

# PROSPECTUS



Creating Futures  
Building Communities



## WAITĀKERE COLLEGE



# Welcome to Waitākere College



## I believe three pillars make a great school.

- The first pillar is our students who have high expectations of themselves to 'be the best they can be'.
- The second pillar is our teachers who have high expectations of themselves as professionals and have high expectations of their students to achieve their best in each subject.
- The third pillar is our parent/whānau community who feel involved, informed and included in their son or daughter's journey through Waitākere College.

We link these pillars to the three tenets of 'The Waitākere Way', our daily code of how we operate.

These tenets resonate with the three strands of our "W" symbol of Waitākere College. They are:

**Respect ( Tapu )** which draws on the values of tolerance, honesty, integrity and asks each of us to respect ourselves and others.

**Caring ( Manākitanga )** which ensures we focus on having a supportive school in all regards. If students feel cared for and safe, they are happy and they learn.

**Learning ( Ako )**, our core business. Our students are encouraged to have high academic aspirations and we support this with SMART goals which are reviewed each term.

Our House System comprises Three Houses

**Manawanui** (perseverance)

**Mātauranga** (knowledge)

**Aroha** (love)

These house names reinforce student growth and achievement. We reward students via house points from our weekly reports associated with academic progress.

The three pillars, sustained by the three tenets of The Waitākere Way and our three houses, all support our motto "Achievement for All", meaning we focus on finding success for each individual student.

**Mark P Shanahan**

Principal/Tumuaki

# Academic Achievement is our Core Business

Waitākere College is a celebration of success. We look for students to experience success in as many areas of their teenage lives as possible to ensure they are better young leaders of our future.

We celebrate Sporting success, Cultural success, and Arts success across the College for our students with many opportunities throughout their years here from Year 9 to Year 13.

However, preparation for the career pathway past our College years is our key goal.

Success in NCEA in Year 11 (NCEA Level 1), Year 12 (NCEA Level 2), and Year 13 (NCEA Level 3) as an academic journey is our core business.

- NCEA pass rates remain at or above the NCEA National Averages for the past 5 years in NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3.

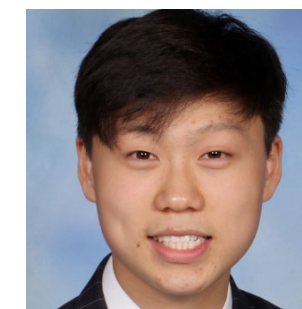
Waitākere College students outperform the National Average for NCEA Academic Exam Scholarships - in 2021 our students gained 12 Scholarships (meaning their results were in the top 3% across NZ), across subjects as diverse as: Biology, Design, Chemistry, Calculus, English, Photography, Physics, Painting and Sculpture.

- Our Trades Academies ensure that students gain 2nd year pathways into high end trade apprenticeships into building, engineering, hospitality.

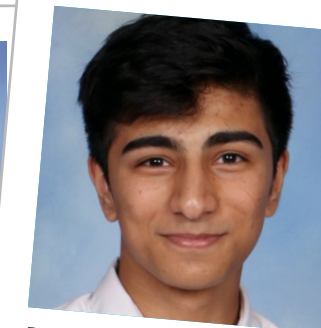
Our Academies graduates are sought after as they are already work and skill ready.

Success is about being **Better than Before**.

We work hard to achieve this for the children in our care over their journey with us.



TAEHO HYOUNG - National Scholarships in Calculus, English



BHARAT SHARMA - National Scholarships in Biology, Chemistry



RICHAIL RAI - National Scholarship in Design



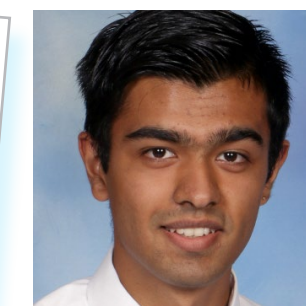
ROBERT CHRISTIE - National Scholarships in Chemistry, Physics, Calculus



BRIAR KNAPTON - National Scholarship in Photography



TIANNA TURK - National Scholarship in Sculpture



RAHIL PRAKASH - National Scholarship in Biology

Success  
is about being

**Better  
than Before**





Jake Starrs, 2019  
Dux Litterarum



Andee Raven Kenept,  
2020 Dux Litterarum



Mackenzie Roskrue,  
2021 Dux Litterarum



## Why Waitākere?

"My time at Waitākere College was massively influential in my life, in many ways more so than University. I had the good fortune to be exposed to a variety of experiences, cultures and challenges that set the foundations of who I am, what I love doing, and what I care about..."

