

KIWI KIDS VOTE: THE CANDIDATES

We asked the leaders, co leaders and deputies of the parties in parliament in Aotearoa all about themselves, and what they want to do for children! Have a read, and get to know the candidates in our child-friendly guide. For any support contact education@scnz.org.nz

Carmel Sepuloni



Favourite joke:

What kind of socks do grizzly bears wear? None - they wear bear feet!

Favourite colour: RED

Favourite food: Seafood

Favourite animal: I'd love to be dolphin - because I love the water, and they're curious and sociable.

Three most important qualities: Integrity, work ethic and their ability to laugh.

Ideal weekend: Hang with the family!

The world needs more: Tolerance and respect for each other.

What should political leaders do or change to support children? We all need to genuinely work together on the challenges that children are confronted with.

Chlöe Swarbrick



Favourite joke:

Why did the maths book look so sad? Because it had so many problems.

Favourite colour: GREEN

Favourite food: Pasta

Favourite animal: My friends often say I would be a kororā (little blue penguin), because they reckon I'm small and tough. I've also got a pretty special connection to those penguins, after working hard to protect them on Waiheke.

Three most important qualities: Honesty, kindness and the ability to listen.

Ideal weekend: Walking in nature, listening to music, hanging out with my friends and my family.

The world needs more: People treating others the way they want to be treated.

What should political leaders do or change to support children? We need to make sure all families have a warm house, good food, time to go to the beach and explore nature, enough money for all kids to be able to do sports or music or art or follow whatever their curiosity is. Young people should feel respected and like you can talk about the things that make you feel uncomfortable. You should be supported to grow up safely and follow your dreams.

Chris Hipkins



Favourite joke:

What do you call a deer with no eyes? No eye deer!

What do you call a deer with no eyes and no legs? Still no eye deer!

Favourite colour: RED

Favourite food: Lasagne

Favourite animal: Dog – you get to lie around all day, go for long walks, and everyone's happy to see you!

Three most important qualities: Kindness, loyalty and honesty.

Ideal weekend: A long bike ride, some gardening, and plenty of time with the family.

The world needs more: Patience.

What should political leaders do or change to support children? Eliminate child poverty, make sure every child lives in a warm, dry home, and ensure our education system caters to all kids across New Zealand.

Christopher Luxon



Favourite joke:

Why should you always knock on a refrigerator door before opening it?

In case there's a salad dressing.

Favourite colour: BLUE

Favourite food: Mince pie

Favourite animal: Dolphin - so I can surf the waves!

Three most important qualities: Humility, determination, humour.

Ideal weekend: Go to the beach and have a BBQ.

The world needs more: Patience.

What should political leaders do or change to support children? I want New Zealand to be a place where every kid has the opportunity to reach their full potential. This is a priority for me, which is why we're helping families where we can, like with free and healthy lunches in your schools, helping parents to pay for childcare, and making kids bus trips free or half price. I believe that every child should be able to go to a good school – to learn and to have fun. We also need to make sure New Zealand is the cleanest and greenest place on earth for kids to grow up in!

David Seymour



Favourite joke:

What fish only swims at night?
Starfish!

Favourite colour: YELLOW

Favourite food: Pizza

Favourite animal: Definitely a dolphin, because they are the kindest, most intelligent, and one of the fastest.

Three most important qualities: A person should be proud of who they are and always do their best. They should help others when they can. They should have a sense of humour and enjoy life.

Ideal weekend: Go to the beach to swim and sunbathe, read a book and have fish and chips.

The world needs more: Acceptance of who each and every person is, without judging anyone on their identity.

What should political leaders do or change to support children? The world needs more acceptance of who each and every person is, without judging anyone on their identity.

Debbie Ngarewa-Packer



Favourite joke:

Knock, knock. Who's there? Theodore.
Theodore who?

Theodore wasn't open so I knocked.

Favourite colour: BLACK

Favourite food: Titi

Favourite animal: Tohora, because I love the moana!

Three most important qualities: Empathy, kindness & humility.

Ideal weekend: Surf, camping and spending time with my whānau.

The world needs more: Empathy, kindness & people who are willing to fight for the rights of all to live with dignity.

What should political leaders do or change to support children? Listen and be informed on what matters to tamariki & their whānau. We must create an Aotearoa where all tamariki can thrive - ending child poverty, better education and a healthy Taiao for tamariki to grow up in.

Marama Davidson



Favourite joke:
It's a skit by the
Laughing Samoans.

A person is wearing only
one jandal and another
person asks them, "have
you lost your other
jandal?"

The first person replies,
"no, but I found one."

Favourite colour: GREEN

Favourite food: Sour Cream and Chives potato chips

Favourite animal: A ruru/native owl. Because I enjoy the
outdoor world at night and I especially love being in the bush
at night.

Three most important qualities: Critical thinking, humility,
and good manners.

Ideal weekend: A bush walk, a daytime nap, and time with
my children and mokopuna.

The world needs more: Art, creativity and equity.

**What should political leaders do or change to support
children?** End child and whānau poverty immediately by
increasing income and housing support - those are just
political decisions.

Nicola Willis



Favourite joke:
Knock, knock. Who's
there? Theodore.
Theodore who?

Theodore wasn't open so I
knocked.

Favourite colour: YELLOW

Favourite food: Seafood

Favourite animal: Labrador Dog!

Three most important qualities: Compassion, loyalty and work
ethic.

Ideal weekend: Saturday morning pancakes with my children,
followed by a bush walk, yummy lunch, trip to the beach and
then dinner out with my lovely husband. Then on Sunday head
to Disneyland and then home to a movie and pizza.

The world needs more: Technologies to solve climate change
and more cures to cancer and other diseases.

**What should political leaders do or change to support
children?** Strengthen the economy so that families have a
lower cost of living and better incomes to support their
children. Better public services such as schools and hospitals,
so they can provide all children with a great education and
excellent hospital care.