



TNT GUIDE

2026

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Welcome to Taupo-nui-a-Tia College

This guide aims to give parents and students information about daily life at our College. Our school prides itself on the relationships created between students, whanau and teachers. If you have any questions after reading this booklet, please contact the student office. Phone 07 376 1100



Taupo-nui-a-Tia College Values

Taupo-nui-a-Tia College is guided by three values:
Whakapono * Wero * Manaakitanga

Our values connect to the tupuna (ancestor) our school is named after. His name is Tia. One of the meanings for Taupō is cloak. When Tia saw the peculiar colouring and appearance of the cliffs by Hallet's Bay, near Taupō, he said something like, "this looks like my cloak!" We are Taupo-nui-a-Tia, the great cloak of Tia.

Tia was a humble, peasciful person who had his people at his heart. He had mana and was respected by his people. He understood duty, and his place and role within the community. He also respected authority.

Tia embodied the values of Whakapono, Wero and Manaakitanga.

Whakapono - is about reflecting honesty and integrity in all that you do.

Wero - is about showing courage and bravery in all school-related activities and challenging yourself and others around you to be your best.

Manaakitanga - is about respecting and supporting everyone around you, working well with others and showing care and a sense of duty for others and the environment.



2026 SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS

Term	Start Date	End Date
1	Tuesday 3 February (Year 9 & 13 only)	Thursday 2 April
	Wednesday 4 February – Whole school	
2	Monday 20 April	Friday 3 July
3	Monday 20 July	Friday 25 September
4	Monday 12 October	Monday 14 December

2026 Holiday Dates

Waitangi Day – Friday 6 February

Good Friday – 3 April

Easter Monday – 6 April

Easter Tuesday – 7 April

Anzac Day – Saturday 25 April (observed Monday 27 April)

King's Birthday – Monday 1 June

Matariki Day – Friday 10 July

Labour Day – Monday 26 October

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

Phone 07 376 1100

Press 2 for reception OR press 1 to record an absence.


Attendance: Email absent@taupocollege.ac.nz

You can also report an absence through the school's website, via the 'Contact' tab. Alternatively, you can log an absence by logging into Schoolbridge. Download the Schoolbridge app.

General Enquires: Email: mail@taupocollege.ac.nz

Website: www.taupocollege.ac.nz

News, student reports, attendance can be viewed online. Fees and uniform purchases can be paid online.

Schoolbridge: Download the schoolbridge app. If you are having issues logging in, contact the college office for the parent login and password.  **SchoolBridge**

Please advise the school if you have a change of address, contact phone number or email address to enrolments@taupocollege.ac.nz

UNIFORM

The Board of Trustees has decided that we are a uniformed school. Students are expected to be in **full school uniform travelling to, from and at school**.

There is no specific summer or winter uniform. Any combination of regulation uniform may be worn at any time of the year. Each item is expected to be in neat and tidy condition. All clothing must be carefully and durably marked with the owner's name. Non uniform items will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day.

SKIRTS

With the introduction of our new skirt, the older style straight skirt, which has not been available for over six years, will no longer be a part of our uniform. It will be considered a non-uniform item. The new straight-style skirt is now currently listed on the Argyle website. This means we now have two styles of school skirt for students to choose from - the new straight skirt and the pleated skirt. Both skirts are to be worn in the style and shape when purchased and the removal of the pleats is **not** permitted.

Skirts are to be worn on the waist; the **top of the skirt is not to be rolled**. The bottom of the skirt is to be no more than 10cm off the ground when the student is kneeling. A good guide is the width of the student's hand, the skirt hem is not to sit higher than a hand width above the knee. The back of the skirt is to fall freely and it is not to hug the bottom and the side pocket zip should open with ease.

SHORTS/LONG TROUSERS

The legs on the shorts are not to be rolled. No 'Dickies' pants allowed. No black pants are allowed including track pants.

HATS and SCARVES

Only the official college beanie, cap and school scarf may be worn to or from the school.

