

**Immediate Release
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Inspiring the next generation of Māori health professionals

For the second consecutive year, Fraser High School students will gain first-hand insight into Māori health careers tomorrow through the Te Rau Oranga Scholarship Programme, visiting Te Kōhao Health to connect with health professionals and explore future pathways in the sector.

Managing Director of Te Kōhao Health Lady Tureiti Moxon said providing young people with opportunities to see health professionals in action was an important part of building future workforce capability.

“Rangatahi need to be able to see themselves in these careers. By bringing students into our health services, introducing them to our teams, and sharing the many pathways available, we hope to spark curiosity and confidence about a future in health.”

The ongoing partnership between Te Kōhao Health and Fraser High School has provided rangatahi with valuable opportunities to learn about the diverse careers available across health. Feedback from previous visits has been overwhelmingly positive, with students and kaiako valuing the chance to engage directly with health professionals and better understand the pathways into healthcare careers.

The Te Rau Oranga Fund was established in 2023 following Dr Ruth Tan’s vision to support more Māori into health careers. Supported by the Braemar Charitable Trust, the programme provides Years 9 to 13 students with scholarships, mentoring and practical experiences to help build future Māori health workforce pathways.

The students will begin their visit at Te Kōhao Health’s Wairere Drive site with a karakia and welcome before touring Ngaa Puna Wai and Te Miro o Te Ora Clinic, where they will meet health professionals and learn about career pathways across primary healthcare. They will then hear about Te Kōhao Health’s wider services and continue their health sector experience at Taakiri Tuu Wellness and Diagnostic Centre.

Te Kōhao Health has a longstanding relationship with Braemar, including opportunities to support GP training and initiatives that improve access and wellbeing for the wider community.

Braemar Hospital where it conducts surgeries has also supported the initiative by providing opportunities for students to experience the breadth of careers available within the hospital environment.

Dr Tan’s vision, alongside founding supporters including Dr Stephen Ng, is to strengthen Māori representation across the health workforce and create a pipeline of future health professionals who can help address inequities and improve outcomes for whānau.

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Media liaison: Sarah Sparks 021318813 Sarah.sparks@sparksconsulting.co.nz