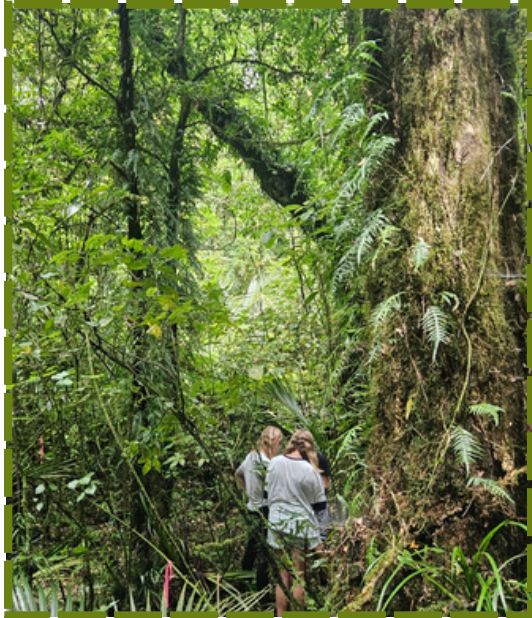




Term 1 2026



Term One is usually focused on NCEA delivery, with schools making the most of Rotokare as a place to complete the practical components of their unit standards. This year, alongside our NCEA programmes, we were delighted to welcome several primary schools through the gates. A highlight was hosting the entire Urenui School, their very first visit to Rotokare. Sharing the sanctuary with first-time visitors is always special, and it's a wonderful opportunity to inspire a lasting connection with nature.

Term 2 2026

Term Two is shaping up to be an exciting and busy time at Rotokare, with several schools already booked in for visits. As the cooler months arrive, the sanctuary offers a calmer, more peaceful atmosphere, perfect for slowing down and reconnecting with nature, while there is still plenty to see and do.

Term Two is an ideal opportunity to visit and take part in our Wetland Treasure Trove programme, or to enjoy bird-focused experiences as the breeding season wraps up and the sanctuary comes alive with newly fledged birds. It's a wonderful time to explore Rotokare and discover the rich wildlife that makes this place so special.

We are providers of 'Enriching Local Curriculum'. For more information, please follow the link below.



Our Education Programme fulfills the **Nature of Science** strand of the NZ curriculum and centres on the following Learning Areas:

- **Science:** Living World
- **Social Science:** Place and Environment
- **Technology:** Technology and Society



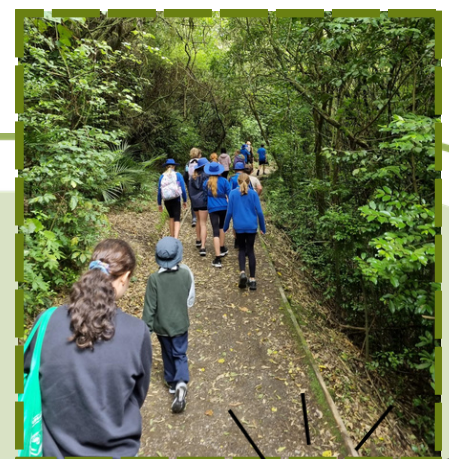


The Rotokare Education Program has been running for over ten years; during that time, we have seen most of Taranaki's schools, early childhood centres and education groups through the gates. When we first started the program, we developed it alongside teachers from the community and are seeking your input again. We have now come to the point where we are looking at updating our programs, especially our year 11, 12 and 13 delivery.

We understand that there is a lot of uncertainty in the education space, especially for NCEA at the moment. However, if you have time, complete this short survey linked below. It would be extremely valuable to us and help us shape the new education program.

 [LINK](#)

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your continued support. Rotokare is a community-led charity, committed to involving our community, while education remains a vital self-generated income stream. Support from schools is incredibly valuable, helping us provide opportunities for education, inspiration, recreation, and environmental sustainability for future conservation-minded generations locally.





Ambassadors 2026

We welcome eight new Junior Rotokare Ambassadors for 2026! We have six Senior Ambassadors and four Mentor Ambassadors moving through the respective next stages of the Programme.

Term one was filled with Junior Workshops. The focus was on Biosecurity. A huge thanks to Chauncet Ardell from Taranaki Regional Council and Lucie Daniskova from Forrest and Bird for helping out with these workshops.



The Mentors went out for a kiwi hunt, two days of trying to find a bird in the swamp. Day one ended in the bird running and some very muddy kit. Day two was just as successful, with the team not being able to get to him in the swamp. The senior ambassadors did a shorebird ID course with Emily from Wild for Taranaki.

