



This presentation was shared at the
community hui held on 03/3/2026 at St
Joseph's School, Pātea



St Joseph's School, Patea

Taking Responsibility | Achieving Excellence | Having Respect | In it Together

Proposed cancellation of Integration Agreement and closure of the school



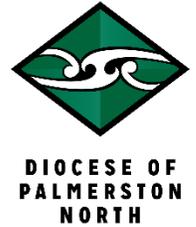
Agenda



- Opening prayer and introductions
- Overview of the steps leading to this consultation
- Reasons for the proposed mutual cancellation and then closure
- What would happen if St Joseph's School Pātea closes?
- Process
- Where to next?
- Closing prayer



Karakia Tīmatanga – Opening Prayer



- *E te Atua kaha rawa,*
- *Whakapaingia mātou i tēnei rā.*
- *Homai te māramatanga, te manawanui, me te rangimārie.*

- Almighty Creator,
- Bless us in this time together.
- Grant us understanding, patience, and peace.

- *Āwhinatia mātou kia rangona te pono,*
- *kia kōrero mārire, kia whakarongo pono.*

- Help us to hear the truth,
- to speak with kindness, and to listen with care.

- May our conversations today bring
strengthen our relationships,
- and guide us toward unity.

- *Amine.*



The steps that have led to this consultation

- Letter from the Board of St Joseph's School, Pātea to Bishop John Adams (Proprietor) requesting closure of the school
- Letter from Bishop John Adams to the Minister of Education
 - requesting approval to consult about the mutual cancellation of the Integration agreement for St Joseph's School Pātea
 - signalling that if cancelled the Bishop would close the school
- Approval from the Minister of Education to consult

