

The background of the cover features a close-up, low-angle shot of a pile of coarse salt crystals. The crystals are illuminated from the side, creating a warm, golden glow that highlights their irregular, faceted shapes. The rest of the background is a dark, textured surface, possibly wood or stone, which contrasts with the bright salt. A semi-transparent dark blue rectangular box is centered on the upper half of the cover, containing the title text in white.

WACS PARENT STUDENT
HANDBOOK

SALT & LIGHT

2026



Whangarei Adventist[™]
Christian School



Whangarei Adventist™ Christian School

Dear WACS Whanau

Thank you for sharing your child's learning journey with us. *Please* ensure you, your tamariki and whanau are all familiar with the contents of this handbook which provides information about our processes, expectations and procedures that guide our routines and practices. School Policies are available online with SchoolDocs. I encourage you to refer to these when needed. If you require a scheduled meeting with myself, please arrange a time first to meet with me out of my teaching hours.

Please ensure you always TEXT, or leave a phone message 09 437 3004 or 027-389-3197 before 9am to report an absence with a reason for recording purposes.

The Office is locked when unattended, please use door bell and always sign in register if you are on premises.

Important information for 2026:

Notices, announcements and events are all on WACS WHANAU FB PAGE. Ensure your notifications are turned on and you have read information. Brief text messages may also be sent on occasion when necessary.

Room 3: LeeAnn Thoresen & Rita Jones Years 5-8

Room 1: Mrs Lorilee Petrie Years 0-4

Chaplain: Wesley Robb

School Worship is held every FRIDAY at 9.00am. You are welcome to attend.

Yours sincerely,

LeeAnn Thoresen
Principal

SPECIAL CHARACTER

The Special Character of Whangarei Adventist Christian School is determined by the faith system made up of the Christian beliefs, values and lifestyle of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The purpose of the school is to support the home and the church in the transmission of its faith system to the students.

The function of the school is to facilitate the development of a mature and understanding commitment to the beliefs and practices of the church so that students will become responsible and caring Christians in the community.

Our school values & special character are embedded into our class learning; school culture and communication with others. Please take note of what our values look like on the next two pages (4-5).

Our chaplain runs whole school worship sessions each week. Students participate in church services during the year which are held on Saturday mornings in local churches. These dates will be made known on the events page on WACS Whanau.

Our special character focus this year is that we aim to create an environment where our students can grow in their understanding of God's love and grace, so that their faith in Him can grow and that His love can flow from their hearts to those around them. We believe that through growing our faith together in Christ, our students may become channels of His grace and love, sharing this living water with the world, becoming a positive influence to their friends and their communities. By nurturing the spiritual growth of each student we hope they will become vessels of God's love, striving for a life that overflows with the blessings and grace of Christ.

Matthew 5:13-16

CSB

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

SALT & LIGHT

I belong

at WACS,

I am “rooted and grounded in Gods love; Ephesians 3:17”.

I respect

God our creator. “I am wonderfully and fearfully made; Psalm 139:14”. I seek a relationship with him daily through prayer, worship & learning.

I choose to be positive and encouraging to others, so that I can build healthy

relationships.

I am a team player.

“Treat others the way you want to be treated; Luke 6:31”.

I am responsible

for my learning journey. I will “work with all my heart for the Lord; Colossians 3:23”.

resilient

I will find solutions to problems, and I won’t give up. I choose to be a learner. “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength; Philipians 4:13”.

I demonstrate care

and show manaakitanga to my environment
“be a good caretaker (kaitiaki) of the earth; Genesis 2:15”.

BELONG	RESPECT	RELATIONSHIPS	RESPONSIBILITY	RESILIENCE	CARE
I feel safe and loved at school.	I know that I am a child of the King.	My teacher knows me & understands how I learn best.	I can take care of my bag, lunch and belongings.	If I need help I can ask my teacher or my friend.	I know how to recycle paper and which bins to use.
I have friends that I enjoy playing with.	I pray every day and participate in devotion time.	I have friends that I enjoy spending time with. I can give others space and time if needed.	I know where to find my books and pencils in class.	Even if I feel a bit nervous or shy, I will ask for support and give it a go.	I can compost my food scraps.
I know the name of my school and I know the names of my school friends.	I participate in whanau time and worship, and I have a favourite worship song.	I know the names of all the school staff.	I access resources I need in class, and I can put them back in the right place.	If I start something, I will try my best to finish it.	I know the names of some weeds and can take them out of the gardens.
I see my work and creations in my classroom and displayed around the school.	I am learning about Bible stories through encounter, I can tell you what the current Bible learning is about.	I know the rules and expectations in class and on the playground.	I can follow the routine and daily tasks	If I get stuck, I can think of a solution to my problem.	I can watch the butterfly's and caterpillars and leave them alone to keep them safe.
I know the school values and expectations for my behaviour at school.	I have respect for others as well as myself because "I am wonderfully and fearfully made" (Psalm 139:14)	I can wait and take turns in games and on the playground.	I can focus on my mahi and complete a reasonable amount of work in the time period given.	I can pray when I need help	I can do my busy bee job all by myself.
		I can see when someone needs help or comfort and I can help them.	I always try my best.	I can cope with a little bit of change to my routine if needed.	
				I can be flexible to adjust to what is happening in the day.	

