

REVISED 27 FEBRUARY (REPLACES THE INFORMATION EMAILED ON 26 FEBRUARY)

UPDATE RE CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES TO TE KŌPIUKU HIGH FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

Tasman Road, the feeder road to Foreman Road where our school is located, will be closed for up to a month in March for upgrades and improvements starting on Monday next week. This means that the public buses have been redirected to another route and will NOT be stopping outside our school during this time.

We have been working closely with Downers roading company and Waikato Regional Council who co-ordinate the bus services around Hamilton City to find the safest solution for mokopuna travelling to and from school on the Clockwise Orbiter, Anti-Clockwise Orbiter and Nawton Number 9 buses. On the basis of what we observed on our walk through with the mokopuna this morning, we have made some changes to better guarantee their safety. The travel plans for approximately 40 mokopuna are affected by the Tasman Road closure.

Anti-Clockwise Orbiter

Used by mokopuna in the mornings between 7.30am and 10am and the afternoons after 3pm

Nawton Number 9

Used by mokopuna in the mornings between 7.30am and 10am

The morning drop off, and afternoon pick up point is an existing bus stop (see right) on Mangaharakeke Drive. This also appears in MAP ONE below as the red line. It is being made available for our use during this time. There is a risk that some bus drivers may not be aware of this. The green line on the map below shows how mokopuna will get to and from school. The white Xs mark where staff will be stationed – one at the new temporary bus-stop, the other opposite the kura to assist them to cross Foreman Road. The walking distance to and from this bus stop is about 400 metres.



MAP ONE



Clockwise Orbiter

Used by mokopuna in the mornings between 7.30am and 10am and afternoons after 3pm

Nawton Number 9

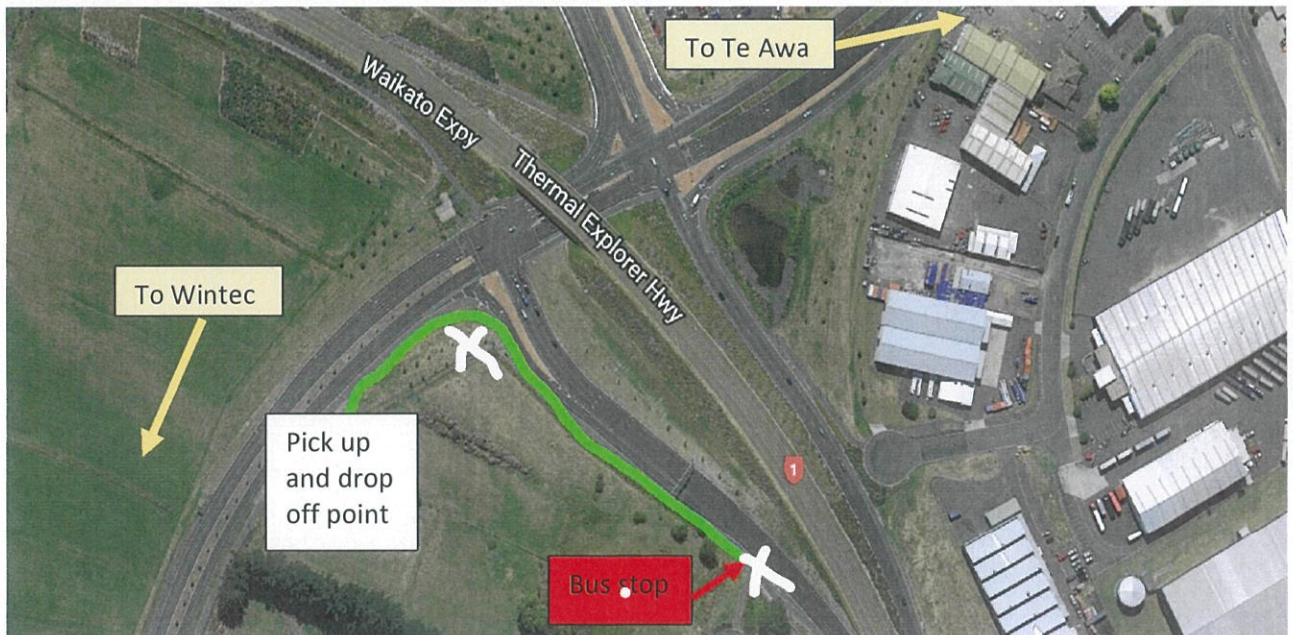
Used by mokopuna in the mornings between 7.30am and 10am

In the mornings, mokopuna will be met by a Downer's staff member at the bus stop (marked with a white cross on MAP TWO) who will direct them to a second Downer's staff member who will ensure they walk around the corner to the pick-up/drop off area. They are to remain there until a school mini-van picks them up and ferries them to school.

In the afternoons, they will be taken to the pick-up/drop off area where the Downer workers will direct them to the bus stop and wait with them until the bus leaves.

This is by far a safer option than the one we first suggested as now, mokopuna will not be crossing ANY roads. The pick up/drop off area is in an area with less traffic.

MAP TWO



NOTE: ALL MOKOPUNA CATCHING THE PUBLIC BUSES DURING THIS TIME WILL BE RELEASED AT 2.50 TO ENABLE THEM TIME TO GET TO THE BUS STOPS. MOKOPUNA NEEDING TO CONNECT TO THE RAGLAN BUS WILL BE FERRIED TO THE BUS STOP IN THE AFTERNOONS FIRST.

WHAT ELSE ARE WE DOING TO HELP WHĀNAU AND MOKOPUNA WITH THESE CHANGES?

- On Thursday and Friday this week, we will walk the new routes with mokopuna.
- For the first week of the changes, extra personnel including the Regional Council will be present at key points. We will meet near the end of this first week to discuss any improvements that need to be made
- We are contacting businesses along Tasman Road to ensure they are aware that mokopuna will be walking past their location and to be extra vigilant
- On Thursday this week, we will provide mokopuna who have indicated they use the public buses with colour hard copies of this information as viewing it on a small device like a phone can be challenging! Ask your tamaiti to pull it out of their bag if they haven't handed it over to you

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO / HOW CAN I HELP?

- Talk to your tamaiti about their comfort level with the changes
- Talk your tamaiti through possible scenarios and help them problem solve. For example, what should they do if they miss the bus stop? What should they do if they arrive at the new bus stop before 7.30am or after 10am when no-one is there to help them?
- Check that the time your tamaiti leaves home guarantees that they arrive at the new stops within the 7.30 and 10am window in the mornings when crossings are manned
- Volunteer to be additional help on the new routes in the morning between 7.30am and 10am or in the afternoon from 3pm to 3.30pm. Contact Whaea Cath on 021 420 666
- Get your tamaiti to programme in the school office number – 07 282 0137 so they can contact us if something goes wrong
- Get your tamaiti to travel at the same time as other Te Kōpuku High mokopuna so they are not arriving alone in the mornings
- Find alternative travel options during this time (e.g. private vehicle and car pooling)