A good school with high standards, a strong culture and a sense of adventure that I am enormously grateful for."

**Shayne Elliott**

Past Pupil, CEO and Executive Director ANZ Bank

## Waitākere College graduates are successful life-long learners

**We aim to make learning exciting and challenging for all our students by:**

- Believing that all students can learn
- Understanding that not all students are the same
- Offering a wide range of activities and programmes to meet their different needs

**We encourage students to see themselves as successful learners by:**

- Setting and reviewing their own learning goals
- Offering choices of programme, topic, and learning media
- Building research and study skills
- Sharing and presenting their work
- Taking opportunities to coach, mentor and lead others
- Celebrating their achievements

**We aim to get our students' minds engaged by:**

- Connecting with their interests
- Building on what they know already
- Helping them discover what they still need to learn
- Offering them meaningful and challenging tasks
- Teaching them how to think with explicit thinking strategies



"Waitākere College holds a very special place in my heart. The people that I have met in my 5 years in this College are blessings. I loved my experiences and all the lessons that I have learnt during my time there. The College is very diverse, inclusive and very accepting of anyone from any background. The different cultures are acknowledged and appreciated and this has become a tradition, hence why it wasn't just a school for most of us but our second home. I hold pride when I say that I come from Waitākere College."

**Tiatia Iloni**

Past Pupil and Recipient of WDHB Medical Science Scholarship & First Foundation Scholarship.







The three pillars of our College: Parents, Teachers and Students working together

### Rich, varied curriculum

We offer courses to cater for many different pathways, from students heading to university or polytech to those aiming for apprenticeships or worthwhile employment. For example, our curriculum includes:

- Classics, Physics, Calculus, Photography, Design and Visual Communication.
- Academies: Engineering, Automotive, Building, Health, Hospitality, Military Services, Medical Sciences.

### Excellent quality teaching

- Quality teachers are our most important resource – innovative, energetic, optimistic, caring, inspirational, hard-working and good-humoured people who enjoy helping young people discover the excitement of learning.
- We attract more and better applicants for teaching positions because we offer more promotion prospects.
  - Our advantage as a mid-sized school is that you can follow your subject and passion right through to senior levels. Our Curriculum Map shows the wide range of subject choices we are able to offer, beyond the junior school and into Years 12 and 13.



## Why Waitākere?

"We wanted to support our local school and our girls really love it here."

**Joan Thomas**  
Parent



"The College's e-Learning vision is being implemented well and all students now have opportunity to use digital devices to enhance learning. Online dialogue with teachers is promoting greater student engagement through frequent feedback about their learning."

**Education Review Office**

# An innovative digital environment

**Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)**

### New ways to engage students in learning

Our students learn in many different ways: through talking, listening and interacting, reading and writing, learning practical skills and doing physical activities. Now we have a powerful new tool in the toolbox: e-Learning.

### Contemporary digital learning environment

- Our personalised approach to e-Learning extends to every student from Years 9 to 13.
- Waitākere College is fully wireless with ultrafast broadband in every classroom, plus 6 dedicated computer suites.
- Our teachers stay at the forefront of this environment with ongoing professional development to maximise digital opportunities and ensure students stay on the right side of the digital divide.

An internet capable device, meeting school specifications, is a standard item on our stationery list. Information on package price options and recommended suppliers is available on the school website and reception.

### What does e-Learning offer?

- Digital technology skills are a prerequisite for success in the world of work and beyond – our students need to leave school fully equipped to succeed in this world.
- Digital tools help our young people access knowledge, build sophisticated understandings and connect with others around the globe.
- Students can move through the learning at their own pace and receive personal feedback from teachers online.
- They will learn how to be safe, responsible users of technology – good digital citizens.
- They learn the skills of on-line collaboration as well as creating new content and sharing it with the world.