JACKET

A plain black weatherproof, puffer or rain jacket is permissible. It should not have stripes, markings, emblems or logos. These jackets are permitted to be worn during all school terms, but must be removed in class at the request of the teacher, according to health and safety requirements.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM

- Years 9 and 10 must wear school regulation PE uniform (TNT PE top and own black shorts) and non-marking sports shoes.
- Years 11 – 13 may wear suitable sports clothing. (No part of the school uniform is to be worn for practical activities.

SPORT HOODIES are not a jacket or part of the everyday school uniform so **cannot be worn during the normal school day.**

JEWELLERY

A watch, ear studs and one other piece of jewellery may be worn. **FACIAL PIERCINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED** with the exception of one small clear nose stud. Nose rings **are not permitted.**

HAIR/GROOMING

Students are expected to be well groomed. Facial hair is permitted but must be well groomed and tidy. Makeup must be neutral tones with no embellished extremes. Nail polish and fake nails are to be natural/neutral, but must fit within the health and safety guidelines of the subject. No restrictions on hair colour but the Board reserves the right to review this.

UNIFORM PURCHASES ONLINE

Uniform can be purchased online through the website. Go to the website www.taupocollege.ac.nz, click the School Shop icon on the left hand side to be redirected to Argyle Online. The school office will continue to have a stock of socks, ties and hats.

You can find more information on www.argyleonline.co.nz/faqs
[Need further assistance? Live chat with Argyle's customer services team online or contact them by phone or email](#)

 0800 110 059



aolhelp@argyleonline.co.nz

UNIFORM FOOTWEAR

- Shoes **must be** any, **completely black** lace-up shoes – either plain black trainers or black leather shoes. **No coloured** sections, including trim, laces or logo. Slip-on black leather business style shoes are permitted. The shoes must be worn with regulation socks/pantyhose.
- Black leather sandals (**worn without socks/pantyhose**) with a heel strap in place.
- **SHOES NOT PERMITTED ARE:** CROCS, jandals, slides/scuffs, slippers, birkenstock sandals with no back-strap or high-top boots.
- **Uniform socks/Pantyhose.**
The socks must be plain black or white or grey school socks which are available to purchase online. Pantyhose can be black or natural colour.

If you are unsure, please contact the school office for clarification.

UNIFORM FOOTWEAR

These completely black shoes are permitted at school:



These are examples of shoes NOT permitted at school:



WHĀNAU GROUPS

‘Every child needs a champion’

Each student at Taupo-nui-a-Tia College has a whānau teacher who provides:

- Support for education.
- Support with day-to-day living`
- Support to enter the workplace.

A whānau teacher is a guide; an academic and pastoral mentor; a relationship builder. Their role is to assist students on their learning journey and have challenging conversations with students and their whānau.

When students take responsibility for their learning, engagement is enhanced. The formation of a work partnership between students, whānau and the school encourages student ownership of their learning and increases the potential for their success.

‘Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen and a push in the right direction’

It is important that you advise the whānau teacher or the school office of changes to personal details i.e. address, phone number, email address or caregiver.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEW DAYS

We have a number of Parent/Teacher Interview days a year. The purpose of these days is for parents/caregivers and whānau to meet with their child’s Whānau Group teacher or subject teacher to discuss their academic goals and ways in which we can help them reach their potential. Interview slots are booked online through the school website www.taupocollege.ac.nz

Prior to these Parent/Teacher Interview Days, a letter will be sent via email or post which will explain how to log in and book your interview online. Alternatively, you can call the student office for assistance.

We look forward to meeting with you on Parent/Teacher Interview Day.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Whānau Teacher: This teacher should be the first point of contact for students and caregivers.

Year Level Deans: Deans are available at each level to assist with course selection, monitor academic progress and deal with pastoral care needs and discipline.

Guidance Counsellor: Students have ready access to our trained Guidance Counsellor (by appointment) Mrs Hilary MacRae.

Careers: A comprehensive careers programme operates in the college with up-to-date careers information freely available.

All students are able to make appointments with our Careers Advisor and a comprehensive display of careers information is readily available in the student centre. Senior students can complete work-based placements through the Gateway Programme which allows them to experience vocational pathways with local employers.

