



COBDEN SCHOOL INFORMATION PACK 2026

OUR VISION

A community of learners where wellbeing, relationships, and joyful learning empower ākonga to be confident, engaged, creative, and caring critical thinkers.

Cobden School

Address: Fox St, Cobden, Greymouth

Phone: 03 768 7465

Principal: Noula Markham

Email: principal@cobden.school.nz

Website: www.cobden.school.nz

0.8 Permanent Scale A Teaching Position

Kia ora

Thank you for your interest in the **0.8 Part-time** teaching position at Cobden School, commencing Term 1, 2027.

Cobden School is a vibrant and growing full primary school on the West Coast of Aotearoa. We are seeking a committed teacher to join our team, and welcome applications from both experienced and beginning teachers.

We take pride in our inclusive and innovative school culture. Our staff work collaboratively to support learner success through structured teaching, a localised curriculum, and a strong focus on wellbeing. Experience with PB4L and the Collaborative Proactive Solutions (CPS) model is an advantage.

This position includes PTS allowance.

This information pack includes:

- About Cobden School
- Appointment Timeline

We look forward to receiving your application.

Ngā mihi,
Noula Markham
Principal





COBDEN SCHOOL

The Cobden School community is located between the Grey River in the south, the Tasman Sea in the west, and the "Twelve Apostles" hills in the north and east.

After completing primary education, students typically move on to either Greymouth High School or John Paul II High School.

The school hosts an on-site playgroup in support of WestReap.

There is a wide range of sports and cultural activities available, including kapa haka, swimming, soccer, rugby league, hockey, basketball, and mini-ball.

Local churches cater to the spiritual needs of the community. The school is increasingly facing challenges due to social issues affecting children and their families. To address these challenges, the school collaborates with various support agencies such as:

- Learning Support
- Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour (RTLB)
- Public Health Nurse
- Oranga Tamariki
- Homebuilders
- Social Workers in Schools
- Family Start

Cobden School serves as the lead school for RTLB on the West Coast.

We strongly encourage parental involvement in children's education and strive to provide a caring, respectful environment. To enhance whānau engagement, Cobden School maintains an active website, Facebook page, TikTok, YouTube, and Skool Loop, sharing student learning achievements with the wider community.

TEACHING AND LEARNING AT COBDEN SCHOOL

Cobden School offers a bespoke, joyful learning experience within a small, family-like community where every child is known, valued, and supported. With a flat leadership structure and a strong focus on wellbeing, collaboration, and innovation, we empower educators to make a meaningful impact — making this a truly special place to teach and grow.

Cobden School is committed to delivering high-quality, structured teaching and learning programmes aligned with the revised New Zealand Curriculum.

We have introduced new Maths and English curriculums that reflect the latest curriculum updates and ensure strong progressions across all year levels.

- We use the Maths No Problem programme to support deep mathematical understanding and consistency across the school.
- Our English curriculum emphasises literacy foundations, critical thinking, and creativity.



Cobden School is a PB4L school that also embraces the Collaborative Proactive Solutions (CPS) approach to identify students' lagging skills and meet them where they are at. This approach helps us understand the underlying causes of challenging behaviour and enables us to teach problem-solving, communication, and self-regulation skills in a supportive and inclusive way.

Together, these frameworks create clear, coherent pathways for all ākonga, supporting equity, engagement, and excellence.

FACILITIES INCLUDE

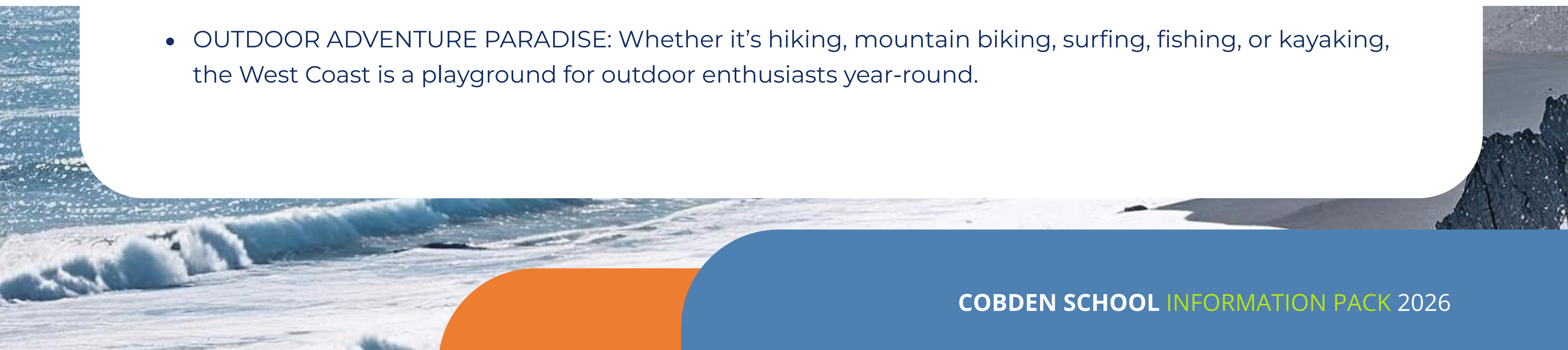
- Upgraded classrooms
- Heated, covered swimming pool (Terms 1 & 4)
- Multi-purpose tech space
- Renovated hall with improved access and amenities
- New pellet boiler and central heating in all rooms
- Enhanced digital infrastructure and wireless connectivity

