

# - TE ARA -

## LIBRARY & SWIMMING POOL

Study Centre | Form 7 Common Areas | Digital Technology | Classrooms





## Project update

The original Te Ara project was an ambitious idea to provide best-in-class education facilities for the boys of today and the generations to come.

- Following the design and pricing process, like many building projects, a combination of cost escalation and delays had an impact on the project.
- The disruption of Covid-19 coupled with community feedback and closer engagement with Old Boys knowledgeable in the construction sector provided an opportunity to reassess.
- This review led to a realisation the School can preserve the original core concepts of Te Ara, redesign some elements and add a swimming pool and water polo capability – all for a similar cost.
- In real terms, it meant around \$4 million could be removed from the cost of construction - primarily through removal of the need for the cantilever over the pool, a simplified internal and external cladding system and a simplified roof design.
- The outcome is that against an original potential cost of \$15 million – \$20 million, the School is now confident Te Ara - and the new pool - can be delivered for \$16 million.
- The project has seen great support so far with donations and pledges continuing to be received. Fundraising is now at **\$15.1** million with only **\$900K** left to raise to complete this project.
- There will be no government financial contribution to the project, every dollar must be fundraised.

## What is Te Ara?

The key building block in the School's campus to unlocking the future direction of education at Grammar.

- Double the existing library space
- Purpose designed study and exam preparation spaces to cater to the diverse needs of Grammar's young men
- Two classrooms with digital technology for teachers to enhance their lesson delivery
- Long overdue indoor and outdoor Form 7 common areas
- Open forum space for inspiring guest presentations and musical performances
- Extended opening hours with on-site teacher tutors available

Located between the Centennial Theatre and the War Memorial.











## The pool

Feedback from the Grammar community and a \$1 million contribution from a donor passionate about seeing a multi-use pool facility at the School has seen the evolution of the project to incorporate a new heated swimming pool.

The pool will provide a critically needed water polo and swimming facility for our young men and the community.

- 25m x 30m outdoor pool
- Depth (2m) allows for swimming and water polo competitions
- 5m wide shallow zone (1.2m deep) for learn to swim PE classes
- All water polo teams train and play at home
- Swimming training and competition facility, School swimming sports day held on campus
- Premier sports recovery and high performance facility
- Located on the lower field between the tennis courts and the Lower Pavilion.

## Why do we need the new pool?

The current pool is deteriorating and no longer caters to the needs of our young men.

- Not fit for water polo trainings or games.
- Not fit for swimming training or competition.
- Past its use by date.

- Currently the School's water polo teams train at other facilities at considerable cost. This new facility will enable teams to train before and after School – at reduced cost.
- This new pool will provide an urgently needed facility for the School and the wider Auckland community. All water polo pools in the region are at 100% capacity.
- Presently, swimming sports are held offsite with restrictions on the number of students competing. This facility will bring them back to the School and add profile and support for these events.
- Grammar teams will for the first time ever, be able to hold home matches in a venue they are proud of.
- It will be a game changer for water polo and swimming at the School.





## Why do we need Te Ara?

Learning methodology has evolved over the past 50 years and the old library has not kept pace since it was built in 1969 for 1284 students. It is no longer fit for purpose.

---

The current library is:

- Overcrowded
- Noisy
- Devoid of effective study and learning spaces
- Thermally inadequate

The new building has been designed to meet the future educational needs of our young men.

- Increased capacity, designed for future roll growth.
- Better designed study and exam preparation spaces allowing different learning styles to take place in the same facility.
- Dedicated breakaway spaces for students to study, read, and work.
- Open presentation forum allowing for delivery to a wider audience and informal participation by those on the fringes.
- The latest digital technology.

Classrooms with video technology will enable teachers to improve their lesson delivery and constantly upskill.

Research shows that students having access to a good library enjoy higher test or exam scores, more successful learning outcomes and a more positive attitude towards learning.

## How is Te Ara and the new pool being delivered?

Te Ara and the new pool are one integrated project. Construction for both projects will commence in September 2021.

Every dollar raised is committed to the project as a whole and with no government financial support the full fundraising balance needs to be raised in order to complete the project.