Hardship: There can be times that families experience financial hardship, please contact a Deputy Principal, if you need to make arrangements. It is strongly recommended families set up an automatic payment to spread the financial burden. (Refer to Appendix 1)

BayTrust Health Centre Nurse:

Anamata, Taupo and Turangi's Youth Health Provider, provides school nurses to deliver health care to students.

We are on site in an area of school called BayTrust Health Centre and provide help in the following areas:

Mental Health and wellbeing

Physical Health Advice

Ears, nose and throat

Sexual health and contraception

Support Rainbow Youth

Skin Health

First Aid and ACC

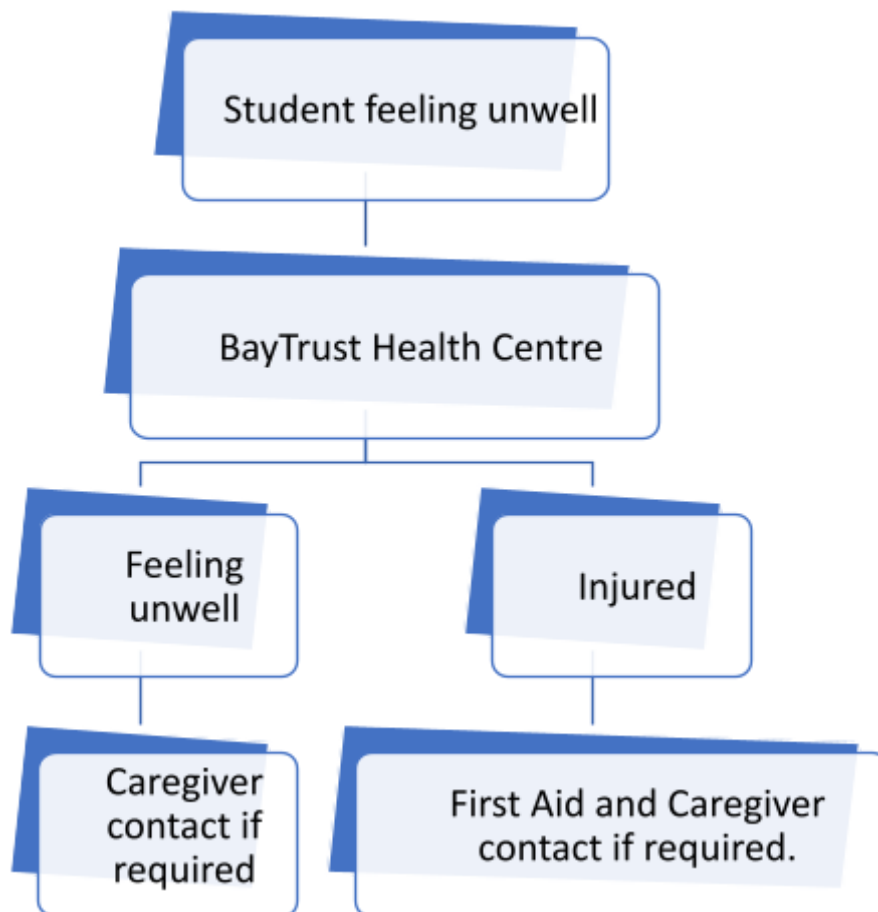
Physiotherapy

We are at school Monday-Friday during school hours. Students can walk in anytime or make appointments.

STUDENT HEALTH

Student Health (BayTrust Health Centre): The BayTrust Health Centre has been established at the college to cater for the physical and mental wellbeing of students. A registered nurse, physiotherapist and REAL counsellor are also available to students on an appointment basis during school hours.

If a student is unwell, they are to consult the teacher in class who will then send the student to BayTrust Health Centre. BayTrust Health Centre will assess the student, then if necessary, contact caregivers to collect their sick child. We ask that students **do not contact their parents until they have been to the BayTrust Health Centre.**



ATTENDANCE

All students are required to attend each day when the college is open. Research states that attendance directly affects achievement. In the interest of student progress, nothing but sickness or other unavoidable causes should be allowed to interfere with regular attendance.

Permission must be obtained for any short periods of leave or holiday by prior written application to the Principal.