It was an awesome experience for the senior ambassadors!

The Juniors and seniors were present at a Kiwi health check with Jess in the classroom. This was a special event for the Juniors.





2026 Offerings

Ever wondered what Rotokare offers ākonga?

We have a variety of different programs in our eco-detectives space.

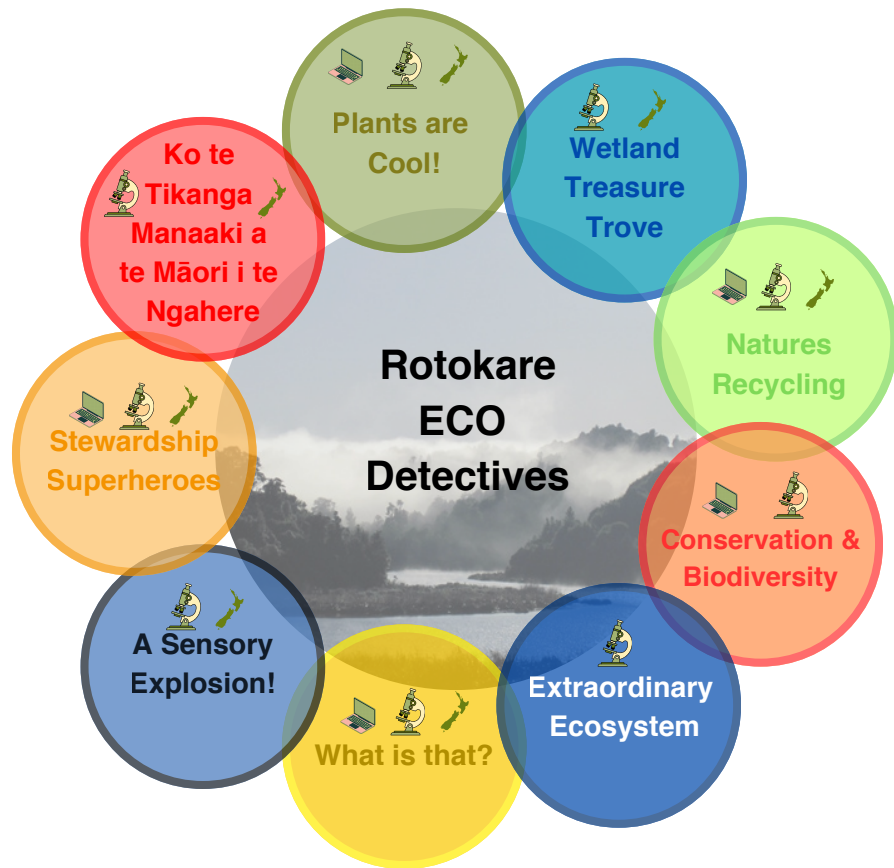
These are designed to simulate curiosity, create eco-warriors and teach about Rotokare's history.

At Rotokare, we let the ngāhere be our Kaiako as we show the ākonga what this

space has to offer, and the role people play in its protection. This experience is only \$5.00 per student, excluding GST.

Join us in one of our two bush classrooms, discover our wetlands or take time to learn about how our space has evolved and changed over time.

Our program is a bespoke experience that is built together with Kaiako to ensure that learners get a rich learning experience at Rotokare Sanctuary.



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Govett-Brewster Exhibition

From the 4th of April to the 11th of October, 'Direct Bodily Empathy-Sound, Signal, Feedback' will be exhibited at the Len Lye Centre. This amazing exhibition was created by Simon Ingram, who recorded the Rotokare forest for his exhibit. Simon



Still from Simon Ingrahms exhibit

has captured Rotokare as you have never seen it before. Head along to the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery to see the sanctuary site in a new light while the exhibition is here.

Mouse Response

Ten mice have been caught in and around the car park over the past month. Additional trap checks, devices and tracking cards have been put out in response. The car park is intensively trapped as it is a known point of risk. Please take time to check your vehicles before you visit, and place traps in your garages to reduce the risk of bringing a stowaway with you.



A full sanctuary tracking card run in May will give us a better idea of what is going on in the space. Our snack dropper strikes again, stressing us all out in the process. A headless mouse and a half-eaten rat were found on the fence platform. Feed sign indicators on the remains point to avian predation. Responses were deployed, though nothing further was detected

