



# Te Kura O Cobden Cobden School

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2026 ▶ 2028

Cobden School embodies our Te Tiriti based relationship with manu whenua through strategic goals, initiatives and policies.

### Our Vision

A community of learners where wellbeing, relationships, and joyful learning empower ākonga to be confident, engaged, creative, and caring critical thinkers.

### Our Values

**Manaakitanga**  
we care

**Mahi ngātahi**  
we cooperate

**Kōrero mai**  
we communicate

**ME MAHI TAHI TĀTOU  
MŌ TE ORANGA O TE  
KATOA** WE SHOULD WORK  
TOGETHER FOR THE  
WELLBEING OF  
EVERYONE



### Ngā whāinga Our Goals

#### Partnership

Continue to build strong partnerships with iwi and whānau to embed iwi aspirations and local pūrākau in the curriculum, enhancing cultural capability and home-school connections.

#### Teaching & Learning

Implement evidence-based practices and targeted support to align teaching and learning with the revised English and Mathematics curricula, fostering a knowledge-rich environment and achieving clear learning outcomes.

#### Attendance & Engagement

Improve regular attendance by providing a safe, supportive physical and emotional learning environment where all tamariki are engaged and able to thrive.



### Ngā mahi Our Initiatives

Strengthen and sustain our partnership with Te Rūmananga o Ngāi Wāewae through collaborative planning, open dialogue and mutual trust to enhance cultural connections and shared initiatives.

Implement schoolwide te reo progressions.

Enhance our online presence to showcase Cobden's strengths and foster whānau engagement by strengthening home-school communication, building belonging, nurturing relationships, and empowering whānau leadership.

Leverage the expertise and strengths of our staff to design and deliver a knowledge-rich curriculum that empowers teaching and learning.

Implement Evidence-Based English and Mathematics Instruction (New curriculum).

Strengthen assessment and reporting practices by maintaining consistency, reviewing and celebrating successes, and aligning them with planning and teaching strategies.

Implement targeted learning support and use data to drive continuous improvement in student outcomes.

Foster a school-wide culture of collaboration by implementing trauma-informed practices and Collaborative Proactive Solutions, working together to support a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Implementation of Attendance Management Plan and STAR framework.



### Kua Tutuki Our Success

- We embed local pūrākau and shared aspirations into our localised curriculum, promoting culturally sustaining practices.
- Whānau feel empowered and valued for their contribution.
- Home and school, working together, for the success of ākonga.
- Whānau feel engaged and able to contribute.
- Students thrive through enhanced engagement and support, fostering their holistic development.

Teachers collaboratively design and deliver a curriculum rich in key content knowledge, continuously evolving through the integration of the latest research in the science of learning.

All teachers are trained, supported, and confident in implementing structured, evidence-based approaches to literacy and mathematics instruction, ensuring consistency and quality.

Teachers consistently use reliable assessment tools and reporting methods to accurately monitor and communicate student progress and achievement across all year levels.

Teachers effectively identify and address the needs of students requiring additional support through targeted, impactful interventions that promote their learning and development.

Teachers systematically use data and evidence to refine teaching strategies, pinpoint growth areas, and foster ongoing improvements in student achievement.

• Ākonga are present, participating and making progress.

• Achieving 80% of students attending more than 90% of the time by 2030.

# COBDEN SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

### 13th February 2026

Caring, Co operation, Communication  
Manaakitanga, Mahi Ngatahi, Korero Mai



A community of learners where wellbeing and relationships encourage ākonga to be confident, engaged and caring critical thinkers.

TE KURA O COBDEN  
COBDEN SCHOOL

03 768 7465  
53 Fox Street, Cobden, Greymouth 7802  
reception@cobden.school.nz  
www.cobden.school.nz



Kia ora tātou

A very warm welcome to all the new families joining our Cobden School community this year. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and new experiences together. To our returning whānau, welcome back. Your continued support and involvement help make our school a vibrant and nurturing place for all our tamariki.

As we settle back into the school year after the long summer break, it has been wonderful to see students quickly re-engaging with their class routines. We understand that the warmer evenings can make it harder to get enough rest, but we encourage families to establish healthy sleep routines. Adequate sleep is essential for learning, focus, and overall well-being.