- 
- All design work is completed
  - Goal for funding completion is December 12, 2021
  - Both project builds will run concurrently under a guaranteed maximum price model with construction commencing in September 2021
  - 36 week pool build duration
  - 15 month Te Ara build duration
  - Goal project completion date Term 2, 2023.











## Where we are now and what we need?

- The original Te Ara plans were forecast to cost between \$15 million – \$20 million
- Covid-19 provided an opportunity to reassess the project, reducing cost while enhancing the project scope
- All the key functional elements of the original Te Ara design were maintained while a new pool has been added
- The Te Ara project - including the new pool - is estimated at \$16 million, with \$15.1 million in donations and grants already pledged
- The project has been formally confirmed by the Auckland Grammar School Board with construction commencing in September 2021.

## How donors can help

Auckland Grammar School is now actively seeking gifts to advance Te Ara and we invite you to consider contributing generously through a gift to this vitally important project.

- Donations can be pledged over 3 years
- Full amounts are not required now
- Individuals can claim a 33.33% tax credit for all donations over \$5
- The tax credit on the donation is eligible to be claimed from the IRD after the donation has been made, it's not a reduction in the amount donated.
- You might find it helpful to consult with your financial adviser for specific advice regarding your donation.







## Donor recognition

In recognition of significant donor support, the School is currently planning to establish the Auckland Grammar School Te Ara Donor Honours Board.

For those that are comfortable with recognition, the intention is to respectfully acknowledge significant contributions with a tiered expression of gratitude and thanks.

---

### *Platinum Donors. \$1m+*

Name on the Platinum Donor Honours Board.

### *Gold Donors. \$500,000+*

Name on the Gold Donor Honours Board.

### *Silver Donors. \$100,000+*

Name on the Silver Donor Honours Board.

### *Bronze Donors. \$50,000+*

Name on the Bronze Donor Honours Board.

### *\$25,000 – \$49,999*

Name engraved in the forum bleachers.

### *\$10,000 – \$24,999*

Name engraved in the forum stairs.

### *\$5,000 – \$9,999*

Name inscribed on bookshelves in library.

### *\$1,000 – \$4,999*

Name engraved on bricks near the entrance to Te Ara.

### *All donors names in donors book*



## A few words from our students and teachers

*"Since starting my University degree at Otago I have appreciated the importance of dedicated study spaces and a high quality library. Te Ara will bring this much needed element to Auckland Grammar and undoubtedly help Grammar boys in their endeavour for higher education and successful future careers."*

— Patrick Reidy – 7G – 2019

*"Te Ara will provide a much improved library along with 7th Form common and study spaces. I believe this will benefit all of the school, but particularly the senior school boys - as sharing ideas, experiences and study in dedicated areas becomes increasingly important in their next steps on their educational pathway."*

— Dan Mee – 7E – 2019

*"The current pool has a number of shortcomings which constrain its use for Health, PE and water sports. For example the lack of depth hinders our ability to deliver full water safety classes. The new pool is a much needed facility, enabling water safety preparedness for our young men and enabling water polo and swimming training and competition hosting."*

— Mr Dave Mackay, Director of Sports Development

*"When you look around the school, you see the results of some remarkable generosity on the part of the wider community: the Old Boys' Pavilion, the Sports Centre, the new extension block – these buildings are testament to the close association past students retain with Grammar. Te Ara promises to reflect the best aspects of the Grammar's traditions by preserving the vital elements of the current library, whilst reflecting our willingness to provide the students with a modern, spacious reading and studying facility. It's an exciting prospect and I'm doubly reassured to know books will remain the centrepiece."*

— Mr Charles Laing, HOF English, HOD English.





“Te Ara is essential and will enhance the education we provide at Auckland Grammar School. Improving learning outcomes and providing a brighter future for all our young men. It isn’t just for the few.

The new Pool will be a game changer - and is long overdue. Like the Centennial Theatre project in 1969, Te Ara and the new Pool are the key projects to set us up for the years ahead.”

TIM O’CONNOR, HEADMASTER



**For more information contact Dan Reddish on  
(09) 623 5412 or [d.reddish@ags.school.nz](mailto:d.reddish@ags.school.nz)**