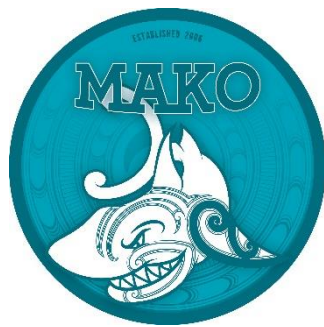


## Our Houses

Each house at Lincoln High School is more than just a name or a color—it is a story, a set of values, and a source of inspiration that connects and empowers its members. Each house reflects a unique identity, woven from mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge), natural symbolism, and cultural heritage, creating a sense of pride and belonging.

These stories serve as more than representation; they act as guiding principles for students. The symbolism behind each house encourages resilience, ambition, collaboration, and growth, helping students navigate their journeys both inside and outside the classroom.

Ultimately, our houses are not just symbols of competition; they are vessels for inspiration, fostering the values and relationships that define the Lincoln High School experience.



### Mako (Shark)

*“Kia mate ururoa, kei mate wheke.”*  
*(Fight like a shark, don’t give in like an octopus.)*

Mako represents resilience, courage, and determination, drawing its power from the moana (ocean) and the realm of Takaroa (*guardian of the sea*). The unaunahi (*fish scale*) pattern symbolizes the strength and unity of the ocean’s ecosystem, while the fierce design of the shark evokes its relentless spirit in facing challenges.

This house encourages its members to embrace difficult circumstances with bravery and persistence, never backing down in the face of adversity. Students in Mako are reminded to fight for what they believe in, stand strong together, and approach every challenge with unwavering determination.



### **Kāhu (Eagle)**

*“Hāpaitia te ara tika pūmau ai te rangatiratanga mō ngā uri whakatipu.”  
(Foster the pathway of knowledge to strength, independence, and growth for future generations.)*

Kāhu, the eagle, soars high as a symbol of aspiration, leadership, and independence. The poutama (*stairway* or *stepped pattern*), representing the journey of learning and growth, reflects Kāhu’s focus on guiding students to reach their highest potential. The koru and puhoro (wing designs) elements within its design signify strength and the continuous journey toward self-improvement.

Students in Kāhu are encouraged to lead by example, leaving a legacy of achievement and inspiring future generations. This house celebrates the value of knowledge, the courage to aim high, and the importance of paving pathways for others to follow.



### **Kōtare (Kingfisher)**

*“Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūohu koe, me he maunga teitei.”  
(Seek the treasure that you value most dearly; if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain.)*

The Kōtare symbolizes ambition, focus, and perseverance. Its design incorporates tāniko (*decorative weaving patterns*), haehae (*grooved lines*), and manu (*bird*) motifs, which reflect reaching for the highest aspirations and working towards self-betterment. This house is inspired by the Kingfisher’s sharp focus and patience as it waits for the right moment to act.

Students in Kōtare are encouraged to pursue their goals relentlessly, striving for excellence while staying grounded in their values. It reminds its members that even

when faced with challenges, persistence and clarity of purpose can lead to great success.



### **Īnaka (Whitebait)**

*“He iti hau marangai e tū te pāhokahoka.”*

*(Just like a rainbow after the storm, success follows failure.)*

Īnaka celebrates growth, resilience, and adaptability, mirroring the life journey of the Īnaka as it overcomes obstacles to thrive. The unaunahi (*fish scale*) pattern, combined with koru (*spiral shape symbolizing new beginnings*) and haehae (*grooved lines*) designs, symbolizes new beginnings, the process of learning, and the importance of navigating life’s highs and lows.

This house inspires students to embrace mistakes as opportunities to grow, to remain steadfast in the face of difficulties, and to see challenges as stepping stones to success. Īnaka teaches that every storm brings with it the promise of a brighter future.



### **Kūaka (Godwit)**

*“Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa.”*

*(Let us keep close together, not far apart.)*

Kūaka reflects the spirit of unity, collaboration, and perseverance, drawing inspiration from the extraordinary migration journey of the Kūaka. The koru and puhoro (Wing design) motifs within its design emphasize teamwork, speed, and the importance of supporting one another to achieve shared goals.

Students in Kūaka are reminded of the strength found in collective effort and the importance of working together to overcome challenges. This house encourages its

members to foster manaakitanga (*hospitality and support*), ensuring no one is left behind and that every success is shared.



### **Pātiki (Flounder)**

*“E kore te pātiki e hoki ki tōna puehu.”*

*(The flounder does not go back to the mud it has stirred.)*

Pātiki represents progress, growth, and the ability to learn from mistakes. Inspired by the flounder’s resilience, its design incorporates tukutuku (*latticework panels*), koru (*spirals representing new life*), and mangōpare (*hammerhead shark motifs*) to signify determination, strength, and adaptability.

This house encourages students to move forward with confidence, using lessons from the past to shape a better future. Pātiki inspires its members to embrace challenges as opportunities for development and to take pride in their ability to overcome obstacles, learn from mistakes, and achieve personal and collective growth.