Caregivers should inform the college if the student is absent. Phone absentees on **07 376 1100, press 1** and leave an absence message or email the attendance officer absent@taupocollege.ac.nz. Alternatively, you can report an absence through the school's website, via the 'Contact' tab or through the Schoolbridge app. Truancy is taken seriously by the college and parental/caregiver co-operation is requested in dealing with this.

You will receive a text **before 11:30am** each morning from the attendance officer if your child is not at school or an absence is unexplained.

Signing In or Out: *All students who leave the college during school hours MUST have written permission from home which has been checked by a Dean or Deputy Principal. Students MUST sign out at the student office when leaving and returning.*

STATIONERY

Stationery requirements for each year level **from Term 4**, can be found at:

www.taupocollege.ac.nz/enrolment

or it can be ordered online at:

www.myschool.co.nz

Alternatively, the following local stationery shops will have stationery lists when purchasing student's stationery requirements.

Whitcoulls * Paper Plus * Warehouse Stationery * Taupo Office Products

DISCIPLINE

The college always expects all students to be thoughtful, considerate and to show respect for others and their property. Refer to page 3.

When this is not the case, students may find themselves on the step discipline system. If required parents/caregivers are notified after each step has occurred. After five steps, parents are required to attend a family school conference with a senior staff member and the pupil to resolve matters. Further steps may result in a period of stand down or suspension and/or a Board of Trustees disciplinary committee hearing.

Alcohol and Misuse of Drugs: Students who possess, supply, use or are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs either at the college or at any function under the jurisdiction of the college, will be dealt with under the serious discipline guidelines. This may result in stand down, suspension or exclusion.

Bullying: The college places a strong emphasis on a 'bully free' environment. This applies to **all** forms of bullying, including physical, verbal, text and cyber- bullying. Any concerns about bullying should be reported to the college so that this can be dealt with. We have an online Bullying reporting system that can be accessed via our school website.

Care and Maintenance of College Property: Students must exercise all care in the maintenance of college property and promptly report damage observed. Deliberate damage and damage caused by carelessness will be charged to the offender.

Functions and Trips under College Jurisdiction: All college sports, educational tours and similar events are subject to the college disciplinary criteria.

Smoking/Vaping: By law, no smoking/vaping is permitted within the college grounds. Smoking/vaping at the college or at any college function is prohibited.

COLLEGE LIFE

BayTrust Health Centre: All students that are unwell or require first aid must report to the Bay Trust Health Centre. Home will be contacted if necessary. This facility has toilets and storage for large items that students cannot take to class.

Bicycles, Skateboards and Scooters: Bicycles must comply with traffic regulations and students must obey the traffic rules as they apply to pedestrians, cyclists or motorists. All cyclists **must** wear a helmet. There is a storage facility for bicycles that is locked at 9.00am and reopened at 3.10pm.

BYOD – Bring your own device: The college has an open network capable of accepting any wireless device. An attached keyboard is recommended. Students are **required to bring their own device** to all classes. If you require short term assistance with this, we have a loan application process available.

Phones **are not to be used in class.**

Security and insurance of the laptop is the student's responsibility.

Bus Service: The Ministry of Education only provides funding for students who are attending their nearest appropriate school and who meet certain distance criteria. Therefore, students who are attending our school and do not meet the criteria need to apply for consent and then purchase a bus tag from the student office at a cost of **\$200.00 per year** to allow them on the bus.

There is **no school bus** from Turangi to Taupo. Turangi students **use** the private bus company from Turangi.

Permission to travel on a bus may be withdrawn if any pupil is reported for serious misbehaviour. If in any doubt about eligibility, please contact the school office who will then direct you to the bus controller at the college. A meeting is called for all bus students at the start of term one.

Canteen: The school canteen provides a selection of healthy and nutritious food to students and staff. It is open before school and at interval and lunchtime. EFTPOS is available.

Cell Phones:

Our college follows the Ministry of Education Phone policy as outlined below:

The regulations require that schools must ensure students do not use or access a Phone while they are attending school, including during lunchtime and breaks. This includes students who are on a school course or visit outside the school grounds.