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Opportunities for ongoing PLD and participation in regional networks
- A collaborative, supportive teaching team with a focus on wellbeing and innovation

LIVING ON THE WESTCOAST

- **BREATHTAKING NATURAL BEAUTY:** Nestled between the Tasman Sea and lush native bush, the West Coast offers stunning landscapes, dramatic coastlines, and the majestic Southern Alps — all right on your doorstep.
- **AFFORDABLE LIFESTYLE:** Enjoy a lower cost of living compared to major cities, with affordable housing, minimal traffic, and a relaxed pace of life that supports wellbeing and work-life balance.
- **TIGHT-KNIT COMMUNITY:** Experience genuine hospitality and a strong sense of belonging in a community that values connection, collaboration, and support — perfect for families and newcomers.
- **OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PARADISE:** Whether it's hiking, mountain biking, surfing, fishing, or kayaking, the West Coast is a playground for outdoor enthusiasts year-round.



LIVING ON THE WESTCOAST cont...

- **RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE:** Discover the region's deep Māori and settler history, with local marae, museums, and cultural events that celebrate the unique identity of Te Tai o Poutini.
- **CREATIVE AND ARTISTIC VIBES:** The Coast is home to a vibrant arts scene, with galleries, theatre groups, and community events that foster creativity and expression.
- **FRESH AIR AND SPACE:** Escape the hustle and bustle — breathe clean air, enjoy wide open spaces, and let your children thrive in a safe, nature-rich environment.
- **GATEWAY TO ADVENTURE:** With easy access to Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks, Hokitika Gorge, and the glaciers of Franz Josef and Fox, weekend getaways are always spectacular.

WE ARE OFFERING

- A welcoming, well-resourced environment with modernised facilities, including a new technology room
- A school-wide focus on equity, excellence, and well-being
- Induction and on-going professional development and support

You will be joining a team of dedicated educators committed to making a difference for every learner.

WE ARE SEEKING:

Scale A Teacher (Y4)

0.8 Part-time

PTSA (Teacher Supply Allowance)

Start date: Term 1, 2027

THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL:

- Demonstrate strong teaching capability in Mathematics and English
- Foster an inclusive, positive classroom culture
- Integrate health and well-being into their teaching
- Collaborate effectively within a supportive, forward-thinking team
- Build strong, respectful relationships with tamariki and whānau
- Be able to coordinate and organise school-wide and community-based sports events





MUST HAVE:

- Recent lower-primary experience
- Collaborative team skills
- Evidence of experience and understanding around trauma-informed practice
- Success stories and examples of effective classroom practice
- Good time management

TIMELINE FOR APPOINTMENT

DATE	PROCESS
16 October 2026	Advertised online in the Education Gazette.
30 October 2026	Applications close. Applications must be received by 4pm.
4 November 2026	Shortlist formed. Referees contacted by this date.
9 November 2026	Interviews. Successful applicant to be advised of the offer of appointment as soon as possible after interviews are completed. Successful applicant has 48 hours in which to accept the appointment.
12 November 2026	Unsuccessful applicants notified by this date.
Term 1 2027	Position commences.

Contact Details

Send enquiries or CV, cover letter and application form to:
Noula Markham: Principal, Cobden School
Email: principal@cobden.school.nz
Phone: 03 768 7465



Your cover letter should directly relate to this role and be supported with evidence in your CV.

Note: Due to time constraints, we encourage early applications so we can complete referee checks promptly.