

WELCOME YEAR 9 OF 2024

STARTING DATES

As with previous years, we have staggered the start of Term 1 so that we can spend important quality time with each year level as they arrive.

Friday	2 February	8:40am – 3:05pm	All Year 9 students first day. Please come in full school uniform. Powhiri, Orientation & Peer Mentoring day. - Please bring your BYOD Device today. (Parents welcome to attend Powhiri 8:40–10:30)
Wednesday	7 February	9:30am – 3:05pm	Timetabled Classes for Day 3 All year levels in

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The main school office will reopen on **Monday 22nd January** with normal hours of 8am until 4pm.

The accounts department will also reopen on **Monday 22nd January**. During the uniform sale days the accounts department will be open the same hours as the uniform shop (see below) and then with normal hours of 8.30 until 3.15pm.

UNIFORM

Uniforms are purchased through the school. If you know what you need, please go and pay at accounts first, then take your receipt to the uniform shop to try on and collect. We will have signs to direct you to the correct areas. Please see the times and dates below for our uniform sale days.

UNIFORM SALE DATES 2024	
Tuesday 23 January	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Wednesday 24 January	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday 25 January	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Friday 26 January	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
And normal school hours of 9am – 3pm after this week	

BYOD (Bring your own device) – Chromebooks are the recommended device

All Year 9 students are asked to bring their device on the first day of school (**Friday 2nd February**) to log on to the school network and begin their e-learning programme. **If you do not have a device yet, please see the school website for more information.** The school requests that parents provide a digital device (chromebook or similar). This allows students to access work online at home in addition to any school learning.

CANTEEN

This will be open for lunch and normal sales from **Friday 2nd February**. Please see the school website for the menu.

BUSES

School buses will be running from **Wednesday, 31st January**. If you have any queries please contact the office on 836 7890 or see our website.

TRAFFIC INFORMATION

For the safety of our students, we ask that there be no drop offs or pickups within the school grounds directly before and after school. Please encourage your child to use the Swanson Road exits or to meet you at a prearranged area away from the school. Please do not park in the bus bay at the front of the school.

LOCKERS

The school has invested in lockers to provide a safe place for students to be able to store their computers and bags. These lockers are available for hire at a cost of approximately \$20 per year. However this year **students are required to bring their own padlock**.

If you wish to purchase a locker for the year, please pay at accounts. Lockers will be allocated in the first few weeks of school. There are also free casual day lockers in the gymnasium for when students are doing P.E. or Sport. For the casual day lockers students will also need to provide their own padlock.

BYOD – ENGRAVING

To help with security around devices, we encourage them to be named. Inscribing on a device incorrectly can cause the warranty to be invalidated. We have organised a local company, who can engrave your device safely, to come into the school, mid-February, to engrave your computers at a cost of about \$15 per device. The date for this will be advertised through the daily pānui at the beginning of the year.

ID CARDS

All students will be photographed in early March for ID cards and for the school's records. Although ID cards are not compulsory, students may require them for discounted fares on buses and trains or concessions at movies.

ID cards cost **\$10.00** and students can order and pay for these at the accounts department.

STATIONERY

We have included a stationery list in your welcome email. If you require a WINZ quote, please take it to your stationery shop of choice as the school does not sell or supply stationery. For some subjects, workbooks will be required and these will be given out in class.

We've teamed up with Warehouse Stationery for our 2024 stationery requirements, and we're happy to let you know that your lists are ready to go. You'll have the flexibility to purchase in store or online, with delivery and click & collect options available. Click the link to view your stationery list, and enjoy getting school ready! Note, to get the best deals, the Back to School special pricing is available from the 3rd January 2024. Your stationery lists are now available to view on our website or alternatively [Click here](#) to access the **Warehouse Stationery** order form.

SCHOOL DONATION & FEES

The school's Board of Trustees has decided to take part in the NZ Government's Donations Scheme. The purpose of this is to lower the cost of education to families.

There will be no request for a school donation.

We will only be asking families to meet course material costs where there is a take home component. This will result in considerable savings for you and your family.

Course workbooks and on-line learning programs will also be funded by the school where these items are an expectation for the whole class. Students will need to purchase their own optional revision guides.

The costs of day trips that are a core part of the curriculum will now also be covered by the school. A family contribution can be made towards the costs associated with optional and overnight curriculum trips.

Students and families will still be expected to meet the costs for sports, arts and cultural activities.

DAILY PĀNUI

Waitākere College is a very busy place. We produce a daily bulletin with all the activities going on in the school. This is emailed to students every day and published on our school website for parental access. We encourage you and your child to read it so as to not miss any upcoming opportunities.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

This term all our Year 9 students will be involved in an exciting outdoor trip as part of their learning program. In March, each Year 9 class will spend a day at Cornwallis. Students will be involved in team building activities, a bush walk and a swim in a waterhole.

YEAR 9 BBQ

We would like to invite you to the Year 9 BBQ to be held on **Thursday 22nd February**. We will send a letter home closer to the time with full details. The BBQ is a good opportunity to come in and meet your child's tutor class teacher and other senior staff in a relaxed informal environment.