



Case Study:

Taradale Intermediate School

How Taradale Intermediate found the heart in the data

Taradale Intermediate has always been a school of the future. As a leading 'lighthouse' school in the Hawke's Bay region, they live out their mission statement every day: 'Create something new.'

From pioneering the use of AI for students with autism to forming high-level industry partnerships, this school has built a reputation as a regional leader in innovation.

However, the leadership team at Taradale knew that being a "lighthouse" school required more than just cutting-edge tech. It required a guarantee that no student, no matter how quiet, was slipping through the cracks of the pastoral care system.

"Pulse shifts some of the knowledge from being held in the pastoral team alone to a wider group of adults at school... which enables us to get the right people in the right places earlier to help with our learners and what they're going through."

Marty Hantz, Principal

School: Taradale Intermediate

Roll: 535 students

Location:
Hawke's Bay, New Zealand

Focus:
Future-focused innovation and comprehensive student wellbeing

Linevize Solutions:
Pulse and Online Safety Hub



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TARADALE
INTERMEDIATE



Pulse in action:

Proactive wellbeing check-ins with Pulse

Moving beyond reactive care

The school had already taken the significant step of hiring a full-time pastoral care officer. But with a large, diverse student body, they faced a persistent challenge: visibility.

In a traditional school setting, support is often reactive. A teacher might notice a change in a child's grades, or a crisis might flare up on the playground. But what about the students navigating quiet challenges at home or deep emotional shifts that aren't immediately visible? Taradale realised that to be truly "comprehensive," they needed to move beyond anecdotal observations and find a way to hear from every child, every week. That's where Pulse came in.

A weekly voice for every student

For the school, the adoption of Pulse as a weekly wellbeing platform wasn't about adding another digital "tool" to the list; it was about creating a consistent, weekly rhythm where every student has a voice.

From noticing to knowing: Reaching students sooner

In a busy school, it's easy to rely on what we see on the surface; attendance, grades, or playground behaviour. But Taradale Intermediate wanted to go deeper.

By systematising a weekly check-in through Pulse, they've ensured that every single student has a dedicated moment to be heard.

This gives the pastoral care team a real-time "pulse" on how the school is actually feeling, moving them beyond guesswork or anecdotal observations. Instead of waiting for a student to reach a breaking point, the school can now see the quiet signals early on.

It turns their pastoral care from a reactive safety net into a proactive, compassionate support system that meets students exactly where they are.

The outcomes

- **Comprehensive wellbeing:** Through consistent, weekly check-ins, the school ensures every student feels seen and supported, both in the classroom and in their personal lives.
- **A "lighthouse" community:** Taradale is proving that the most forward-thinking schools are those that put student wellbeing at the centre of their vision.
- **Actionable visibility:** The school has a real-time view of the emotional climate, moving beyond guesswork to show exactly where support is needed most.
- **Connection over observation:** Taradale has moved from simply observing behaviour and fostered a culture where students know their feelings are a priority, not just their grades.

