

Teacher Strike - 15th August - Otonga Road Primary School [CLOSED](#)

A stop-work meeting (strike) has been planned for **Wednesday 15th August**, for primary teachers, by NZEI, our union. This is to send a strong message to our government that we believe they are not valuing our profession or the importance of teachers. The current offer is not addressing the key issues of the teacher shortage, burnout of teachers and the lack of funding for children with special needs.

This is not just a claim for extra pay as has been reported in the media; it is a campaign for the changes we see as essential to providing the best education possible for your children.

New Zealand has a problem. Enrolments in teacher training have dropped 40% between 2010 and 2016 while there are growing school rolls.

Since the early 2000s teacher salaries have dropped significantly relative to the median NZ salary so that training to be a teacher is a much less attractive option.

This is affecting Rotorua right now!

The unattractiveness of the profession has led to a drop in applications to train as a teacher, to the extent that BOTH local teacher training options are planning to close up in Rotorua.

Both Canterbury University and Te Wananga o Aotearoa are planning to close their training options in Rotorua, unless there is a radical increase in the number of applicants. Anyone wishing to train in Rotorua will need to do so on-line, or travel to another city. The face to face component now offered will cease in 2020.

This has huge negative implications for the schools in Rotorua after 2020. The reality is that from 2020 we will be unable to staff all of our classrooms. We will be unable to get relieving teachers for professional development, teacher illness and the huge extra burden for Rotorua teachers called to jury service. It will be detrimental to the learning of our children, if we cannot staff our school.

[On 15th August 2018 Otonga Road Primary School will be CLOSED](#) due to insufficient teachers being available to supervise.

We apologise for the inconvenience, but the situation is dire.

We must act to retain our excellent teachers.

We must act to keep our local training facilities open to ensure the availability of good teachers in our area.

We must act to ensure the needs of all our students are met, particularly our special needs children.

We appreciate the support of our Otonga families in our effort to value our staff and your children's education.

Please see the reverse side of the page for an open evening to explore teacher training in Rotorua Tuesday 7th August - between 5 -6:30 pm at Toi Ohomai (Waiariki campus).

UC Rotorua Open Evening

For all interested in Primary Teaching

Gain a globally recognised qualification without leaving the region. You can study the Bachelor of Teaching and Learning (Primary) degree through the University of Canterbury right here at our Rotorua Centre.

Want to know more? Come to the UC Rotorua Open Evening and find out all you need to know.



Tuesday 7 August 2018

5pm – 6:30pm

F28, F Block

Toi-Ohomai Institute of Technology

Mokoia Drive

Rotorua

www.canterbury.ac.nz/education

0800 VARSITY (827 748)

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