



Te Kura Maori o Nga Tapuwae

BLAKE INSPIRE & MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT CAMP 2024
Wednesday 10th April 2024

Tēnā koutou e ngā mātua,

It is our pleasure to announce that your child has been selected as a recipient of the prestigious Sir Peter Blake Scholarship to attend the Blake Inspire Camp. This incredible opportunity, in partnership with the Ministry for the Environment, will take place from Monday, April 22nd to Friday, April 26th.

This achievement speaks volumes about their dedication, passion, and commitment to environmental stewardship. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishment and look forward to seeing them thrive at the Blake Inspire Camp.

Enclosed with this newsletter is an information pack detailing everything you need to know about the Blake Inspire Camp, including the schedule, activities, packing list, and contact information. We want to ensure that you are fully informed and comfortable with your child's participation in the Blake Inspire Camp. Therefore, we kindly request that you carefully read through the information pack and complete the attached permission slip.

Please review and complete the permission slip and health and consent form attached.

Once again, congratulations to your child on this remarkable achievement. We are confident that the Blake Inspire Camp will be a transformative and unforgettable experience for them.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Ola loane at oioane@ngatapuwaee.school.nz or 022 351 4611. Thank you for your continued support.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Olivia Chapman', written over a circular stamp or watermark.

Olivia Chapman
Associate Principal

Please fill out the following:

I give permission for _____ to participate in the Blake Inspire and Ministry for the Environment Camp 2024 in Auckland from Monday 22nd April to Friday 26th April.

I have filled out the Health & Consent Form attached and will return this by Wednesday 17th April 2024.

I have read and understood the information pack provided.

I understand that s/he will need to be dropped off at Tibbs House, 87 Mountain Road, Epsom, Auckland between 11.00am – 11.45am on Monday 22 April and picked up on Friday 26 April from 12.00pm.

Sign: _____

Date: _____

(Parent / Guardian / Caregiver)

Event information

Travel and Health & Safety

Congratulations again on being selected for BLAKE Inspire 2024, held in the Auckland region. Flights and travel arrangements have now been confirmed for delegates travelling to Auckland. These will be in this email.

If you have COVID-19 we will not be able to host you during BLAKE Inspire. If you test positive leading up to the programme, please let Elle know ASAP.

Auckland-based delegates / those driving to Auckland:

Auckland delegates are to meet at Tibbs House, 87 Mountain Road, Epsom, Auckland between **11.00am – 11.45am** on Monday 22 April. Elle will be present to welcome you. If you need to get in contact with her on the day, please call Elle on **021 254 8378**. When the event has finished on Friday 26 April the delegates can be picked up from **12.00pm**. This may be subject to change on the day by 30 minutes so delegates, so please keep in touch with the person picking you up.

Out of Auckland delegates:

Delegates arriving at Auckland Domestic Airport on Monday will be met by BLAKE staff **Alice Ward-Allen**, who will be inside the airport to greet you (keep an eye out for the BLAKE staff in black t-shirts at the **Auckland Airport Regional Departures** - this is the very left end of the airport, near where the buses park). If you are lost or running late, call **Alice on 021 153 5139**. Please call one of our staff immediately if your flight gets delayed or cancelled.

If students intend to drive to the programme by themselves, there will be safe parking available for the week right outside the accommodation venue. We just ask you to let us know in advance so we can account for the number of vehicles.



A map of the school has been provided below:

Tibbs House is located at 87 Mountain Road, Epsom on the corner of Clive Rd and Mountain Rd if you are being dropped off at the accommodation. Go through the main gates and straight up the driveway. You will see a house where there is a BLAKE car parked outside. Give Elle a call if you get lost.

Accommodation

All delegates and staff will be staying onsite at Tibbs House.

All meals and snacks will be provided throughout BLAKE Inspire. All bedding (mattress protector, sheets, duvet, pillow, pillowcase) and one showering towel will be provided at Tibbs House. Delegates do not need to bring any bedding but are asked to bring an extra towel in case they get splashed during activities.

Power, wi-fi and phone reception will be freely available at the hostel, although we hope students will take this opportunity to be actively involved throughout BLAKE Inspire. Please note that there will be limited down-time for any study or personal activities. Students can have their phone on/with them throughout the whole programme.

What to bring

The dress code for the week is casual/tidy casual, but the programme is action-packed so bring comfortable, practical clothing as you will spend most of the time in them. Be prepared for long days from 7am starts to 9.30pm finishes most days.

We like to be prepared for all weather conditions, so please bring a waterproof jacket, warm clothing, sun smart clothing and a pair of closed-toes shoes. Most activities take place outdoors so ensure you bring suitable clothing and footwear for walking, activities on and around the water/beach and other adventures. You do not need to bring a wetsuit but please bring togs. If you do not own wet weather clothing, please borrow these instead of purchasing them specially for BLAKE Inspire.