# Shine

## Enrichment Programme

### How will my child benefit from Shine?

We often use the words 'star' and 'shine' to describe someone who stands out in their field. The objective of our 'Shine' programme is to ensure our most able students really shine and achieve their academic and personal potential for their future in our complex world.

Shine develops students into confident connected learners and strategic thinkers with breadth and depth to their enquiry.

Students are empowered by an accelerated learning environment and senior teaching staff focused on personalised learning.

They remain together through Year 9 to 13 for mentoring to achieve academically and aspire to school leadership roles in our College and beyond.

### Enrichment for gifted and talented students

- Streamed Core Classes for Year 9 and 10, academic monitoring and mentoring for Years 11 to 13.
- Acceleration – NCEA credits available at Year 10 in all core subjects.
- 100% Pass rate in NCEA exams. High rate of Merit and Excellence endorsements.
- Higher Order thinking skills, goal setting and leadership growth.
- Lifelong benefits from social networks and the stimulus of intellectually compatible peers.
- Teaching staff stretch students to set goals and reach high achievements.
- External and internal competitions, activities and excursions to extend and challenge.
- Projects contributing to the community.

### We offer students the chance to grow as leaders at all levels.

Within the junior school this could be as e-leaders, librarians, in sports teams, as ambassadors to contributing schools, as helpers at school events and as junior Prefects.

Within the senior school there are many different opportunities such as:

- Becoming head Prefects for their house or Prefects with special responsibilities. This group takes part in special leadership programmes throughout the year

- Student Council, Sports Council, Environmental or Arts & Culture councils
- Training in peer mediation, harassment prevention, peer sexuality contact people, peer tutors or kiwi buddies for International Students

Prefects, premier sports teams, high academic achievers and other key senior leaders wear distinctive striped blazers in recognition of their leadership and to inspire all students.

See uniform pages in this Prospectus.



"Students learn social responsibility and develop a meaningful sense of service to others. High levels of action, care and support enable students to learn and succeed in their own way."

Education Review Office



# Sport

Develop your fitness and technical skills with opportunities to be involved at all levels from recreational to representative.

- Sports Academies offer focused training sessions with expert coaches. Scholarships available. (Application and trial dates details on request)
- Great facilities and equipment, quality mentoring and management, facilitated by our Sports Coordinator and Director of Sport.

Enjoy a wide range of sports\* and activities including:

AFL	Special
Athletics	Olympics
Badminton	Soccer
Basketball	(Football)
Boccia	Softball
Cricket	Swimming
Cross Country	Tag Football
Diving	Tennis
Dragonboating	Touch
Gymnastics	Rugby
Hockey	Tramping
Kayaking	Triathlon
Lawn Bowls	
Netball	Volleyball
Rockclimbing	Waterpolo
Rugby	Weights Room
Orienteering	Wrestling
Petanque	

\* Subject to change



# Sports Academies

## Year 9 Sports Academy

The Year 9 Sports Academy runs 5 of the 6 timetabled days in the school week. It has a generic sports and physical conditioning focus, with extra training sessions with expert coaches that takes fitness and technical skills to the next level.

- The Year 9 Sports Academy is a timetabled class which is available for elite athletes across all sporting codes
- If your main code is football, rugby, netball or basketball you would be expected to attend the specialist Academy sessions
- This is a year-long course, your non-sport option choices will reduce from eight to four

Areas covered within the programme are:

Physical fitness – Cardio, plyometrics, circuit training, core strength  
Coaching introduction | Nutrition | Goal setting | Leadership

## Entry into the programme

Entry into the Year 9 Sports Academy will be a selection process using enrolment information and information provided on the Academy/ scholarship application forms along with trials, consultation with sports coaches, PE teachers and Intermediate schools via the sports activator. Students will be expected to apply for entry into the programme and if accepted will sign a contract agreeing they will play sport for the school as well as maintain standards of academic effort and focus in all subjects.

Failure to follow the contract can result in removal from the course.

