



Description of the School and Community

Silverdale School is a full primary school (Years 1 – 8). The school is approximately 30 kilometres north of the Auckland Harbour Bridge. While it still retains its country atmosphere, the district is influenced to some extent by its proximity to North Shore and Auckland cities.

Silverdale School was established in 1869 near the shopping centre. Silverdale has a very small residential area, but this is in a process of change. As the natural constraints (the coast line) of residential development on the peninsular were realised the Rodney District Council made the decision to plan for 9,000 new houses in the zone boarded by the motorway, Silverdale Township, Orewa Estuary, and Centre Way Road. Our school is positioned in the centre of the first stage of that proposed development.

Though Silverdale School places huge importance on ICT education, our students have come from predominantly rural backgrounds where “Play” traditionally does not require electronic assistance and physical activity is the norm. The vision of everyone being a successful learner is supported by the well planned and delivered classroom programmes, sporting and cultural activities. We have visiting experts to work with the children and artistic groups performing. The staff is also involved in learning through professional development. Our roll is small enough to ensure that our students are team mates well before they step on to the sports field. They learn together in the classroom, they play together in the playground, and then they play sport together as a team. Our mission statement reflects the desire of working together in partnership “To actively prepare each child to take responsibility for their own life-long learning, values and behaviour in partnership with the home and community.”

The Buildings and Environment

Silverdale School has now settled into their new premises in Longmore Lane, Silverdale. This \$9,000,000 complex is a state of the art facility with an infrastructure to service 600+ students (11 classrooms now for 260 students and 4 more being constructed to accommodate roll growth. The infrastructure includes a large multi purpose hall with stage, media suite, IT/Library complex, administration, sports fields, junior & senior playgrounds plus three netball / basketball courts. All this is set in fully landscaped park-like grounds.



The Students and Features of the School

The students are predominantly European, with a small number with Maori, Polynesian or Asian heritage. They are pleasant, cheerful and willing students who engage in an integrated collaborative approach to learning. They are empowered to make decisions about their learning. A few full time international students are enrolled each year.

Parent, teacher and child conferences are held twice a year and parents receive their child’s portfolio of accumulated samples of work at the end of each year.

Selected students are involved in a Primary Enterprise Programme for part of the year, with market days to sell the products they have made. In alternate years the whole school is involved in a drama, music arts production.

Other students are involved with gifted and talented programmes and all children have access to our sports academy. A small number of students are successfully catered for in our special needs programmes. A number of children and their families from out of our area have chosen to come to this school for a variety of reasons, in particular the size of the school, its family atmosphere and the variety and quality of programmes offered.



Further enquiries would be welcomed.