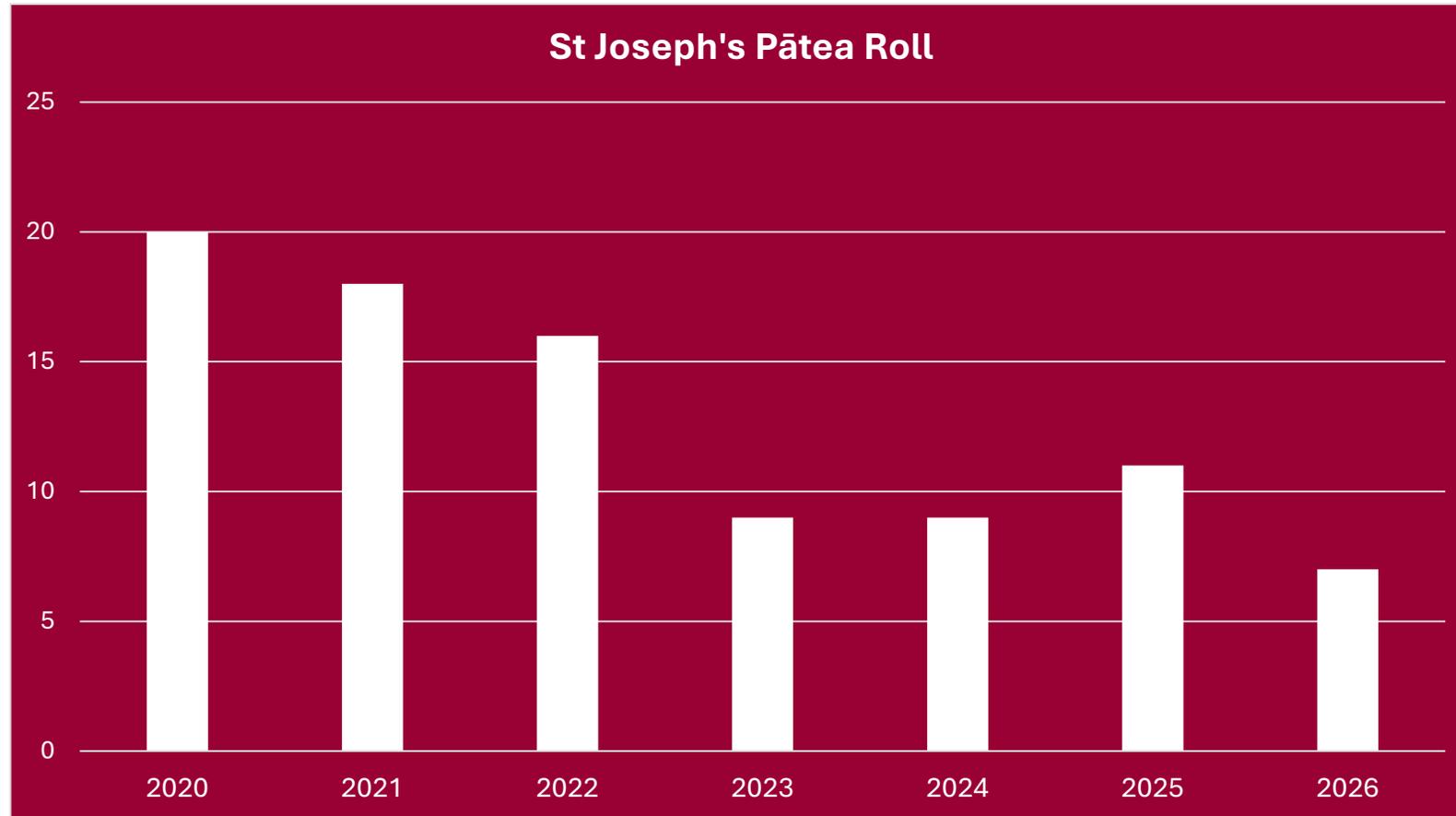


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The reasons behind the request to cancel and then close

- Declining roll and low numbers of students with a Catholic connection
- Inability to recruit a suitable Catholic principal and safeguard the Catholic special character of the school
- Low demand for a Catholic learning pathway
- Long term concerns about the quality of teaching and learning and its impact on student achievement
- Low student attendance
- Students tend not to remain enrolled through years 1-6

Declining roll and low numbers of students with a Catholic connection





Recruiting a Principal



- Inability to recruit a suitable Catholic principal and safeguard the Catholic special character of the school



Catholic Learning Pathway



- Low demand for a Catholic learning pathway



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NORTH



Te Tāhuhu o
te Mātauranga
Ministry of Education

Quality of teaching and learning and its impact on student achievement – long term concerns

2025 End of Year Learning Data, St Joseph's Pātea

	At or Above Age Expectation	Below or Well Below Age Expectation
Reading	0%	100%
Writing	20%	80%
Maths	0%	100%

[ERO report](#)



