

Adventist Education 2020–2025

Mission Impact

FRUITS OF OUR LABOUR

Over the past five years, Adventist Education in NZPUC has experienced tangible growth and alignment with our gospel mission. Key milestones include:

- Formation of the NZPUC Education Council: Uniting all five Conferences and the Mission to foster shared leadership, system coherence, and strategic planning.
- Transformation of Accreditation: Shifting toward a discipleship-driven model, strengthening the Adventist character and spiritual impact of our schools.
- Revitalisation of the ENCOUNTER Bible Curriculum: In partnership with the SPD, NAD, and Australia, leading to contextual, Spirit-led classroom experiences.
- Implementation of “Teaching for Transformation”: Equipping educators with tools to cultivate student identity as disciples and kingdom influencers.
- Adventist Education Hui (2023–2025): Engaging stakeholders across NZ to co-design a long-term strategic vision for Adventist Education to 2040.
- Cross-Pacific Collaboration: Shared initiatives with SPD Education Directors—ABIDE Bible for educators, Christian Foundation Units, and Leadership Conferences—strengthen resourcing and professional formation.

Opportunities for Improvement

LABOUR PROMPTED BY LOVE

While significant strides have been made, several areas require attention and system-level realignment:

- Limited Cross-Ministry Integration: Attempts to break silos between education and other church ministries fell short; the Education Priority Strategy House model prioritised church space over educational systems and operations. Funding, commitment, and resourcing were insufficient.
- Leadership Resourcing: Inconsistent support and limited accessibility to Mission Conference Education Directors hindered system sustainability. This requires a review of Conference/Mission funding, assignment, and appointment processes for Education Directors.
- Limited Replication of the Adventist Education Hui: The successful NZ-based Hui format was not reproduced across other regions due to logistical and leadership constraints.
- Infrastructure Funding: School expansion is constrained by current funding models,

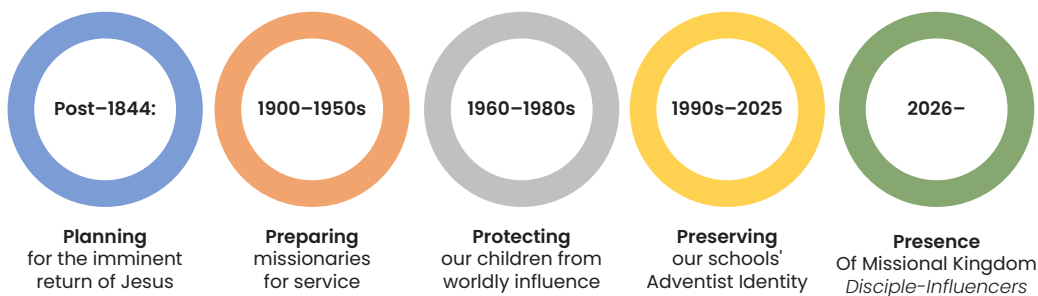
despite rising enrolments and community demand, which impacts potential Kingdom growth opportunities.

- Adventist Teacher Supply: Recruitment of qualified Adventist teachers, particularly in culturally aligned regions, remains a strategic global and local concern.
- Chaplaincy Strategy: The inconsistent prioritisation of school chaplaincy roles limits the discipleship capacity and capabilities within schools. Stronger systems are needed for appointing, training, and resourcing chaplains across Conferences and Missions.

Flourishing Future Strategic Priorities (2026–2030)

ENDURANCE INSPIRED BY HOPE

Looking ahead, NZPUC Education is committed to a bold and Spirit-led roadmap guided by one clear purpose: To catalyse a transformational and flourishing Adventist education system characterised by the PRESENCE of missional Kingdom disciple influencers.



Strategic directions include:

- Teacher Recruitment Pathways: Utilise SPD scholarship to train future Adventist teachers from the Cook Islands and New Caledonia via PAU and Fulton. Continue funding the Induction of non-SDA teachers to teaching and working in Adventist schools to ensure complete awareness and employment expectations.
- School Growth and Infrastructure: Conferences to strategically review funding policies to support high-demand school expansion and deepen community impact, and broaden Adventist presence in communities.
- Faith and Identity Formation: Continued rollout of Teaching for Transformation and Encounter Bible in non-NZ Conferences, strengthening Adventist doctrinal understanding and appreciation and missional distinctiveness.
- Workforce and Enrolment Realities: Addressing the global Adventist teacher shortage to fill the demand from schools that have complete enrolments and need to expand God's Kingdom.
- Enrolment Realities: Mindset shifts from SDA families as to why they are not enrolling children in Adventist schools

Reaffirming the Mission of Adventist Education

The NZPUC Conferences and the Mission Conference share a unified vision: Adventist schools are valued and essential ministry partners. This affirms Adventist education’s integral role within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, preserving its distinctive identity, mission, and commitment to developing missional kingdom disciple-influencers.

NZPUC SDA School Enrolment Analysis 2021–2024

2,737	+198	7.8%	2,643
Total Students 2024	Growth Since 2021	4-Year Growth Rate	Average Enrolment

Overall Enrolment Summary

Year	Total Enrolment	Year-on-Year Change	Growth Rate
2021	2,538	–	–
2022	2,654	+116	+4.6%
2023	2,639	–15	–0.6%
2024	2,737	+65	+3.5

Enrolment by Conference

Conference	2021	2022	2023	2024	4-Year Change	Growth Rate
NZPUC–LAC	203	190	215	235	+32	+15.8%
NNZC	1,386	1,463	1,470	1,525	+139	+10.0%
SNZC	351	368	357	371	+20	+5.7%
CIM	180	212	207	217	+37	+20.6%
FPM	419	422	390	389	–30	–7%



Key Insights & Trends

- Overall enrolment has grown by 5.3% over the 4-year period, from 2,538 to 2,672 students
- NNZC remains the largest conference, representing 57% of total enrolment in 2024
- CIM shows the strongest growth rate at 20.6%, followed by NZPUC-LAC at 15.8%
- FPM experienced a significant decline of 22.5%, losing 94 students over the period
- After a peak in 2022 (2,654), enrolment dipped in 2023 but recovered in 2024
- Four out of five conferences showed positive growth over the 4-year period

Celebrating Transformational Impact

“We remember you in our prayers”

This quinquennium has witnessed remarkable achievements in Adventist education across the NZPUC. We extend heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation to:

- Our Retired Leaders: Your years of dedicated service laid a strong foundation for the progress we celebrate today.
- Our Current Education Directors and Mission Education Leaders: Your tireless efforts in navigating complex challenges and championing innovative initiatives have been instrumental in shaping a brighter future for Adventist education.
- School Leaders, Teachers, Staff, Boards, and Chaplains: Your daily dedication to shaping the lives of our students is truly inspiring. You are the heart of our schools, nurturing faith, fostering academic excellence, and empowering the next generation of missional, kingdom-disciple influencers.

“We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” —1 Thessalonians 1:3



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