve their skills in their chosen sport. Winning games is always an amazing bonus, but our key aim is to enjoy the experience and the healthy competition!

- **Sports Offered**

The Games featured ~27 sports in 2025, including both team sports (e.g. football, hockey, netball) and individual disciplines (e.g. swimming, athletics, BMX, surfing).

- **Trials Required (team sports)**

Students must trial in order to be selected for the school teams. Both Year 7 and Year 8 students are encouraged to trial. To clarify; spots on the team are available to both Year 7s and 8s, and previous AIMS attendees do not have a guaranteed place. Factors taken into consideration when trialling includes overall skill/performance, student attitude, positions played, and how well the students would mix as a team. We will strive to use a mixture of external and internal people to complete the trials to ensure we have the right expertise and insight.

- **Individual Sport selection**

When it comes to individual athletes, we welcome interest from individuals from all sports. Students are selected based on their commitment to their sport, the length of participation in the sport, but most importantly their caregivers' availability. Individual athletes need to stay with their parent/s for the duration of their sport's competition, in privately organised accommodation. They are of course welcome to attend any team sport's games or join in on any school team excursions as appropriate and organised with the supervising teachers.

- **Cost**

Costs for attending the AIMS Games are significant and cover travel, accommodation, uniforms/equipment, entry fees, food, and supervision. For students in teams the overall cost is often around **NZ\$1,000-\$1,300** (sometimes more, depending on sport, accommodation, and travel) per student. Parents will have the option to pay an outright cost (determined in Term 1), sign up for a payment plan, or participate in fundraising efforts (with milestones along the way). At the milestones throughout the year (mid Term 2, end Term 2, mid Term 3), if fundraising efforts have not reached the expected amount, families will be expected to top up the funds (or commit to a payment plan). This is to ensure that all teams have adequate funds well before leaving for AIMS.

- **‘Reserve’ players**

For our team sports, we will have ‘reserve’ players for each team. These players will be Year 7 students, who will be guaranteed a place on the AIMS team for the following year (2027). They will have the opportunity to train alongside the team, and play in any local competitions or tournaments throughout the year. In the event that a student is unable to attend AIMS due to injury or other reasons, one of the reserve players will be asked to attend. Costs for reserve players will be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the time that the reserve is asked to join the team.

- **Year-long commitment - student and parents**

Although AIMS is in Term 3, attendance to AIMS is a year long commitment. Preparations start in early Term 1, and include both time, and monetary commitments throughout the year.

- Students are expected to attend AIMS trainings throughout the year, with the frequency of trainings increasing as the year goes on
- Many sports will be entered in local competitions during the sport season, which may include out of hours/weekend games or trainings
- For parents, the expectation is to be willing to communicate with the other parents of the team through TeamReach or What’s App on a regular basis. This is to ensure that the team runs smoothly, and that all students are informed of any games, trainings, or fundraisers throughout the year.

- **Parent involvement is required - or the team will not be entered**

Each team requires 3 parents that are willing to support in the lead up, and attend AIMS and stay in the accommodation with the students. Each role has varying responsibilities (time commitments etc), but are all equally as important to the team’s attendance at AIMS.

- **Coach:** The coach needs to be available for at least one training per week (likely increasing to 2 trainings in Term 3) during either lunchtime or before/after school, along with attending any games or pre-AIMS tournaments
- **Manager:** The manager will take on a key role in running the TeamReach and organising trainings/out of school events. The manager will work closely with the teacher in charge of the sport to ensure messages are shared with the teams’ parents. At AIMS, they will support with supervision and monitor scoring.
- **“House Mum/Dad”:** The house Mum/Dad will primarily take the role of ensuring that the students (and other adults) are taken care of throughout the week. They will also provide supervision, and are welcome to attend games and support the student

- **Behavioural Expectation**

Upon expressing interest in attending AIMS, all students (and whānau) will be given a Code of Conduct to sign and abide by. This is centered around our four school values, and around showing sportsmanship. In this code of conduct, there is a clear process for if students do not uphold the values. The expectations apply in any situation that a student is representing Whenuapai School, including class time, playtime, while at Taupaki for tech, when using the bus, during AIMS games/training. In the case that a student is removed from the team, one of the reserve players will be asked to step in. Please note, that depending on when the student is removed from the team, we may be unable to process a refund for any funds raised/fees paid.

- **Predicted timeline for AIMS 2026**

As you can imagine, the organisation for AIMS is a large body of work, so to ensure that everything is ready and runs smoothly, here is our predicted timeline leading up to AIMS Games in September:

- Late Term 4 2025: Expressions of interest welcomed for individual and team athletes - this will support with early planning
- Pre/Early Term 1 2026: Formal expressions of interest required for all athletes, information evening held for interested whānau, estimate of fees will be shared
- Mid Term 1 2026: Teams are trialled, whānau are informed of team selection, and coaches/managers/house parent roles are (loosely) assigned, TeamReach is set up for whānau to join
- Late Term 1 2026: Teams are finalised, practices will begin, fees will be shared, whānau expected to commit to payment/fundraising/payment plan
- Mid Term 2 2026: payment/fundraising 'milestone' 1
- End Term 2 2026: payment/fundraising 'milestone' 2, frequency of practices may increase
- Mid Term 3 2026: payment/fundraising 'milestone' 3, final parent evening held, transport and organisation plans finalised

- **Full Week Away from School**

The event lasts the full week. Students will likely be away from Whenuapai School the whole week, staying in accommodation, travelling, and competing daily.

