



We offer

Waitaha Learning Centre offers education programmes for school students with special needs aged 5 - 21 years and vocational programmes for adults.

We cater for students and adults who

- have multiple disabilities,
- are medically fragile,
- are intellectually disabled,
- are autistic
- have significant learning difficulties

Waitaha Learning Centre is an accredited fundholder for verified special needs school students

We share expertise with local schools and students have access to programmes from other providers eg CPIT.

The School facilities opened in 2001 on the edge of Templeton township in a rural setting. It is a pleasant and safe environment for students.

## Programmes

### Student Programmes

School programmes are delivered under the N.Z. Curriculum Framework. Each student has a negotiated individual education programme (IEP) to ensure they receive education designed especially for them. Curriculum levels range from primary level to NCEA Unit Standards.

The curriculum focus is on the key competencies of:

- Managing Self
- Participating and Contributing
- Thinking
- Using language, symbols and text
- Relating to others

The school activities include:

- cooking opportunities
- horse riding
- art and craft
- swimming
- horticulture
- multi-sensory programmes
- computer programmes – using Clicker and adapted equipment

### Community Based Learning Programmes

Students have learning opportunities in the wider community.

- public library,
- recreation facilities,
- parks, reserves, shopping malls.
- Pioneer Stadium pool
- sports days at Hagley Park
- art and cultural performances
- sensory room at Southern Centre, QE II

The school owns two minibuses one of which is wheelchair adapted.

Senior students have included in their curriculum, opportunities to participate in ASDAN, Unit Standards and Transition Programmes.

## Trustees

### Board of Trustees

Waitaha Learning Centre Board of Trustees is representative of parents of the school's regular and adult student body.

Our B.O.T. members bring skills from lifetimes of personal experience in providing for people with special needs, as well as skills gained from community involvement and employment.

#### Chairman of B.O.T.

*Trish McMenamin*  
(Chairperson & Parent Representative)

#### Other B.O.T. members

Board of Trustees elections were held in March 2007. Members of the board are 5 parent representatives, 1 staff representative and the Principal. New elections will be held in 2010.



# Staff Staff

All Waitaha Learning Centre teaching staff are qualified in special education as well as having extensive teaching experience in specialist areas.

The school has specialist input from,

- Speech and Language Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Music Therapist
- Psychologist
- Transition teacher
- Staff of special needs agencies as required

The team of support staff are experienced and well qualified.

Web Page:

<http://www.special-education.school.nz>

email:

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# Contacts Contacts

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Chairman of the Board of Trustees  
Ms Trish McMenamain  
Phone 365 0377



## School Vision

Our vision is for our students to develop, within a supportive learning community, the competencies they need to reach their individual potential; to become lifelong learners; to be positive about themselves; and to relate well to others in the school and in the wider community.

Waitaha Learning Centre is committed to being understanding, supportive and respectful of all students and their families.



Waitaha Learning Centre  
Education for special needs students

Special Education