Learning at WACS:

Nature and Enviro Learning at WACS

Learning from the environment teaches us about our world, our responsibilities and manaakitanga/care and respect for God, others and ourselves.

Tamariki learn to “Be a good caretaker of the earth” Genesis 2:15

- Identify and care for plants.
- Identify pests and minimize impact from them.
- Recycle.
- Compost.
- Plant, weed & maintenance care.

Gardens: Students learn to grow plants from seeds, and nurture the garden to produce kai. From the garden to the table, this kai is used in our lunch programme. Students learn that growing kai is valuable learning time and eating it is lots of fun and very yummy!

Bees: Tamariki experience rich learning through the Bee Friends Programme, run by Tahi New Zealand, here on site at WACS. Students learn the importance dynamics between plants and bee care; care for hives; and watch the process of honey being created and harvested for eating.

Nature based play & exploration; we provide loose parts to express our play creatively. Pallets, tyres, bamboo, sticks and rocks keep our students engaged in primitive technology as they build and construct spaces to play in. The language and social skills from negotiating through their play sets us apart from other school playgrounds, and we find minimal conflict occurs in break times - because the students are happy and engaged.



Mathematics

At WACS we use The PR1ME mathematics programme to give our students a deep understanding of mathematical concepts. Only with understanding can students be able to reason mathematically and apply mathematics to solve a range of problems.

PR1ME is based on a composite of approaches, used by the top-performing nations in mathematics, and based on Singapore Maths used by over 58 nations globally.

At WACS we understand that 'Teaching is for learning; learning is for understanding; understanding is for reasoning and applying and, ultimately problem solving.' And that 'Teaching should build on students' knowledge; take cognizance of students' interests and experiences; and engage them in active and reflective learning.' – These are the 2 of the principles that are central to the PR1ME mathematics programme.

Literacy

At WACS we teach reading and writing with a structured literacy approach emphasizing a highly explicit and systematic teaching of all important components of literacy. These components include both foundational skills (e.g., decoding, spelling) and higher-level literacy skills (e.g., reading comprehension, written expression).

We also use the STEPS literacy programme – to support structured individualized learning.

Wacs also enjoys a working relationship with Sport Northland, and one of our favourite programmes is their PALs programme (Physical Activity Leaders). The purpose of this programme is to provide foundations for students, develop leadership skills, work cooperatively as a team, be aware of inclusivity for all students and plan, prepare, deliver, and reflect on providing quality physical activities for their fellow students. This is a great opportunity that our Year 7 and 8s look forward to, which leaves them with lifelong leadership skills and memories.

Learning through play and projects:

“Play is the highest form of research” -Albert Einstein

At WACS we acknowledge that we are wonderfully and beautifully made by God. We all have the capability to learn and create and we believe play is the highest form of research. Neuroscience confirms physical movement and brain development work together, that’s why it is so important to keep active. In junior years we provide rich exploration and experiences, learning through play and movement. In senior years we transition into genius projects which focus heavily on student efficacy and leadership skills, with multiple options for exploration and experimentation. Learning through Play and Projects offer holistic learning that inter connects many curriculum areas, and always acknowledges our special Christian character. Intentional and well informed planning is prepared by staff to offer rich experiences.

“Learning through play is a pedagogical approach where play is the valued mode of learning— where children can explore, experiment, discover and solve problem in imaginative and playful ways.”

Ministry of Education, 2



ADVENTIST EDUCATION VISION



Our Vision

Godliness

Rich Relationships

Ownership of Mastery

Wisdom in Decision-making

Transformational Learning

Harvest-focus



ADVENTIST EDUCATION OBJECTIVES

- ◆ To help the students gain an understanding of God as their Creator and sustainer of life.
- ◆ To provide an environment conducive of a good Christian character.
- ◆ To encourage students to assume a growing responsibility for unselfish service to mankind, and to identify themselves with the Church and other organisations which emphasise service as an ideal.
- ◆ To help students develop healthy living habits.
- ◆ To help students acquire the basic skills of reading, maths and communication.
- ◆ To enable students to develop critical thinking skills.
- ◆ To encourage students to make decisions based on good moral and ethics, as well as facts.
- ◆ To provide good opportunities for social growth with the morals and ethics of Christianity.
- ◆ To help students to choose good leisure time activities.
- ◆ To provide opportunity to develop aesthetic values and inherent God given talents.
- ◆ To reflect the values of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as presented through SDA Education
- ◆ To encourage the children to ask questions
- ◆ To develop an interest in the Bible as the Word of God
- ◆ To help children develop their religious lifestyle.
- ◆ To help students acknowledge God's ownership of earth's resources, and humanity.
- ◆ To help students develop a sense of mission
- ◆ To help students develop a work ethic.