Delegates are welcome to bring their own laptops, cameras, phones, and other electronic equipment but do so at their own risk. The hostel will be locked whenever we are off-campus and there is on-campus security present. We will require you to submit an action plan electronically at the end of the week (~10 minutes) so please be prepared to do so on the device you choose to bring.

List of items to bring for the week:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active wear/sports clothes | <input type="checkbox"/> Pens/pencils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bag/container for your lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone + phone charger (and tablet/laptop if preferred) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of clothes including closed-toed shoes you don't mind getting completely wet/dirty – you will need these on the first afternoon of BLAKE Inspire and they are unlikely to be washed for the rest of the week | <input type="checkbox"/> Small backpack to carry around your gear for the day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drink bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Suitable footwear for walking, with at least one pair of closed toe shoes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enough clothing for the whole week (t-shirts, pants, shorts, underwear, socks, pyjamas) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen + sunglasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gumboots (optional – for stream exercise) | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Two pairs of closed-toed shoes – one will get completely wet/muddy on the first day, you will also need a clean/dry pair for other activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jandals/casual shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm clothing (jacket, thermals, thick socks) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Masks/personal hand sanitiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof jacket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medication you may need | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One towel (for swimming) | |

Items provided during BLAKE Inspire:

- BLAKE Inspire manual
- Any specific equipment for activities in addition to bedding and a showering towel
- All food
- BLAKE t-shirt

Themes

BLAKE Inspire is an opportunity for delegates to learn more about the various environmental issues and their effects on wildlife living in New Zealand and the Waikato region specifically. Topics we will be covering include:

- Biodiversity
- Climate change
- Ecotourism
- Freshwater health
- Marine and estuarine ecology
- Mātauranga Māori
- Policy

Programme highlights

Day 1 – Monday 22 April

Delegates and staff will arrive. BLAKE Inspire will be opened by the BLAKE and the Ministry for the Environment. We will then travel Cornwall Park for an icebreaker activity so the delegates can get to know each other. After, we will head to the Stardome for a show and we will conclude with an introduction to action planning and a workshop on Mātauranga Māori.

Day 2 – Tuesday 23 April

The group will travel to Tiritiri Matangi to learn about biodiversity and conservation. We will collect plankton in the Hauraki Gulf and look at the diversity under microscopes. The evening will have the delegates look at the plankton they collected that day.

Day 3 – Wednesday 24 April

In the morning we will have a workshop on corporate sustainability, followed by a panel discussion about how corporations are dealing with environmental issues. The group will then travel to Pourewa Garden to learn about māra kai and native plants. In the afternoon there will be a presentation on climate change, and after dinner we will conclude the day with a mock-parliament policy simulation with the Ministry for the Environment.

Day 4 – Thursday 25 April

The group will travel to Campbells Bay with a focus on rocky shore marine science, followed by a freshwater activity to learn about monitoring and macroinvertebrates. In the afternoon, there will be a kayak tour up Puhoi River with a focus on estuaries. To conclude the day the delegates will get the opportunity to experience our NZ-VR programme.

Day 5 – Friday 26 April

The group will spend the morning doing an art workshop, then begin to present their action plans. BLAKE Inspire will close and delegates and staff will make their way to Auckland Airport by bus or be picked up from Tibbs house. Delegates and staff will fly out of Auckland or be picked up Tibbs House.

Please note that the above is only a rough guideline and may be subject to change across the week.

Preparation

Delegates who wish to prepare for BLAKE Inspire should familiarise themselves with issues, projects and success stories related to the BLAKE Inspire themes in their own regions. Think about relevant initiatives in your school, community and region that help protect and restore our environment.

- What projects are already underway in my school and region?
- What projects have worked successfully and why?
- What issues still need to be addressed in my school and region?
- What issues are most important to me?
- What is needed to make change?

Connecting with other students

Below are the details for a student-only BLAKE Inspire Instagram group chat that we strongly encourage you to join. If you do not have Instagram and/or wish to join through a parent's account, please email Jacob with the name of the account so we know to accept you to the group chat. This is student-only as it will just be updates and reminders throughout the week as well as a place to informally connect before the programme. Students who aren't on social media won't be at a disadvantage as other students will be able to pass on this information (e.g. a change in time for breakfast, a reminder on what gear to bring etc).

https://ig.me/j/AbaUZPsI5Q9d_Ozg/

We also require all delegate to complete the pre-programme survey please. This will be treated as anonymous and we only ask your name to ensure it has been completed. The survey will take 5 minutes.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PreBLAKEInspireApril22-26>

Contact Details

Parents, caregivers and schools wishing to contact the BLAKE Inspire Programme Manager should call or email:

Elle Ueland

Email: elle@blakenz.org

Phone: 021 254 8378

See you soon!