(Refer to Appendix 2)

Course Fees: Some courses have a recommended contribution to cover the take-home component of the course or field trips. The fees are in the course booklet on our website and are listed on the student's school account which are emailed regularly throughout the year. Caregivers are encouraged to set up regular automatic payments. Fees can be paid online, or through the school website to:

ASB 12-3162-0154524-00

Please include student name and/or Id number

House System: The college is divided into a house system for sporting, cultural and academic competition. These houses are named after the four local prominent mountains of Ngauruhoe, Ruapehu, Tauhara and Tongariro. Whānau classes are placed within these houses. The athletics, cross country and swimming sports are competitions based on the house system. 'Spirit Week' held at the end of the second term also involves interhouse competitions and a talent quest.

Library: The Library is open from 8.30am to 4.00pm every day of the week. There is an active Book Club where students of all year levels meet for discussion. It is also the home to chess matches.

Lost Property: Students are asked to report to the BayTrust Health Centre for any lost or found items. Please ensure all items are named.

Lunch Passes: An application form for a permanent lunch pass should be completed and given to the Deputy Principal. A permanent lunch pass applies only from the **college to home and return at lunchtimes**. A temporary lunch pass can be issued for the occasional lunch at home or urgent shopping upon receipt of a written request from home. Those absent from the college without written permission will be presumed to be truant. A new pass **must** be applied for each year.

Motor Vehicles: Students wishing to bring a motor vehicle to the college must complete an application form (available from the college office) requesting permission from the Deputy Principal. Permission applies to the driver and the driver's family only.

Reports and Parent/Teacher Interview Day: Formal reports are posted/emailed throughout the year and Parent/Teacher Interview Days are held for you and your child to meet with the Whānau or Subject teacher to discuss progress and goal setting. When the reports have been completed, you will receive notification on how to access your child's reports and how to make a booking for a Parent/Teacher interview.

Sport: Excellent facilities exist for sport and all students are encouraged to participate in sport as part of the life of the school. This includes participation in the annual athletic sports and cross country. In both summer and winter, teams coached and supervised by staff and parents take part in local and regional competitions. Students are encouraged to get involved in these extra-curricular activities.

Sport is funded by the students i.e. user pays. Sport fees must be paid before a child may compete.

Student Council: Students are elected by their peers to represent their Whanau class at year level council meetings. Representatives from each year level then meet at a full school council.

Study/Homework: There is an expectation that students complete subject-based study to enhance achievement. Extra help sessions are available after school and at lunchtime. Check school notices for details.

Textbooks: All students are provided with necessary textbooks without charge or deposit. These remain the property of the college. Textbooks and library books that are lost or damaged must be paid for.

Website: Parents can access our website to view the daily notices, your child's reports, attendance records and fees. www.taupocollege.ac.nz You will be sent instructions from the school and notification of when these are available to view online.

Course information can be accessed through www.taupocollege.ac.nz. The completed course selection that is in the enrolment pack will need to be returned along with your child's enrolment form.

Your child will receive their school network password in the first week of school.

Our kura's
phone
expectations

'Away for the day' including
before school,
interval, and
lunchtime.'

Whakapono Wero Manaakitanga



Away for the day



Learner Profile – our vision for our students

Empowered participants in a changing world	Values Driven	Culturally Located and Connected	Well-being Hauora	Positive Pathways
Contributing. Independent. Effective communicators. Collaborative. Creative. Curious. Critical thinker. Motivated. Enterprising. Confident. Resilient.	<p>Whakapono – is about reflecting honesty and integrity in all that you do.</p> <p>Wero – is about showing courage and bravery in all school-related activities and challenging yourself and others around you to be your best.</p> <p>Manaakitanga – is about respecting and supporting everyone around you, working well with others, and showing care and a sense of duty for others and the environment.</p>	Sense of identity and culture Language understanding and awareness. Interacts positively with a diverse range of people in varying contexts.	Mental and Emotional – Taha Hinengaro. Physical – Taha Tinana. Spiritual – Taha Wairua and Whanau.	Life skills. Employability skills. Appropriate qualifications to pursue broad career choices.
<p style="text-align: center;">All learners empowered to participate locally, nationally, globally.</p>				