Need to Know: A-Z

As parents/caregivers, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to be familiar with our school systems, processes and tikanga (ways of doing things). You will need to share this information with others who are also involved in any school interaction, pick-ups or drop offs.

Please avoid embarrassment, or offence, by taking time to know the following:

ABSENCES 09 437 3004 or 027-389-3197

Call or text the school before 9am if your child will be away and provide a reason for our recording system.

A medical certificate will be required for absences due to sickness of 3 days or more within a one week period.

From the MoE: "Regular' attendance is defined for statistical purposes as 90% attendance or higher. However, Ministry analysis shows there is no 'safe' level of non-attendance; every day matters. Every day at school has a cumulative impact on students' learning. A child with an average of 90% attendance will miss the equivalent of one year of schooling in ten". If attendance is below 90% rate, a meeting will be arranged to discuss the concerns with the Principal and may include referrals to Truancy Officers and the Ministry of Education.

ACCIDENTS If your child has a serious accident at school you will be notified ASAP. Please make sure we have your current phone number and an alternative emergency contact number. If we cannot contact you, the school will act in the best interests of the child and will seek medical attention if necessary.

ALLERGIES We must be made aware if your child has allergies. Please inform us of any medical needs. A supply of medication may be kept at school if required.

APPOINTMENTS We welcome discussion with you on matters of interest related to your child. It is essential these are outside teaching hours and prior arrangement has been made with the Teacher or Principal.

Parents/Caregivers must not interrupt learning time or approach staff in class unless it is an emergency. If you have a complaint, please ensure you follow the complaints procedure.

ARRIVE TO SCHOOL ON TIME PLAN – *principal responsible for regular reminders to parents of ‘arrive at school on time’ plan, and to share statistics and relevant information.*

1. Before school initiatives.
 - Term 1. Hide rubber ducks
 - Term 2. Principal for a day
 - Term 3. Mystery Puzzle
 - Term 4. Popcorn and movie

Staff responsible for connecting with parents who drop off students late, for a carpark chat about how important it is for their child to arrive on time.

ATTENDANCE PLAN – *Principal responsible for regular reminders to parents of attendance plan, and to share statistics and relevant information.*

1. Lift attendance rate

Teacher will check in with admin first, then call or text families on day 1 of absence at morning tea break, if parents have not notified school.

Day 3 – a phone call by admin to remind that a medical certificate is required.

2. Teacher to document absenteeism, to establish patterns and regularly show respective students how often they have been away, and also to celebrate high attendance. Check in on them to see if they need support in attending.
3. Mufti day Fridays for students who have been at school all week.
4. A \$100 grocery draw for students with 100% attendance for the term.
5. Our year 8's who have an attendance rate of over 80% are invited on a year 8 outing.

Ministry involvement if a student is absent for 15 days in a term.

ATTENDANCE DUES / FEES (See PAYMENTS also) Attendance dues are \$630 per year. This compulsory fee collected by the Proprietors and IS NOT PAID TO WACS. This is a legal charge and not a donation, therefore it is not tax deductible.

Proprietors (not WACS) will send out quarterly attendance dues statements. A NON-COMPULSORY special character tax deductible donation is also included on your statements. This money is used for resources and teacher training to maintain the Christian nature of the education your child will receive. If you choose not to pay this, it will be removed from your statement at the end of each year.

Note: Payments received from you will be allocated to compulsory Attendance Dues first. Only then will further payments be allocated to Special Character Donation and Building Development Donation. There are three options for paying school dues:

1. Set up an automatic payment instruction via your banking app with your preferred payment interval (monthly/fortnightly/weekly etc.)
2. Direct debit can be organized via our proprietor where attendance dues will be deducted from your account at your preferred payment interval
3. Pay for the year / per term in advance
(See pg.22 for payment details)

The school does not charge extra fees for activities, except for overnight camps.

BIKES, SCOOTERS & SKATEBOARDS Students can bring these to school providing they wear helmets and covered shoes when using them. Misuse or unsafe riding may result in students losing this privilege. Staff will not be responsible for these while at school.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held at school. Anyone wishing to bring a concern to the meeting should contact the Chairperson so their business can be listed on the agenda. Letters to the Board should be addressed to the Chairperson, C/- the school and need to be received 10 days prior to the meeting.