All Intermediate school students entering Waitākere College, local to the school or not, who wish to perform at an elite level are encouraged to apply.

SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES	
MICHAEL CROZIER NEIL HARLOCK KENNY HARLOCK VANESSA JACK STEVE JACKSON SIONE LAUAKI CENSUS JOHNSON SCOTT NELSON MATT RUA MAHONRI SCHWALGER MATTHEW SWINTON MICHAEL SCOTT LISA TAYLOR RUA TIPOKI DARRYL WILLIAMS JASON WYNARD PAT SHANNON HEINDRICH (HEINE) SHANNON SHANE SWITZER KEEGAN FITCHER EPALAHAME LAUAKI BIANCA TOFILAU SINA HUNKIN POASA FAMAMUSILI CRAIG McGRATH	TENNIS FOOTBALL ALL WHITES FOOTBALL ALL WHITES ATHLETICS RUGBY NZ MAORI RUGBY ALL BLACKS RUGBY MANU SAMOA (C) ATHLETICS, NZ, OLYMPICS RUGBY LEAGUE, KIWIS RUGBY MANU SAMOA (C) CYCLING, NZ, OLYMPICS RUGBY, NZ MAORI GYMNASTICS RUGBY, NZ MAORI RUGBY LEAGUE, KIWIS (C) WOOD CHOPPING BLACKSOX SOFTBALLER ARCHERY PARA-ATHLETE, NZ RUGBY LEAGUE, WARRIORS TEN PIN BOWLING, NZ SOFTBALL, NZ, WHITE SOX RUGBY LEAGUE, NRL RUGBY ROOSTERS, TITANS RUGBY, NZ MAORI, BLUES HIGHLANDERS

## Specialist Academies

If you are in a specialist Academy, you will attend training sessions once a week. This may be during the school day or before or after school.

## Academies

- Football
- Rugby
- Netball
- Basketball





# Arts and Culture

In our mid-sized school, there are many opportunities to follow interests and discover new talents.

## Our students shine in arts and cultural activities

A wide range of cultural activities provides opportunities for students to develop talents, acquire new skills, and discover the work of other artists.

- Culture groups including our Kapa haka, Indian, African, Chinese, Filipino and our many Pasifika groups.
- Music and Drama opportunities include: school show, talent quest, a-cappella singing, jazz band and solo performances
- Dance, Performance, and Media – we have more than 100 participants in our award winning Stage Challenge entries. We produce plays and dance shows, and our annual Media awards showcase student-made films.
- Art and Technology – our art exhibitions, auctions of student work, Wearable Art and Trash to Fashion all feature cross-faculty talent.
- English and Languages – creative writing, debating, public speaking.
- Arts and Culture Week celebrates achievements across diverse areas and we enjoy an annual Arts and Cultural Awards evening, where we present our supreme award, Te Taumata Toi.
- Student exchanges and visits from overseas schools are also part of the cultural life of the College.



## Performing Arts Academy

Our hands-on course in Drama, Music, Dance, Wardrobe, Makeup and Costuming, Stage Lighting, Short Film Production and Stagecraft.

- Develop stagecraft skills and performance skills.
- Explore a range of dance styles.
- Learn to read music, compose and perform confidently.
- Opportunity to be part of a variety of school-wide and public events, as audio-visual technicians & stage support.
- Gain confidence in dramatic expression.
- Create a wearable art show and learn theatre make-up and costuming.
- Learn film and editing skills, special effects and sound techniques.

*Scholarships Available – application by audition (details available on request)*

# Success





# International Students

Wait kere College has considerable experience and success in educating international students from every part of the world.


We create a personalised programme according to each student's interests, goals and abilities. Our purpose is to help each student discover their own talents, and to encourage 'enquiry thinking' – to challenge ideas, work collaboratively, connect globally, think differently, and to be resourceful and resilient. Cultural diversity and expression are highly valued at our college, exposing students to many ethnicities to prepare them for future global careers.

