



Kaikohe Christian School

To follow the way of Jesus Christ, seek His Truth and excel in life for Him
Ki te whai i te ara o Ihu Karaiti, ki te rapu i Tana Pono, ki te hira ora hoki, mo Ia

Tena koutou whanau ma – warm greetings to everyone

The Government is currently introducing a free, healthy, daily school lunch in some schools for all students. The Lunches in Schools programme is called Ka Ora, Ka Ako.

We are really excited to let you know that our school will be joining the free lunch programme from Term 1, next year.

The lunches will be available for all our students and we will make no distinction about those who may need it more than others. All parents want to provide their children with a lunch every day but, as you will know sometimes we can struggle, often through no fault of our own find it difficult to meet the needs in this area. We know that some of you will have been particularly affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and offering a lunch for all our children will go some way to helping families and whānau to support their children and tamariki. This is why we have decided to take part in this programme.

We will work with suppliers and the Ministry of Education to make sure the lunches are healthy and nutritious and meet any specific dietary needs our students may have. All suppliers will be required to meet New Zealand food safety standards. We also intend to take advantage of this opportunity to come together each day for lunch, seated together in fellowship, and we would love to share this time with you as well.

The lunches are not compulsory, and you can continue to provide your child's own lunch if you wish, however we recognise the wonderful investment that has been made into our young people and we hope you will choose to be part of this.

The programme will run until the end of 2021 and will be evaluated whilst it is running. This will include feedback from schools, students and suppliers about what the lunches are like, how they are delivered, and if they have an impact on students' learning and achievement. This information will help to decide whether to continue beyond 2021, and what an ongoing programme might look like.

You can find out more about the programme at: www.education.govt.nz/free-and-healthy-school-lunches