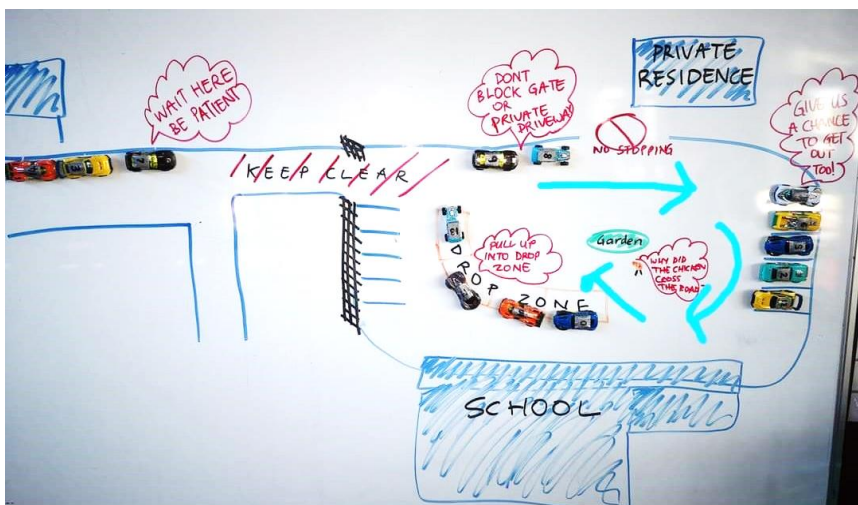
BREAKFASTS

School breakfasts comprised of weetbix and milk, are offered to all students thanks to the support of Kickstart Breakfast Club. This initiative aims to ensure that every student starts their day with a nutritious meal, helping them to focus better in class and feel more energized throughout the day. Breakfast will be served each morning before school, and all our students are welcome.

CARPARK

For the safety of our students please follow our carpark rules:

- Cars are only to pause briefly in the pick-up zone for parents to pick up their children. This is not a parking bay or waiting area.
- Parents—please model walking around the carpark -not through. No child, even with a parent is to walk through the carpark. This is a safety issue.
- Park your vehicle in the parking spaces not the drop off /pick up zone.



Strategic Plan our School Strategic Plan outlines our educational purpose, goals and direction. You are welcome to read this, a copy is available on the school website.



CHAPLAIN & Pastor

Chaplains support the spiritual wellbeing & special character of our school. Wesley Robb leads our school worship each Friday at 9am, where parents & family are welcome to join us. If you need spiritual guidance or have any questions about Christian living please contact our Chaplain. Pastors throughout Northland are also available if you need further support. Contact the school for Chaplain details.

CLASS TIMES

School starts	9.00 am
Morning Tea	10.45 - 11.15am
Lunch	12:45 – 1:30 pm
School ends	3.00 pm

Students may not leave the school grounds before 3pm unless parents have made an arrangement with staff, and students are signed out. Parents/Caregivers must not interrupt learning time or approach staff in class unless it is an emergency. Please arrange for your child to be collected before 3:15 pm at the latest.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR see page 31

Pause Breathe Smile is already being used in over 500 schools across New Zealand, and we are excited to bring this evidence-based approach to our school community. We have adapted this approach to align with our school's special character and values, ensuring it reflects the unique needs of our students. Through regular practice, our teachers and students will learn simple yet effective mindfulness techniques that promote calmness, focus and positive relationships. By embedding these practices into our daily routine, we aim to foster a supportive and resilient learning environment where everyone – students, staff and families – can thrive.

At our school students will be expected to:

- Cooperate with staff and peers, and treat others fairly.
- Be responsible for managing their own behaviour.
- Use language that is kind.
- Be respectful of other persons; including property.
- Observe safe practices when in the school property.
- Seek the conservation of the school environment and school equipment.
- Remain in the school grounds within school hours.
- Wear correct school uniform.
- Make restitution for damage to school property or other pupil's **possessions when the result of non-accidental damage.**
- **DAILY REPORTS** will be required for students who are needing support to meet behavioural expectations. Stand down procedures and suspensions follow MOE guidelines.

COLLECTING CHILDREN EARLY

If you need to collect your child/children early in emergency situations, please see the office or ring the doorbell to advise the teacher and sign your child out in the register kept at the office.

If Doctor or Dental appointments are made during school time, you must sign in and out.

Please do not leave with your child without contact with staff at the time.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS:

If you have any worries, issues or concerns please speak to your child's class teacher first. It is important that we have clear and open communication with each other and very important to follow the process which benefits all parties to a fair process.

If one sins against you, go and talk to them. Matthew 18:15

Complaints, Concerns and Grievances Process

If another believer sins against you go privately and point out the events. If the other person listens and confesses it you have won that person back. But if you are unsuccessful take one or two others with you and go back again so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. Matthew 18:15-16

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" John 13:35

"Know this, my beloved brothers; let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger" James 1:19

Parent or caregiver has a concern about their child or about something happening at school.
Best practice is to talk about concern as soon as you are aware of it.

