



This is a challenging and exciting time to be a learner. Educators in New Zealand are working to ensure that we remain responsive and relevant to the demands of the future. Whakatāne High School look forward to continuing to work with learners, whānau, teachers, educators, iwi and industry so that our tamariki can Qualify for the Future World: Kia noho takatu ki tō āmua ao. (NZQA)

Whakatāne High School are re-thinking the way we deliver learning so we can provide different opportunities for all of our learners. In 2021, we will offer some **Future-Focused Learning (FFL)** classes. FFL classes are designed to create contextual connections between subjects creating an engaging learning environment, which is student-driven and future-focused.

Students will learn in a cross-curricular environment with a focus on inquiry and thematic-based learning. This will allow connections to be made between subject areas and the opportunity to develop their competency skills. Students use skills such as critical thinking, creativity and collaboration, which challenge them to apply the knowledge they gather throughout the year, both in and out of the classroom.

Future-Focused Learning is a learning environment that aims to meet the needs of our 21st century learners and equip them with the skills necessary to succeed in a dynamic and ever-changing world.

Studies comparing learning outcomes for students taught via future-focused learning versus traditional instruction show that, when implemented well, future-focused learning increases long-term retention of content, helps students perform as well as or better than traditional learners in standardised tests, improves problem-solving and collaboration skills, and improves students' attitudes toward learning (Strobel & van Barneveld, 2009; Walker & Leary, 2009).

Parents and students interested in this option should discuss it at the enrolment interview.