## Academic


- Start studying any time of year, for any duration from 4 weeks to 5 years
- Our subject range is very broad, and academic subjects may be combined with technical subjects at all levels. A personalised programme will be created
- We have strong support services for international students, including very experienced ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) teachers who use interactive teaching methods. Students of all English language abilities are accepted, from beginners to advanced

- Weekly monitoring and regular forecasting helps us to identify which topics the student needs to reinforce. We have a well-resourced Careers Department to assist all senior students
- NCEA (National Certificate in Educational Achievement) is New Zealand's senior secondary student qualification, recognised for University entrance worldwide. It uses internal and external assessment tasks across many topics, to build up the required number of credits according to the future Tertiary study goals of each student. NCEA is generally studied in Years 11 to 13, but some NCEA credits may be obtained in Year 10.

"At first I was nervous and couldn't talk, but I was able to get used to it quickly because you treated me kindly. Thank you very much for your fun school life. I have learned a lot about New Zealand so I want to share it with my family."

**Yuno and Hinari, Japan** 

"I enjoyed learning a new part of the English language every day as I could see that I was improving. I made friends and had experiences I would never have had in my country. I have also achieved my NCEA Level 3 and University Entrance credits."

**Chanlong, Cambodia** 



## Personal Growth

- Unique Māori and Pasifika activities are available to our students, alongside 'Kiwi homelife' experiences
- There are many attractions and events nearby; our College is only a 5 minute walk to the train station, with easy access to excellent community, sport and recreational facilities, parks, libraries, shopping, dining and entertainment, business and transport centres. Spectacular beaches and native rainforest are close by
- International students are encouraged to join in our school clubs, or try one of our many sports, as a great way to make new friends and help with English conversation skills.

## Pastoral Care

- Waitākere College is a signatory to the NZ Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students. This unique system ensures outstanding protection and peace of mind for families.
- Students are placed with high quality homestay families, who have passed a robust checking process including a Police Check. Homestay families are supervised through visits and interviews, and students are supported through regular meetings ensuring they feel safe and comfortable both inside and outside school
- Caring 'Kiwi Buddies' are assigned to help new students to adjust to school and NZ life, and we provide an ongoing Orientation programme.

**Contacting the International Department**  
Enrolling an international student is easy:  
Email [international@waitakerecollege.school.nz](mailto:international@waitakerecollege.school.nz)  
Phone +64 21 355 083 or +64 9 822 8976



"Waitākere College has high level systems to maintain the quality of both education and pastoral care for international students. Progress towards achievement is well monitored and students are well integrated into the College's educational, community and cultural experiences."

Education Review Office





# Technology Subjects in Year 9

All Technology courses give students foundation knowledge and the skills needed for all Technology options at Waitākere College for Year 10 and beyond.

In Year 9 all students do:

### Design Visual Technology (DVT)

This course develops problem solving skills through design and creativity. Students experiment with sketching, presentation and model making using Computer Aided Design.

### Computer Digital Technology (CDT)

A foundation in computer literacy, coding, robotics and use of the 3D Printer.

### Food Nutrition Technology (FNT)

Students develop kitchen skills through designing and making food products as well as nutritional information.

Year 9 option subjects are:

### Soft Materials

An introduction to fashion using mixed materials to make a range of products.

### Hard Materials

Wood and Metal Design and make projects using our leading edge facilities

# Vocational Programmes Year 12 & 13

## What is Gateway?

Gateway is a recognised programme designed to strengthen the pathway for students from school to work through structured workplace learning.

The programme involves a student entering a workplace one day a week, for a period of time. This hands-on "real world" learning helps students acquire technical skills relevant to their chosen vocation in addition to general 'work ready' skills such as time-management and workplace communication.

Gateway programmes available are:

- Gateway L2/3
- Customer Service & Retail L2/3
- Employment Skills L1/2



## What are Academies?

The Academy programmes are funded by the Tertiary Education Commission as an initiative to build a highly skilled and adaptable work force. The Academies cover a range of vocations and involve a combination of in-school and tertiary based training, with work experience available for selected students. Academy students engage in a comprehensive learning programme focussed on the development of theoretical knowledge and practical skills targeted at their chosen vocation. We are recognised as a best practice model for our successful implementation of these programmes. 'work ready' skills such as time-management and workplace communication.

