

Frequently Asked Questions

Koromiko Mākoha and Prebbleton School Enrolment Schemes

Why are enrolment schemes needed in Prebbleton?

Enrolment schemes are needed to help manage current and future school roll growth in Prebbleton and to ensure all students have access to a school that is reasonably convenient to where they live. Prebbleton is experiencing significant residential growth, including new housing developments already underway and others approved for the future.

As part of planning for this growth, the Ministry of Education is establishing a new primary school in Prebbleton. Enrolment schemes are required for the new school and for existing schools to help prevent overcrowding, support fair and transparent enrolment processes, and ensure the school network is sustainable over the long term.

Introducing enrolment schemes alongside the opening of a new school allows growth to be managed in a planned way, protects access for local students, and supports both the new school and existing schools to operate effectively as the community continues to grow.

Why is a new school being opened in Prebbleton?

The new school responds to current and projected population growth in Prebbleton, including greenfield developments already underway and those approved for the future. It provides capacity for future expansion and ensures long-term provision of high-quality education for Years 1–8 students.

Is it too soon to open a new school in Prebbleton?

Planning needs to occur ahead of growth, not after school capacity has been exceeded. There is limited scope for further expansion at Prebbleton School.

Significant residential development has been approved in Prebbleton, and experience in Selwyn shows that approved developments can grow rapidly, often attracting families with school-aged children.

Opening a new school in time helps prevent overcrowding, reduces roll volatility, enables managed network change, and supports sibling alignment where possible.

What is the new school's name?

The name of the new school is Koromiko Mākoha

When will the new school open

The new school, Koromiko Mākoha, will open in 2027.

What Year levels will the new school provide?

The new school (Koromiko Mākoha) will provide education for students Years 1-8.

Where is the new school located?

Consultation material includes maps showing the location of the school site.

The general location of the school is between Trents Road and Hamptons Road, south-east of Shands Road, in the west of Prebbleton.

We are awaiting the issuing of a road address point for the new school.

Why was this site chosen for the new school?

The site was selected based on availability, location, future growth projections, and planning feasibility.

How big will the new school be, and how fast will it grow?

The rate of roll growth will depend on the design of the enrolment scheme, as well as developer and homeowner decisions. Based on growth at other recent new schools and anticipated population growth, the roll is expected to reach approximately 75–100 students by the end of the first year, with steady growth in subsequent years.

The first stage of construction will provide space for up to 275 students. Growth within the home zone will inform the timing of future expansion.

Will the new school offer bilingual education?

Koromiko Mākoha will be an English-medium school that also offers bilingual te reo Māori learning opportunities for students who wish to participate. Several English-medium schools in Greater Christchurch operate a similar delivery model.

Have the principal and staff been employed?

A principal has been appointed. A leadership team will be appointed during 2026, with all staff in place for the school's opening in 2027.

Is there a Board in place?

An Establishment Board has been appointed by the Ministry of Education to oversee the establishment of the new school. The board's role includes governance, community engagement, and operational setup.

In time, governance will transition to a parent-elected School Board.

Why not just use empty classrooms at existing schools?

While some schools may currently have limited surplus capacity, this is insufficient to address the scale of sustained residential growth occurring in Prebbleton. The new

school is required to meet demand that cannot be managed long-term within existing sites.

Why not operate the new school as a second site?

Operating the school as a separate entity allows it to establish policies and practices reflecting the needs of its own community. In addition, the scale of growth proposed for Prebbleton means future consideration of a third primary school is likely over the long term.

Will existing schools lose students or close?

All local schools remain valued parts of the education network. Growth within remaining areas is expected to offset the impact of any zone changes.

The extent of change will be informed by consultation, and outcomes have not been pre-determined. While significant roll reductions are not anticipated, Ministry support processes exist should this occur.

Shouldn't new schools only serve brand-new housing areas?

New schools support the wider network by balancing growth, access, and sustainability. Enrolment schemes typically include a mix of new growth areas and some existing housing to ensure viability of both new and existing schools.

Are enrolment Schemes already decided?

No. Proposed enrolment Schemes are subject to consultation. Feedback from families, schools, and the wider community will help inform final decisions.

Consultation is open 11 May to 12 June 2026.

Why are there so many areas identified in the consultation material?

Multiple areas are shown to enable feedback on a range of possible options. This allows the Ministry to design enrolment schemes using community input without requiring re-consultation, ensuring readiness for the school's opening.

Will there be further enrolment zone changes in the future?

Enrolment schemes are reviewed regularly and may be adjusted in response to changing growth patterns. Any future changes would involve consultation. Minor boundary clarifications are common as developments progress.

Will my child have to move schools?

No. Current students are not required to leave their existing school.

If one child currently attends Prebbleton School, can siblings attend as well if the zone changes?

The Ministry is consulting on an additional entitlement to enrol (“grandparenting”) provision that may allow siblings to enrol despite becoming out-of-zone. Further information is available in *“Additional entitlement to enrol in certain circumstances”*.

Where surplus capacity exists, boards may offer a carefully managed number of out-of-zone places. Siblings of current students have high priority for any such spaces.

The Ministry recommends that new schools do not offer out-of-zone places due to potential growth pressure.