Any exceptions to this process may be caused if pending legal advice or other actions are required.

Talk to class teacher; arrange a time to meet to discuss your concerns.
Teacher must meet within 5 working days.

Teachers to document on eTap.

Resolve concerns with class Teacher. Shared understanding and decisions to manage concerns are agreed upon. Update eTap.
Or:

Resolution not yet met; Parent to arrange a time to meet with Principal and Chaplain within 3 working days after Teacher meeting.

Resolution is met with Parents, Principal and Chaplain, with agreed actions. Update eTap.
OR: Resolution not yet met;

Parents can put their concerns in writing to the Board of Trustees. BOT should receive complaint/ concern 5 days in advance of next scheduled monthly meeting. As a general rule, BOT Meetings are every 3rd Thursday of the month except during term breaks.

The Board of Trustees will respond to written complaint within 15 working days. Update eTap.

DENTAL NURSE Call 0800 MY TEETH to arrange appointments with school dental nurse.

DOORBELL The doorbell at the front door rings into classrooms, push it for attention and access.

DROPPING OFF STUDENTS Please be aware that staff duty and supervision of students starts at 8.30am. If you drop off your child before 8:30am this is at your discretion and risk. Staff supervision and duty after school ends at 3.15pm. Please call the school and leave a message if pick up is going to be later than 3.15pm.

EMERGENCIES The school has well defined emergency procedures. In any emergency situation the staff is primarily responsible for the safety of the children - all other duties are secondary. Should a major emergency occur, the school will hold the children until either it is safe to release them or the parents can collect them.

The following points are important:

- Parents who collect children after an emergency need to remain calm.
- Notify the teacher in charge before removing children.
- If the school is evacuated, then it is likely that the school answerphone will not be cleared. Messages intended for staff or children cannot be expected to receive action.
- Communication can be difficult in emergency times, Parents should tune into the local radio stations, which will broadcast any necessary information.

ENVIRO TIME We are an ENVIRO SCHOOL. Students spend time being Kaitiaki/caretakers of our environment. We have daily routine tasks and jobs indoors and outside. We care for our gardens and play spaces. Students are encouraged to bring garden clothes and gumboots. Students are provided gloves tools to use.

EVENTS and NEWS All student events will be advertised on WACS Whanau Facebook page. You do not need to respond with going or not. Events are created for your information only.

FACEBOOK 'WACS Whanau' is a private closed page for family/ Staff/BOT members. Please DO NOT private message staff members personal accounts via Facebook as a communication channel for school matters. If extended family/friends want to follow WACS please refer them to the public school page.

You will need your notifications turned ON for WACS Whanau page.

FIRST AID First aid will be given, and staff will contact the parents where necessary (head injury or serious condition); and call ambulance or doctor if necessary. Please ensure your child's medical information is current with office.

GATE Codes are for parents only and should not be shared with extended family or friends. Visitors and guests can push intercom button on post.

GROUNDS We expect the grounds to be treated with respect, kept free of rubbish and cared for. If you see any vandalism or inappropriate behaviour on the grounds please notify the police or the Principal. Respect for the residents on grounds (and R.O.W) is pivotal. Do not block the resident driveway inside the school car- park, at any time of the day.

HATS Uniform hats are compulsory in term 1 and 4.

HEAD LICE Please show respect to your child and others by treating lice promptly. Lice distracts learners at school with itching and infects their friends & Staff. Please check your tamariki regularly.

All hair long enough to be tied up must be tied up during school hours. The most effective and free treatment is combing through damp conditioned hair with a lice comb to remove eggs and lice. Ask your doctor for available free treatment.

HOMEWORK Junior students have home reading every night. Children work hard all day at school, and we believe that they should enjoy being at home after school. You can support your child at home by getting them to read their favourite books at home and limiting screentime.

INTERVIEWS Parent-Teacher-Student interviews are scheduled in Term 2. You are welcome to arrange an appointment to discuss your child's learning at any other time throughout the year.

KO AU FOLDER: Students have their own profile and learning journey records in their Ko Au ("I am") folders. The Ko Au folders celebrate the learning, achievements and memories at WACS. Samples of their school work are regularly filed into their folders, as are certificates achieved throughout the year.

Ko Au folders can be taken home upon student graduation at year 8 or earlier if enrolment ends.

LIBRARY Children are allowed to borrow two books from the library. Books are usually issued for one week but can be extended as necessary. When a book has not been returned, a reminder will be sent home giving the title of the book. If you are unable to find it, please let us know. In accordance with our library policy, accounts will be sent home for lost books.

LOST PROPERTY All clothing, including swimwear, hats, shoes, coats and jackets should be clearly named. Lost property is stored in office and parents are welcome to check it at any time.