Our swimming pool is now fully operational, and it has been fantastic to see so many students arriving prepared with their togs for swimming sessions. Aquatic activities are an important part of our school programme, and we appreciate your support in ensuring tamariki are ready to participate.

This year, we are continuing to place a strong focus on attendance. Every school day matters. Learning builds progressively, particularly with our new maths curriculum, where each lesson connects to the next. Missing even one day can make it difficult for students to catch up, as these lessons cannot simply be repeated. While we understand that illness sometimes happens, we would like to remind families that holidays during term time are not an acceptable reason for absence and will be recorded accordingly.

This week, I had a visit from a local police officer who raised concerns about parking during drop-off and pick-up times. They have advised that they will be monitoring the situation moving forward to help keep our students safe. Parking on yellow lines, double parking, and stopping to drop off in the middle of the road creates serious risk for our tamariki and other road users. Please support us by ensuring you park responsibly and use designated parking areas.

Once again, a heartfelt welcome to our new families and a sincere thank you to our returning families for your continued commitment. Together, let's make this school year one filled with success, growth, and memorable experiences!

Ngā mihi  
Noula Markham  
Principal



**Important Dates 2026 - Also on the Skool Loop Calendar tab**

Thursday 19th February	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 20th February	Assembly 12pm in the Hall. Whanau can bring their lunch to eat with students.
<b>Tuesday 24th February</b>	<b>Cobden School Competitive Swimming Competition - New Date</b>
Thursday 26th February	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Thursday 5th March	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 6th March	Cans for Good Mufti Day for the Greymouth Food Bank - Bring a can of food
Friday 6th March	Assembly 12pm in the Hall. Whanau can bring their lunch to eat with students.
Friday 6th March	Lucky Book Club Issue 1 - Orders close.
Tuesday 10th March	Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
Thursday 12th March	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Thursday 19th March	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
<b>Friday 20th March</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day - School Closed for instruction</b>
Tuesday 24th March	Cobden School Athletics at Anzac Park.
Thursday 26th March	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Tuesday 31st March	Cobden School Whare Buddy Group Swimming Competition
Thursday 2nd April	Hidden Disabilities - Gold Coin Mufti Day - Wear Green
Thursday 2nd April	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Thursday 2nd April	Last Day - End of Term 1
Monday 20th April	First Day - Term 2
Saturday 25th April	Anzac Day

**Disclaimer:** Dates and Times are correct at the time of printing but are subject to change.



**PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning**

Caring, Co-operation, Communication

This terms focus:

**“Kōrero Mai - Listen Well, Speak Kind and Ask for Help.”**

Values Card Winners:

Term 4 2025	Week 9	Edie & Kane
Term 1 2026	Week 1	Leroy & Raven
	Week 2	Nania & Reign

At school, we are learning how to communicate positively by listening well to instructions and to our peers and adults, speaking kindly, and asking for help when we need it. Children are encouraged to listen carefully so they can follow directions, understand others' ideas, and work cooperatively with their classmates.

**Myths about Headlice..... Head Lice and Swimming**

We occasionally get questions about head lice and swimming. Head lice are spread through close head-to-head contact, not through water. They cannot jump, fly, or swim, and they stay attached to the hair — even during swimming.

This means our swimming pool is not a source of head lice transmission. If your child has head lice, treatment can continue as normal and they are still able to participate in swimming.

For more information, see Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora – Head Lice (Kutia).



Left: Kowhai 3 started back at Technoplogy this week. All enjoyed making pancakes!



Right: All students are enjoying swimming lessons and fun time in our upgraded school Pool.

**WELCOME TO COBDEN SCHOOL**

Zak  
Zahlia  
Kzyk  
Ayra  
Venice  
Fetutuki (Tuki)  
Bowie  
Islah-Rose



For Literacy Mokomoko 1 have been studying the Lion & the Mouse through Art, Music, Drama and Writing.

**ROAD SAFETY – PARENTS/CAREGIVERS – BE ROLE MODELS TO YOUR CHILDREN**

Please be a safety role model and show your children the correct way to safely cross the road. Please use the road crossings and designated carparks around the school to drop off or pick up.

**Keeping our children Safe**

**Do not stop in the middle of the road** and let your children out.  
**Do not call your child across the road** - encourage them to use the crossings

Thank you to all parents/caregivers for using the pedestrian crossings and following our traffic wardens' instructions.