Student attendance - low

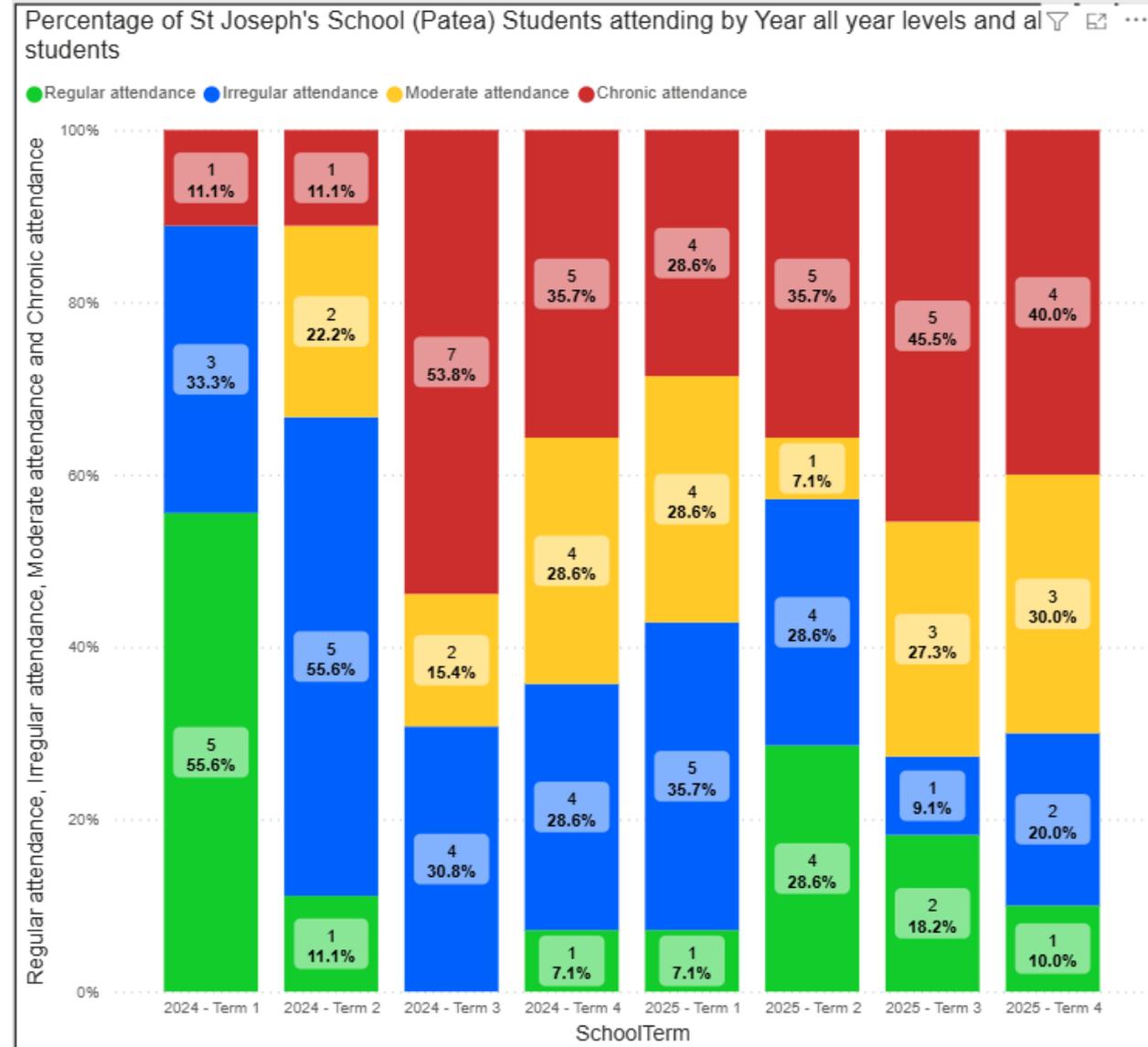


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In 2025, just 16% of children attended 'regularly' (i.e. were present for 90% or more of school days).

This compares with a government goal of 80% of children attending regularly.

Across this region, 65% of year 1-6 students attended regularly in term 4 of 2025.





. **Students tend not to remain enrolled through years 1-6**

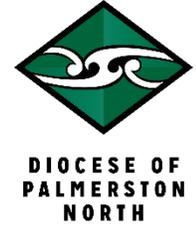
Most students stay just a short time at SJP.

On average, students enrolled since 2018 have left after just 15 months.

This time is much shorter than students stay at small Catholic schools in similar communities.



What would happen if we close?



- Where we are at the moment
 - Commissioner
 - Emergency staffing Principal for Term 1
- What are the options?
- Assessing on a term by term basis
- There will always be education provided
- Transport



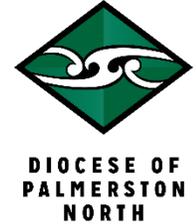
What would happen if we close?



- What happens to the land and buildings?



Where to next?



- Consultation
- Report to Minister
- Decision made about mutual cancellation of the Integration Agreement
- Proprietor will close
- Closure process – supported by MoE
 - EDI funding
 - Staff



Feedback/Comments/Questions





How to have your say?



How to Provide Feedback

You can provide feedback in any of the following ways:

- **Written feedback forms**, available at the St Joseph's School, Pātea office, Suffix Street, Pātea
- **Email:**
 - John Dale, Senior Advisor Network, Ministry of Education: John.Dale@education.govt.nz
 - Teresa Edwards, Manager of Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Palmerston North: TEdwards@pndiocese.org.nz
 - Online, via the Ministry of Education Consultation Hub (search: "**Have your say – Ministry of Education**")

Consultation closes **5pm, Friday 2 April 2026.**