LUNCH BOXES *We are a water only School.* A balanced diet is key to learning and development. Healthy foods are encouraged. Chewing gum, chocolate, lollies and drinks (except water) are not allowed in lunches. This includes gummy treats that look like snacks but provide little or no nutrition. Children are not encouraged to share lunches due to allergy risks. Hand washing is expected upon classroom release at Kai times. To help us manage the rubbish and to give you an idea of the foods your child is (or isn't) eating, we ask children to take their food wrappers and uneaten food home in their lunchbox.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS If students require medication for any reason, please advise the teacher and complete written instructions for its administration. It will be stored in the staff room and administered by staff.

MONEY The office prefers not to take money. Please deposit money for trips or fundraising using automatic payments or online banking ensuring you enter a reference (account details pg. 22).

NEWS AND NOTICES All notices will be on WACS WHANAU. Some printed notices may be sent home at times.

PASTORAL CARE See 'CHAPLAIN' (pg. 14) Please contact Pastor for Whanau support.

PARENT HELP Excursions and trips require the support and help of Parents to ensure safety in ratios and without you we couldn't enjoy education outside of the classroom.

- Every adult attending, supervising or even 'visiting' on a school trip must fill out the trip form and have their names listed in our risk management consent prior to excursion. This is approved by BOT Chair and we do not have discretion to add names after approval.
- Parent Helpers will need clean drivers licenses, current WOF and REG and vehicles will be checked before transporting students.
- No smoking/alcohol consumption.
- If you are on medication you must disclose medical details to staff in case of emergency.
- Phone free hands required on all excursions, no exceptions! We must be supervising with attention to the children.
- Overnight trips will require police vetting of volunteers and parents.
- School behaviour and rules must be followed on all school trips.
- Parents and volunteers may take photos of events, however, you must respect others privacy. Photos should be shared on WACS Whanau or emailed to office@wacs.school.nz. You must DELETE photos of any school children (other than your own child) from your personal device. The Digital Communications Act is very clear about social media and privacy. We take this very seriously, and some children do not have consent for their photos to be taken.

PAYMENTS: Please note the two different options:

SCHOOL ACCOUNT

Whangarei Adventist Christian School:
03 0497 0291818-00

Camps, fundraising or donations to school payable in this account.

PROPRIETORS ACCOUNT—FEES

NZ SDA Schools Association:
03 0175 0182096 02

Attendance Dues/Fees are to be paid directly to this account.

New Zealand Seventh-day Adventist Schools Association (Proprietors) Attendance Dues Fees				
	Per School Week	Per Term	Per Year	
Attendance Dues	\$16.50	\$165.00	\$660.00	These are compulsory fees for our integrat- ed school and are a condition of enrolment.
Special Character Donation.	\$2.50	\$25.00	\$100	This contributes to supporting Religious Education curriculum and programmes that support enhancing the 'special character' of Adventist Education in New Zealand. This donation is tax deductible.
Attendance Due are paid directly to the Proprietor Office in Auckland and are required at the start of each term or within 7 days of receiving your account. Particulars: Your Name. Code: DuesWHANGAREI. Ref: Your Family/Account Code				

PICK UPS please let us know if you are running late after school.
Leave a message on the phone.

PLAY Loose parts (pallets, bamboo, sticks, tyres, or other) are available to enhance our creativity and physical play in break times. Tree climbing in safe trees, on appropriate limbs is a healthy risk for children to develop gross motor skills and strength.

POLICY & PROCEDURES All Board policies and procedures are published on 'SchoolDocs'. Username: WACS Password: wacswhanau You are welcome to add comments on SchoolDocs on policies that are up for review.

POSITIVE GUIDANCE Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and develop skills to make great choices. Reflection on behaviour is encouraged and skills taught to make good choices. Serious misbehaviour such as physical contact, defiance or open disobedience, are given immediate consequences and are written into our class software (etap).
Minor behavioural issues are dealt with by the classroom teacher using proactive positive guidance strategies and evidence based principles found in the PAUSE-BREATHE-SMILE approach (pg.30)
Responsibility for discipline at the school is with the teachers, Principal and ultimately, the Board of Trustees. Parents are not expected to be involved with the usual day to day disciplinary matters. However, early parent involvement is sought if there are any unusual problems in the guidance and discipline process.

REPORTS School reports are sent home mid-year and end of year.

RTLB Our "Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour" is Rick Bazeley, who may work with individuals or groups needing support. We will always seek your approval first.

SMOKE and Vape FREE Our school is a Smoke and vape free environment. Both are prohibited on school property or at any school activity.

SPORTS DAYS & FITNESS A note is required from home if a child is unable to participate. Verbal messages from students are not formal means of communication with parents. Ongoing Medical issues may require Medical Certificate.

STATIONERY Lists are given out at the end of term 4. Ensure your child brings the correct products on the first day of school.

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES We cater for technology classes for our year 7 & 8 students here at WACS.

TOYS are not needed or permitted at school, except on special days.

