



Principals' Discretionary Fund

2024 Snapshot



Fund Overview

To support school students to thrive and achieve their potential, Community Trust South provides funding to all primary, intermediate and secondary schools across the rohe (region) through the Principals Discretionary Fund (PDF).

The funding allocated to each school is based on the school's roll - as at 1 July of the previous academic year - and the Equity Index, a statistical model that estimates the extent to which students face socio-economic barriers to achievement at school. This information is obtained from the Ministry of Education.

Funding parts

A

Financial Hardship

providing essential foundation in students' lives for them to thrive

B

Participation and Achievement

Supporting students to learn and participate

C

Reducing Isolation

Enabling the conditions for students to thrive despite location

Funding allocated 2024

**2024 Funding:
\$595,203**



East Gore School



Part A - Financial Hardship

This part focuses on responding to financial hardship and enabling students to participate in school activities.

\$117,154 distributed in 2024, including



490 meals provided



343 students supported to go on camp



1,117 students supported with stationery

Activity	Funding in dollars	Students
Camps	36,192.31	343
Uniform	28,784.44	555
Stationery/Technology	18,436.76	1117
Meals/Food	5,773.14	490
Sport Fees/Subs	7,701.53	256
Extra Curricular activities	3,065.00	11
Academic/Course fees	901.29	28
Skiing/iceskating	1,259.00	19
Activity/Entrance fees	2,161.95	35
Glasses/Eye Tests	381.29	5
Class Trips/School trips	2,993.41	147
Swimming	726.00	92
Health	217.85	4
School fees/donations	4,681.29	43
Transport	1,675.00	24
School shows performances	300.00	1
EOTC/Programmes	783.10	27
Other	1,120.64	216
TOTAL	\$ 117,154.00	2913



Part B - Participation and Achievement

This part focuses on supporting schools to raise student achievement, address inequalities and reduce barriers to participation across specific Community Trust South priorities - education, sport and culture.

\$420,402 allocated in 2024
12,036 students benefitted

Activity	Funding	Students
Education		
Raising achievement of identified under achieving year 1-8 students.	124,386.45	1804
Addressing the issues of inequality that present barriers to learning and participating.	79,025.11	1234
Students identified by their school as being at risk of disengaging.	33,878.43	536
The preparation of students for life after their schooling, with a particular focus on; life skills and financial literacy, careers education, effective transitions/pathways, linkages between education and industry.	11,594.20	818
Active Lifestyles		
Provide grassroots support for life long active participation and engagement with a focus on; children(0-13 years), coaching and volunteering, inactive people and people experiencing barriers to participation.	90,430.44	3362
Arts, Heritage and Culture		
Increase awareness of and access to arts, heritage and culture; and to support active participation in artistic, cultural and heritage activities; with a particular focus on children and youth.	81,087.37	4282
Total	\$420,402.00	12036



Part C - Reducing Isolation

This part focuses on enabling schools and students in isolated areas to have equal opportunity to take part in educational, sporting and cultural opportunities. This allocation is based on \$2.00 per student to schools with an isolation index of 1.0 and above (based on the Ministry of Education's isolation index) and there is a minimum allocation of \$500.00 per qualifying school.

\$57,647 allocated in 2024

Activity	Funding in dollars
Transport	
General	17,289.00
Sport	12,935.50
Curriculum related	4,250.00
Art & Culture	7,584.50
Total	41,499.00
External Expertise	
Teacher PD	799.54
Sport & Rec	250.00
Art & Culture	1,667.00
Total	2,716.54
Programmes	1,004.81
Camp Cost	2,783.00
Sport Activities	5,290.00
Other	3,793.65
Total	\$57,647.00



From the Principals



Aparima College

“This is an invaluable fund for rural students. Often there are barriers which present inequitable opportunities for our students. The fund goes a long way to remove these barriers.”

Blue Mountain College

“With tight economic times we are finding more and more students, and their families are in need of a hand up. The absolute gift of the way you manage this fund is the discretionary element. As principals we are often privy to the circumstances our young people find themselves in and we are able to quietly remove barriers, so their dignity is maintained, and they are able to take a full part in the wider life of the school. Circumstances and opportunities can change from year to year and sometimes things come out of left field so having flexibility is gold. Thank you so much for your continued support.”



St Marys School Gore

“Thank you for your generosity. It is amazing to know we can give all our kids equal opportunities to attend exciting events and mana building activities - we couldn't do it without your funding. Thanks again.”



From the Principals



Queenstown Primary School

“This funding has significant impact, allowing us to ensure that all our students can participate fully in the experiences we offer, regardless of their financial circumstances. Your support helps to support QPS's spirit of equity and inclusion.”

St Patricks Invercargill

“The Principals Discretionary Fund is used to two distinct ways at our school. One is about increasing participation in events and activities that bring great self worth and mana to children. By using the fund to drive this we ensure that we are removing barriers for all children. The second aspect is one of dignity and parents knowing that they can come to us for help and that it will be done in a way that maintains their mana. This fund gives me the assurance as a principal that when a parent knocks on my door seeking assistance that I have the confidence to say yes. Thank you so much to the Trust for your ongoing support it is amazing!”



Te Anau School

“This fund is always gratefully received. Thank you for your continued support. It goes a long way to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds but also all our students in terms of closing the gap caused by our isolation.”

Aparima College



2025 Fund Updates

Over the later part of 2023, Community Trust South undertook a robust review of its strategy, with the new strategic aspiration - A Thriving South – Murihiku Manawa Tonui - being launched in April 2024.

This strategic aspiration sets the strategic pou (priorities), which are focus areas in the near and medium term, to ensure we remain focused on delivering real impact in our communities. These are:

-  **Stong foundations**
-  **People and Places**
-  **Sustainability and climate**

New Focus

To incorporate the new strategic aspiration, you will find that the three parts to the PDF are now identified by the following:

Part A - Providing essential foundation in students' lives for them to thrive
(previously responding to student financial hardship)

Part B - Supporting students to learn and participate
(previously student participation and achievement).

Part C - Enabling the conditions for students to thrive despite location
(previously reducing isolation).

Lifelong learning

Where previously this fund gave more weighting to younger students, to align with the Trust's new strategic aspiration of lifelong learning, this weighting has been removed with all year levels receiving the same level of support and allocated funding.



Other funding schools can apply for



Kapa Haka & Cultural Uniform Funding

- We provide funding for schools to develop, create and/or purchase kapa haka and other cultural uniforms.
- The amount of funding allocated is based on your school's EQI
- Schools can apply for this funding once every 5 years



School & Early Childhood Centre Playground Funding

- We provide grants for school and early childhood Centre playgrounds
- The following aspects are used to determine the level of funding that may be available to you:
 - roll number
 - equity index
 - organisation's financial contribution
 - playgrounds's accessibility to the wider community
- Schools and Early Childhood Centres can apply for this funding once every 5 years

More information



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