Academies available are:

- Automotive Academy L2/3
- Building Academy L2/3
- Engineering Academy L2
- FIT (Fitness Industry Training) L2
- Health Careers Academy L2/3
- Hospitality Academy L3
- Mahi a Toi Academy L2
- Mechatronics Academy L2
- Military Services Academy L2
- Uniformed Services Academy L3 (Police, Army, Navy, Air Force, Customs)





## A Sense of Belonging

We are focused on providing a positive environment for students to flourish in.

### A caring community

- High expectations of standards and behaviour, with consistent consequences if not met
- A comprehensive harassment prevention programme which empowers students
- Trained peer mediators help students resolve conflict at an early stage
- School-wide active restorative practice implemented by staff, students and pastoral care team.

“Teachers continue to develop ways to ensure that their teaching is relevant and authentic for students so that it connects to the real world.”

Education Review Office

# Community

## A place to be proud of

Our attractive facilities include:

- Indoor Astro-turf court (the Algie Turf facility) adjacent to large well-drained fields, Sports Pavilion, Gymnasium, Weights training and fitness suite
- Jackson Auditorium, where our Performing Arts Academy learn stage craft, and a range of school and community events are held
- State-of-the-art Library, including one of several computer suites around the school
- Modern and welcoming Whare Ako, fronting our culture and languages department
- Refurbished Technology block, with new Engineering and Woodwork rooms
- Purpose-designed six laboratory Science block
- Refurbished Art, Design and Photography suites
- Purpose-built Dance and Drama studios with sprung wooden floors
- Music and Media suite including three studios and a keyboard laboratory
- Friendly Student Centre including Careers Centre, guidance and health facilities
- Active building programme



# How to Enrol

## How to Enrol - Year 9

### Step 1

**Complete an Enrolment Form:** go to our school website and complete the online enrolment form.

### Step 2

**Book an Interview:** go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/99umk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/99umk) to book your interview.

Please bring the following documents to your interview:

- NZ Birth Certificate / NZ or AUS Passport / NZ Citizenship Certificate or
- Overseas passport and Visa (student passport and visa PLUS parent passport and visa)
- Proof of Guardianship - if not the parent
- Proof of Address (MUST BE: a current property based bill, ie. internet, water, power)
- Latest school report

### Step 3

Apply for our special programmes: to apply for our special programmes, please go to our website and complete the relevant Google form. Please note closing dates the closing dates.

### Step 4

**Attend your Interview:** Don't worry! We will email you a few days before to remind you.

### Step 5

**Out of Zone enrolments:** remember a limited number of applications are drawn from a ballot each year, depending on roll forecasts.

### Step 6

**Confirm your Enrolment:** Once you have had your interview and we have the required documents, we will email you to confirm your placement - please email us back to confirm that you are coming.

## How to Enrol - Year 10+

This is a different process. Please see our website or phone the office for further details.

If you have any questions regarding the above information please contact Kay, Erin or Liza at reception on Ph 836 7890 ext 0 or email, [secretary@waitakerecollege.school.nz](mailto:secretary@waitakerecollege.school.nz)

## Join us at Waitākere

"... where we support the students, school and community, through care, professionalism, experience and helping with a vision for the future"

**Steve Bishop**  
Chair, School Board of Trustees



Steve Bishop,  
Chair, School Board of Trustees

## Our Hauora Whare Walls

## Hauora and Wellbeing at School

As well as liaising with partner agencies as required, in-school wrap-around pastoral care for the wellbeing of students and staff consists of the following services:

- Careers advisors
- Deans
- Learning support and teacher aides
- Waitākere College Foundation
- Mentors
- Youth Workers
- Nurses and Doctors
- Student initiated faith support
- Physio
- Dental care
- Counsellors
- Regular Professional Development for all staff.



# Waitākere College in-zone

For information regarding trains please contact: [secretary@waitakerecollege.school.nz](mailto:secretary@waitakerecollege.school.nz) Phone: 09 836 7890 ext 0  
For detailed information please go to: [www.waitakerecollege.school.nz/our-school/information/bus-transport-information](http://www.waitakerecollege.school.nz/our-school/information/bus-transport-information)