TRIPS/ACTIVITIES Notified in advance via note and WACS Whanau. Risk Management Forms available for parents to view in office. Med-High risk excursions must have the approval of the Board Chair.

TRANSITION / New Entrants Every child has different needs. Whanau can tailor transition visits and 'beginning school' settling-in periods as negotiated with staff.

UNIFORM see page 25-27

VALUES see page 4 & 5

VOLUNTEERS Your contribution makes a huge difference. We do appreciate support. Parent help is essential for school trips and class outings. See Parent Help.

WATER ONLY We are a water only school.



WORSHIP Weekly worship with our Chaplain is a time to be celebrated with the whole school. Students participate in singing, prayer and Bible stories. Friday 9.00am. All welcome.

UNIFORM

Students will be expected to be in school uniform on the first day of term 1, 2025, and will be required to present themselves in a neat and tidy way. Uniform is to be worn to and from school. No other clothing should be worn under the school uniform, with the exception of thermal under clothing that is not visible, in winter months. Winter items may be purchased later in the year when the days start getting cooler.

Hair: If hair is long enough to be tied up, then it must be tied up during school times with plain hair ties, bands and clips (black, white, or blue). Students are not permitted to have unnatural hair colours in hair.

Make Up/ Nail Polish: Not permitted at school. If make up/nail polish is noticed at school, students will be asked to remove it.

Jewellery: Pounamu or Bone carvings of cultural significance may be worn under uniform and small for the sake of safety. Girls are permitted to wear a plain stud in the lobe of each ear. Multiple piercings are not permitted and piercings in other areas of the body are also not acceptable. If a girl has more than one piercing in an ear, it is acceptable for the hole to be kept open with a clear 'spacer'. Necklaces and rings are not permitted. Bracelets are not permitted unless it is a medic alert type bracelet. Watches can be worn at school.

Second Hand uniforms – we have a very limited supply due to the recent change of uniform. We expect in time this will grow. Available items will be at a reduced cost. We do not sell on behalf.

Uniform Items:

Available from <https://seventhdayadventist.nzuniforms.com>

→ Shop by school → Whangarei Adventist Christian School

Girls: Uniform shirt with shorts or trousers. Plain black shoes with black socks, or sandals.

Boys: Uniform shirt with shorts or trousers. Black socks and plain black shoes.

Shoes: Plain black school shoes (black upper/soles/laces and logos) or plain black sandals only. Crocs are not acceptable as the sole is not slip proof.

Hats: Hats are compulsory uniform to be worn at all times outdoors during Term 1 & 4, and advisable during sunshine in Terms 2&3.

Uniform 2026



Contact the school office if you have any questions regarding uniform
office@wacs.school.nz OR 027 389 3197

Shorts & Trousers



PE Uniform (year 5-8 only)

- PE Polo Shirt
- PE Shorts



EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Call 111 for Fire, Ambulance, Police

IN CASE OF FIRE LEAVE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY VIA
EXIT DOORS LOCATED AT BOTH ENDS OF ROOM.

Sound the Alarms by breaking glass on boxes located in rooms.
Warden/Person responsible is most senior staff member at time of event.

Assemble at: Far boundary fence line across from carpark.
Teacher closest to office, take visitor register from
office bench & emergency list from staff room.
Warden to account for all students, staff and visitors,
and liaise with services. Walk, Staff stay with Students,
enter the building when given instruction by fire chief.

Address: 82 Whau Valley Road, Whangarei, 0112, New Zealand

Nearest intersection: Whau Valley Road and Fairway Drive

Landmark: Big Blue Sign at top of drive way.

Phone: 09 437 3004

GPS Coordinates: Latitude: -35.695874 Longitude: 174.30761

Nearest 24/7 access Defibrillator: Z Kamo, 382 Kamo Road Whangarei
09435 1155 (1.4km away)

Nearest Defib: Emerge Aotearoa 237 Kamo Road
Whangarei, 09 437 0467
8am – 4pm Mon-Fri only. (570m away)

