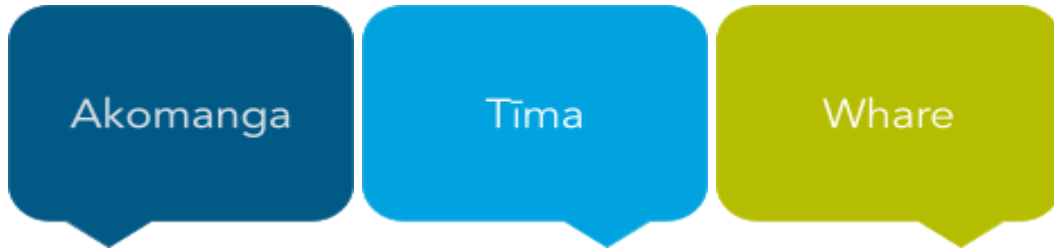


Elim Christian College Henderson

At Elim Christian College Henderson, our kura has multiple layers beginning with akomanga (classes), leading to tīma (teams) and across all year levels, whare (houses). This structure is designed with all our ākonga in mind and woven together by korero which reflects our community in Henderson and beyond.



Akomanga / Classroom

Each akomanga is named after a native manu (bird) found here in Aotearoa.

In Matthew 13:31-32, Jesus shares that “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and [birds](#) come and make nests in its branches.”

This scripture speaks of seed being planted and despite its size, it grows into a space of rest and nurture where manu come to nest. At Elim Henderson, we know that the mahi we carry out, no matter how small, has the ability to create places of belonging where our ākonga can nest.

Similarly, Jesus also spoke, in Matthew 6:26, about “..the [birds](#).” He said, “they don’t plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them.”

This scripture talks about the natural and implicit reliance manu have when being fed. There’s no need for them to worry about each meal. At Elim Henderson, we view our role as feeding ākonga knowledge and wish to create a place where this process is embodied by excellence. We want this process to not only be implicit in our day to day operations but such a common phenomena, that our ākonga implicitly trust their kaiako to provide opportunities and experiences that hold this standard and lead them to success.

With these scriptures in mind, our team has crafted names which hold symbolism for the ākonga who will come to [nest](#) and [feed](#) here:

- Y0: Rūma - Pīwauwau
- Y1/2: Rūma - Pīwakawaka
- Y3/4: Rūma - Kea
- Y5/6: Rūma - Tūī
- Y7/8: Rūma - Takahē

TĪMA / TEAM

Each tīma is named after a feature of ao-mārama (physical world) that represents a journey that navigates the elements.

In Deuteronomy 10:11, the author states, "go," the LORD said to me, "and lead the people on their way, so that they may enter and possess the land I swore to their ancestors to give them."

This scripture talks not only of the need and importance for leadership and for guidance but it talks of the promise that results in following those who lead us on "our way". At Elim Henderson, we recognise that kura is place of learning, growth and development, and we know that events and experiences which allow this to occur do not happen in isolation; rather they are connected and play into a larger journey.

Just as Moses led God's people on a physical journey to learn and to build relationship with the LORD, at Elim, we understand our role in provided guidance and direction which will enable them to reach, serve and influence our community and the communities beyond these walls.

In Jeremiah 29:1, the prophet shares, "for I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

This scripture speaks of preparation and forethought, of kindness and care where plans are crafted to create hope, promise and anticipation. At Elim Henderson, we pride ourselves in preparing learning, experiences and events that consider that uniqueness of our ākonga and enable them to grow and develop at their own pace, where progress takes precedence over perfection.

With this scripture in mind, our team has crafted names which hold symbolism for the ākonga who will come to be *nourished*, *guided* and *protected* here:

- Maunga (Year 0, Year 0 and Year 1/2)
- Nagahere (Year 3/4, Year 5/6, Year 7/8)

Our team names signify the journey from maunga to ngahere, where they are *nourished*, *guided* and *protected*.

TE WHARE O RĀKAU / HOUSES

Each whare is named after a native rākau (tree) found here in Aotearoa.

In John 15:5, Jesus states that “yes, I am the vine; you are the *branches*. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”

This scripture describes our need to remain connected and dependent on a source for life and for sustenance. At Elim Henderson, we understand the importance of connecting and the intentionality required to create meaningful relationships within and beyond the classroom. Our whare system will exist to allow ākonga to work collaboratively and collectively create a kura where belonging is central in all we do.

In Psalm 1:3, the Psalmist writes, “he will be like a *tree* firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season”.

This scripture details the merits of being planted and established which bears fruit in time, in its rightful season. At Elim Henderson we cherish the many gifts and capabilities (fruit) our tamariki have and we understand the importance of nurturing these in familiar and safe spaces (planting them by living waters). Our whare system is designed to provide a place where each ākonga can grow in confidence and competence alongside like-minded peers.

With these scriptures in mind, our team has crafted names which hold symbolism for the ākonga who will come to *flourish* and *connect* here:

- Hīnau
- Kawakawa
- Nīkau
- Pōhutukawa