

## LETTER OF APPRAISAL FOR OHINEWAI SCHOOL

31 March 2025

### **Ohinewai School**

39 Ohinewai South Road  
Ohinewai  
HUNTLY

### **TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

Harrison Tew® is fortunate to work with a large number of schools and organisations across New Zealand. With this comes real-life exposure to the range of incidents that schools are faced with, and as such we are constantly monitoring these issues to ensure schools have the most effective Emergency Management Plan and response capability to keep staff and students safe.

As a community, we are constantly made aware of the types of events which impact our schools and communities. The previous year has again exposed schools to a range of incidents which have necessitated an ever-increasing number of schools in New Zealand to respond to emergency events and activate their lockdown emergency response procedures.

Ohinewai School has a comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for this purpose which guides an immediate action response designed by Harrison Tew® Consultants.

A series of training was conducted by Harrison Tew® which incorporates in-depth Senior Leadership Team training, Staff training, and Student training and culminates in a realistic assessment of the school's capability to respond to emergencies.

Being aware of the issues faced by other schools and relating them to Ohinewai School is a vital aspect of preparedness for the Senior Leadership Team along with the ability to deal with a lockdown for an extended period.

On Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2025, Ohinewai School completed the entire full school training of their new Emergency Management Plan which included conducting a full lockdown exercise.

The school followed the procedures calmly and confidently, with clear direction and leadership from Principal Leah Boldero. She was supported by the staff in the Incident Control Room who displayed high levels of competence and were very efficient at their assigned tasks.

This was followed by a full school evacuation where everyone was safely accounted for.

The students and teachers should also be congratulated for the way they followed the correct procedures and at the speed and skill at which the school was placed into lockdown and appropriate communications were sent through the school before a controlled release from the lockdown.

With staff who have vast experience in the NZ Police, Armed Offenders Squad and Special Tactics Group and now over a decade working with schools throughout New Zealand and other higher-risk organisations, Harrison Tew® are specialist in emergency management, security operations and risk assessment.

It is with pleasure that I would like to pass on to the Board of Trustees, that following the recent training and exercise provided by Harrison Tew®, you should have full confidence that the Ohinewai School Leadership Team have demonstrated knowledge and confidence to deal with a wide range of emergencies and incidents, intending to keep their students, staff, and visitors to the school safe.

The Senior Leadership Team of Ohinewai School clearly have a passion and vision for their school, and it is a pleasure to have a continued professional relationship with Ohinewai School.

Kind regards,



**WADE HARRISON**

Director

Mobile: 027 4290 018

Email: [wade@harrisontew.co.nz](mailto:wade@harrisontew.co.nz)

Web: [www.harrisontew.co.nz](http://www.harrisontew.co.nz)