**Ōtātara Kāhui Ako **

We are a group of schools and early childhood education providers in the wider Taradale (Ōtātara) area of Napier.

We share the vision of working collaboratively to raise learner wellbeing and achievement. We believe that we can address learning challenges better together than separately, whilst still retaining each school and centre’s unique character and style.

We have agreed that learners and learning are at the centre of all we do, and our collaboration is for their benefit, generating the best possible education for the ākonga of our area. Our shared whakataukī is:

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.

The school’s who have joined the Ōtātara Kāhui Ako are:

Arthur Miller School

###### Bledisloe School

###### Greenmeadows School

Parkside Christian Seventh Day Adventist School (pending)

###### Pātoka School

###### Puketapu School

###### Reignier Catholic School

###### Taradale High School

###### Taradale Intermediate School

###### Taradale Primary School

### The early childhood centreswho have joined the Ōtātara Kāhui Ako are:

[Active Explorers Greenmeadows](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=46346)  
Best Start Greenmeadows  
Best Start Montessori Greenmeadows

Best Start Taradale  
Bright Futures Hawke's Bay  
The Den: Discover Education in Nature  
[Dot Kids Early Learning Centre Nursery](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=55092)  
[Dot Kids Early Learning Centre Preschool](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=55092)  
Footsteps Adventist Preschool  
[Greenmeadows Kindergarten](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=5278)  
[Happy Days Child Care Centre](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=55274)  
[Little Wonders Greenmeadows](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=55471)  
[Ōtātara Children's Centre](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=55050)  
Patoka Rural Kindergarten  
Pirimai Kindergarten  
Puketapu Community Early Childhood Educare  
[Taradale East Kindergarten](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els/els?ece=5284)  
Taradale Kindergarten  
Te Kōhanga Reo o Waiōhiki

We seek to establish positive transitions between different education settings (ECE, Primary secondary and tertiary education) for students as they move through our schooling optimising their well-being and learning.

We believe that we share the responsibility of supporting quality education in one another’s schools, thereby seeking outcomes that are the best for the whole community of schools. Through developing collaborative relationships with partners such as ECE providers and the Eastern Institute of Technology we can all better access available professional services and community support, including learning from and with iwi and hapū.

We have identified three common areas of practice (**achievement challenges**) which we recognise the need to collaboratively develop as teachers in order to benefit the children of Ōtātara. These are: Cultural Connectedness, Hauora/Wellbeing and Preparedness to Learn.

**Cultural Connectedness**

Increase the proportion of students who report that they feel strong connections to their language, culture and identity, and that their cultural identities are valued and respected across ourKāhui Ako. Examining in particular the Aotearoa New Zealand Histories curriculum, Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the development of teacher skills in Te Reo Māori.

Across Community lead teacher for Cultural Connectiveness: Keriana McKee keriana@taradaleint.school.nz

## Hauora/Wellbeing

Increase the proportion of students who report positively against our four well-being indicators: Taha hinengaro (ideas related to mental and emotional wellbeing),

Taha wairua (ideas related to spiritual wellbeing), Taha tinana (ideas related to physical wellbeing), and Taha whānau (ideas related to social wellbeing).

We are looking to increase resilience in our young people, and reduce anxiety levels in the classroom/school.

Across Community lead teacher for Hauora/Wellbeing: Raelene Hill

[raeh@taraprimary.school.nz](mailto:raeh@taraprimary.school.nz)

**Preparedness to Learn (the early years)**

Increase the proportion of students who report they have the dispositions required to develop ‘capabilities for living and lifelong learning’ from early childhood to primary school. In particular oral language/communication development, structured literacy and development of the foundation skills for learning. Sharing of good practice between teachers of special needs and early years teachers is also being undertaken.

Across Community lead teacher for Preparedness to Learn (the early years): Kara-Leigh Jones [kjones@reignier.school.nz](mailto:kjones@reignier.school.nz)

**Preparedness to Learn (the older years)**

Increase the proportion of students who report they have the dispositions required to develop ‘capabilities for living and lifelong learning’ from primary to tertiary education. Examining in particular the transition process from primary schools to intermediate and intermediate to secondary; the development of student agency and literacy teaching.

Across Community lead teacher for Preparedness to Learn (the older years): Vinka Donkin

[vinkad@taradaleint.school.nz](mailto:vinkad@taradaleint.school.nz)

Please get in touch with one of the across community teachers or Ōtātara Kāhui Ako lead Greig Mercer (greig.mercer@gmail.com) if you would like to know more or would like to support the Kāhui.