For more detailed info (dates, sports, entry fees and eligibility), you can check the official AIMS Games site: [Zespri AIMS Games](#)

Whenuapai School Parent and Supporter's Expectations

As a parent or supporter, I understand that I play a key role in creating a positive and supportive environment for all players. I agree to uphold the values of respect, fairness, and positive participation at all times. By attending games and events, I commit to the following:

I will:

1. **Remember that the game is for the players.** I will allow the players to have fun and make their own decisions on the field.
2. **Be a positive role model.** I will cheer for good plays from both teams and will not make negative comments about players, coaches, or referees.
3. **Respect the officials.** I will not question or argue with referees or officials. I understand that without them, we would not have a game.
4. **Encourage, not criticize.** I will praise all players for their effort and sportsmanship, regardless of the outcome of the game. I will never yell at a player, including my own child, for making a mistake.
5. **Respect the coaches.** I will trust the coach to manage the team and will not interfere with their decisions during a game. If I have a concern, I will follow the proper procedure and speak with the coach at a later, appropriate time, away from the playing area.
6. **Behave appropriately.** I will use positive language and will not engage in any form of verbal or physical aggression towards anyone.
7. **Support the team.** I will help create an enjoyable and safe environment for everyone involved. I will respect the opposition team and their supporters.

Please note: any parents or supporters that do not meet the above expectations may be asked to leave sports games/events. Whenuapai School wants all students and adults to show our school values, and represent the school in a positive way.

Coaches and Managers Code of Behaviour Agreement

As a Coach or Manager representing **Whenuapai School**, I understand that I am a role model for our students and school community. I agree to uphold the values of respect, fairness, and positive participation at all times. By signing this agreement, I commit to the following:

I will:

1. **Praise and Positive Reinforcement:** Be generous with praise and positively reinforce all players' actions.
 2. **Lead by Example:** Always lead by example, both on and off the field.
 3. **Respect for Officials:** Cultivate respect for officials and referees among players and supporters.
 4. **Fair Play and Participation:** Insist on fair play and ensure all players have an equal opportunity to participate.
 5. **Encourage Sportsmanship:** Actively encourage sportsmanship among players, supporters, and yourself.
 6. **Appropriate Language:** Use appropriate and acceptable language at all times.
 7. **Focus on Enjoyment:** Remember that players participate for their enjoyment, not just for winning.
 8. **Constructive Feedback:** Never yell at or ridicule a player for making a mistake.
 9. **Reasonable Demands:** Be reasonable with the demands you place on young players' time and energy.
 10. **Create a Safe Environment:** Provide a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone involved.
-

Acknowledgement

I understand that failure to uphold this Code of Behaviour may result in me being unable to continue in a coaching or managerial role.

Coach/Manager Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

School Representative (Sports Coordinator/Principal): _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Player's Code of Behaviour Agreement (Year 0-4)

I will try my best and have fun!

- I'll run and play and smile. Winning is fun, but being with my friends is even better!

I will be a good sport.

- I'll be kind to everyone on the field—my teammates, the other team, my coach, and the referee. I'll even shake hands after the game!

I will be a good friend to my teammates.

- I will cheer for my friends when they do something awesome.
- I won't laugh or get mad if someone makes a mistake.

I will listen to my coach and the referee.

- They are here to help me play safe and fair. I will listen carefully when they talk.

I will use kind words.

- I will say "good job!" and "you can do it!" I will never use mean or unkind words.

I will play fair.

- I'll follow the rules of the game so everyone can have fun.

I will be kind to the other team.

- I won't say mean things or try to hurt anyone. We are all here to play!

Acknowledgement

I understand that failure to uphold this Code of Behaviour may result in me being unable to continue playing sports for Whenuapai School.

Player's Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

School Representative (Sports Coordinator/Principal): _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Player's Code of Behaviour Agreement (Year 5-8)

As a player for Whenuapai School, I understand that I represent my school and team. I agree to play with respect, fairness, and a positive attitude. By signing this agreement, I commit to the following:

I will:

1. **Try my best and always have fun.** I will remember that winning is not the only goal; I will also enjoy competing, being part of a team, and trying my hardest.
2. **Be a good sport.** I will be kind to everyone on the field, including my teammates, players on the other team, the coach, and the referee. I will shake hands with the other team after the game.
3. **Encourage my teammates.** I will celebrate when they do something well and will never laugh at them or get mad if they make a mistake.
4. **Listen to my coaches and the referee.** They are there to help me and make sure the game is fair and safe for everyone. I will not argue with them, even if I disagree with a call.
5. **Use appropriate language.** I will not swear or use unkind words on or off the field.
6. **Play fair.** I will follow all the rules of the game and always show good sportsmanship.
7. **Respect my opponents.** I will not say mean things or try to hurt anyone on the other team.
8. **Be on time for practices and games.** I will let my coach know if I can't make it.

I know that by following this code of conduct, I will be a great teammate and a positive representative of Whenuapai School.

Acknowledgement

I understand that failure to uphold this Code of Behaviour may result in me being unable to continue playing sports for Whenuapai School.

Player's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Representative (Sports Coordinator/Principal): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____