Are there any changes proposed to the enrolment scheme for Broadfield School?

Yes. A small amendment is being consulted on to withdraw the home zone from addresses on the northern side of Hamptons Road (between Shands Road and Springs Road) and to refine boundary mapping accuracy.

Broadfield School remains a valued rural school within the Selwyn network.

Are there changes to Ladbrooks School, Knights Stream School- Mingimingi Hautoa, or Te Kura o Rātā Templeton School zones?

No changes are proposed.

When will a new high school be needed?

Current planning indicates that projected secondary growth can be accommodated on existing sites. Demand is monitored continuously in partnership with Selwyn District Council.

General Information about Enrolment Schemes

What is an enrolment scheme?

An Enrolment Scheme is a means of preventing overcrowding at a school, ensuring fair and transparent processes are used to determine enrolment eligibility, and enables the Ministry of Education to make best use of the current schools in the surrounding area. Each enrolment scheme for a State school must contain a home zone with clearly defined boundaries. An enrolment scheme gives students who live in the home zone a guarantee that they can go to that school. The Enrolment Scheme also details the way in which students may enrol at a Special Programme run by the school and the [Education and Training Act 2020](#) directs how schools can select applicants who live outside the home zone if they have space.

What is a home zone?

All Enrolment Schemes for State schools include a home zone. A home zone is a clearly defined geographical area around a school, with its boundaries indicated by street names and numbers or other geographical features.

It is usually presented as a description that makes it easy to identify any address as being inside or outside the zone. This may include a map to assist as a visual aid.

- Students who live inside the home zone are guaranteed a place at the school.

- Students who live outside the home zone can apply to enrol but acceptance of their application is subject to places being available to them.
- If there are places available, but more applications received than places, their acceptance is subject to the outcome of a pre-enrolment process – a ballot.

Why is an enrolment scheme needed?

The Ministry of Education believes that the current school is at risk of overcrowding, and the new school will be at risk of overcrowding once it opens. As set out in the [Education and Training Act 2020](#), the purpose of an enrolment scheme of a State school is; to avoid overcrowding, or the likelihood of overcrowding at the school; and to ensure that the selection of applicants for enrolment at the school is carried out in a fair and transparent manner; and to enable the Secretary to make the best use of existing networks of State schools.

At a school without an enrolment scheme, any child can enrol at the school at any time, even if the classrooms become crowded. An enrolment scheme is the only way the school can manage enrolments to protect space for local students.

Who will be managing the consultation?

Under the Education and Training Act 2020, the Ministry of Education is now responsible for managing the consultation process. The goal is to ensure that anyone in a community who might be impacted by an enrolment scheme understands what the implications might mean for them and is kept well informed whenever any aspect of a scheme changes. Everyone must have access to up-to-date relevant and factual information when they need it and be aware of the opportunities they have to share their views on a proposed change.

As outlined in schedule 20, clause 4 of the Act, the Ministry is required to formally consult with:

1. The board of the school
2. The parents of the students at the school
3. The people living in the area for which the school is reasonably convenient
4. The students and prospective students of the school (depending on their age and maturity)
5. The boards of other schools that could be affected by the proposed scheme
6. If it is a State integrated school, the proprietor of the school.

What happens after the Ministry of Education has consulted?

After consultation is finished, the Ministry of Education will collate all feedback and process this information to ensure it meets the requirements of the Education and Training Act 2020.

If the Ministry is satisfied that the enrolment scheme meets these requirements, the enrolment scheme will be approved / finalised and provided to the board. Note that it is common for some changes to be made to the proposed zone as a result of feedback received.

The school's board must implement the approved enrolment scheme as soon as practicable.

What is the implementation date?

This is the date that the board 'adopts' the enrolment scheme at a board meeting. It is after the Ministry has sent the approved scheme to the school. It is before the commencement date.

What is the commencement date?

The date an enrolment scheme starts (the "effective" or "start" date). The new home zone applies to enrolments from this date onwards.

Who can take part in the consultation?

Anyone who wants to have their say on the proposed enrolment scheme including students, parents, local communities and neighbouring schools.

If we live inside the home zone of a State school, does that school have to accept our enrolment application?

Yes.

Why are we out-of-zone for a school we are close to but in-zone for another school further away?

While one school might be geographically closer to your address, some or many combined factors might mean that your address may sit within the home zone of a different school. When the Ministry is developing enrolment scheme proposals and determining boundaries for a school's home zone, we look at a range of factors including the distance of the school from other schools and the capacity available at each school, whether neighbouring schools also have enrolment schemes, road safety, transport and access for students to get to school.

The Ministry might also be planning for growth in a particular area of the community and, at the same time, ensuring that all children and young people can attend a school that is reasonably convenient to where they live.

What does it mean if there is a potential overlap in some areas, where an address can be within a zone for two schools?

In some cases, there may be areas where home zones overlap. Students in an area where there is an overlap are able to choose between the schools to which the overlapping zones belong.

Can a school change the order of priority for out of zone applicants?

No. The order of priority is set out in the Education and Training Act 2020 and cannot be changed.

What if I have more questions?

Please contact us on Canterbury.EnrolmentSchemes@education.govt.nz