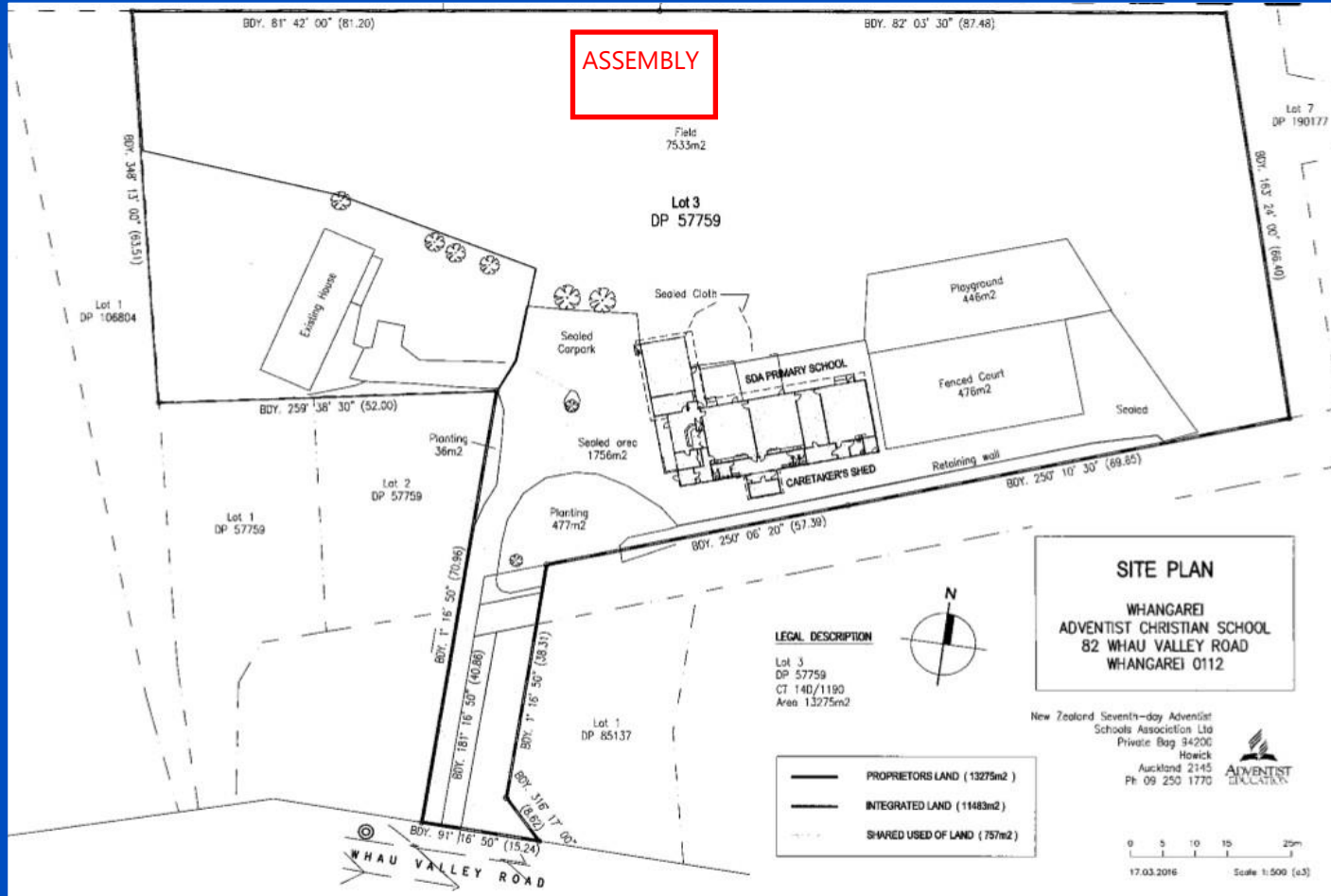
Chemist: Kensington Pharmacy, 4 Kensington Avenue,
Whangarei. 09 437 3722 Open till 9pm (1.8km away)

Nearest Hospital: Whangarei Hospital, Maunu Road, Whangarei 09 430
4100 (5.5km away)

New Zealand National Poisons Centre: 0800 764 766 available 24/7

Ask someone to wear Hi Vis if possible and wait for Emergency
Services at top of driveway (if night time, park a vehicle at top of drive
with hazard lights on).

Leave someone with patient and begin CPR if not breathing.
30 compressions: 2 Breaths



Pause Breathe Smile

A uniquely New Zealand mind health programme designed to equip children aged 5 to 12 with tools to manage the ups and downs of life and set them up for a healthy future. Primarily delivered in schools, by educators, it is evidence-based, curriculum-aligned and funded by Southern Cross. Funding is also available to train other education, wellbeing and/or health professionals who are well positioned to share the programme directly with children.

Core Mindfulness Practices Mind health skills for kids



Emotional Literacy



Mindful Movements



Te Whare Tapa Whā



Gratitude



Kindness



Resilience

Research Behind Pause Breathe Smile Program

Pause Breathe Smile has been developed with input from researchers at AUT and The University of Auckland. Studies have shown positive results and have been published in respected academic journals. Since the program's introduction with Southern Cross funding, schools participating in Pause Breathe Smile have been surveyed by the New Zealand Institute of Resilience and Wellbeing & Mindquip.

Key Benefits of Pause Breathe Smile:

- Helps children feel calmer
- Improves focus and attention
- Boosts self-awareness
- Strengthens conflict resolution skills
- Encourages positive relationships
- Reduces stress for teachers
- Increases overall wellbeing in children
- Improves traits like perseverance, helpfulness, and self-motivation
- Reduces anxiety and negative thinking