



**WAITĀKERE COLLEGE**

Whāinga Hei Tūtuki Mā Tātou Katoa | Achievement for All

# Waitākere College

## Pre-departure Information



Waitākere College  
42 Rathgar Road  
Henderson  
0610 Auckland

**Phone:** +64 (9) 836 7890

[www.waitakerecollege.school.nz](http://www.waitakerecollege.school.nz)

## ***Kia Ora and Welcome***

Thank you for choosing Waitākere College as your place of study. We look forward to welcoming you to our School.

Before you leave home and arrive here, there are a few things we need to advise you about so that you know what is expected of you, and you know what to expect from us.

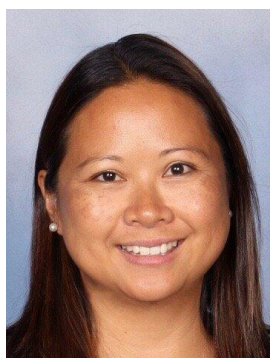
Have a great journey and we look forward to seeing you soon!

### ***The International Team***

**24/7 emergency number: +64 22 522 9228**

[internationaldirector@waitakerecollege.school.nz](mailto:internationaldirector@waitakerecollege.school.nz)

[internationaladmin@waitakerecollege.school.nz](mailto:internationaladmin@waitakerecollege.school.nz)



Arifah Wright  
**International Director**



Tomoko Dinnis  
**International Administrator  
Assistant**



Jane Coup  
**Deputy Principal**

***Before you leave - check you have the following:***

- You have given the school your correct arrival date and flight number.
- Your passport and Student Visa.
- Airline ticket.
- Make sure you know the contact details of the person who will collect you from the airport.
- Have your insurance certificate with you.
- Pocket Money
- Personal belongings that make you feel at home
- A laptop or device to use each day in class. If you bring electrical items, you will need to have the appropriate adaptor plug and voltage converter.
- You may need to buy an adaptor to plug in your devices. The NZ power system is 240 volts, 50 Hertz. You can buy an adaptor at Auckland airport when you arrive if you can't find it in your own country.
- Have enough NZ cash with you for about a week. We recommend about \$300 so that you can buy any items when you arrive before opening a bank account.
- Medication: If you take prescribed medication you may need a prescription or letter from your doctor (in English) to prove that the medicine has been prescribed for you.
- A mobile phone so you can use a NZ sim card

*Keep in touch with us as we share stories and updates Waitakere College*



[www.facebook.com/Waitakerecollegeinternationaldept](http://www.facebook.com/Waitakerecollegeinternationaldept)



**@waitakerecollegeinternational**



## Departure Day & International Flight

- Arrive at the airport at least 2 - 3 hours early to check-in.
- Know what your check-in luggage allowance is (which is usually 23kg) and know what the carry on luggage allowance is.
- On the flight you will be handed a New Zealand Passenger Arrival card. This must be completed in English. If you are not sure how to complete this form, ask the airline staff on the flight to help you.
- Have your passport and passenger arrival card ready to give it to passport control.
- **Do not bring any meat, plants or fruit into New Zealand.**
- You must declare all food even if it is packaged. If you do not, you might receive an instant fine of up to NZ\$400 so please make sure you declare anything you are unsure of.
- Do not bring large amounts of pain relief or cold medicine with you.

**NEW ZEALAND PASSENGER ARRIVAL CARD**

Information collected on this form and during the arrival process is sought to administer Customs, Immigration, Biosecurity, Border Security, Health, Wildlife, Police, Fire Enforcement, Justice, Benefits, Social Service, Electoral, Inland Revenue, and Currency laws. The information is authorized by legislation and will be disclosed to agencies administering and entitled to receive it under New Zealand law. This includes for purposes of data matching between those agencies. Once collected, information may be used for statistical purposes by Statistics New Zealand.

- This Arrival Card is a legal document – false declarations can lead to penalties including confiscation of goods, fines, prosecution, imprisonment, and deportation from New Zealand.
- A separate Arrival Card must be completed for each passenger, including children.
- Please answer in English and fill in BOTH sides.
- Print in capital letters like this: NEW ZEALAND or mark answers like this:

**1** Flight number/name of ship Aircraft seat number

Overseas port where you boarded THIS aircraft/ship

Passport number

Nationality as shown on passport

Family name

Given or first names

Date of birth day month year

Country of birth

Occupation or job

Full contact or residential address in New Zealand

Email

Mobile/phone number

**2a** Answer this section if you live in New Zealand, Otherwise go to 2b.

How long have you been away from New Zealand? years months days

Which country did you spend most time in while overseas?

What was the MAIN reason for your trip? business education other

Which country will you mostly live in for the next 12 months? New Zealand other

**2b** Answer this section if you DO NOT live in New Zealand.

How long do you intend to stay in New Zealand? Permanently or years months days

If you are not staying permanently what is your MAIN reason for coming to New Zealand?

visiting friends/relatives business holiday/vacation

conference/convention education other

In which country did you last live for 12 months or more?

State, province or prefecture Zip or postal code

Please turn over for more questions and to sign

**3** List the countries you have been in during the past 30 days:

**4** Do you know the contents of your baggage? Yes No

**5** **WARNING: false declaration can incur \$400 INSTANT FINE**

**Are you bringing into New Zealand:**

- Any food: cooked, uncooked, fresh, preserved, packaged or dried? Yes No
- Animals or animal products: including meat, dairy products, fish, honey, bee products, eggs, feathers, shells, raw wool, skins, bones or insects? Yes No
- Plants or plant products: fruit, flowers, seeds, bulbs, wood, bark, leaves, nuts, vegetables, parts of plants, fungi, cane, bamboo or straw, including for religious offerings or medicinal use? Yes No

**Other biosecurity risk items, including:**

- Animal medicines, biological cultures, organisms, soil or water? Yes No
- Equipment used with animals, plants or water, including for gardening, beekeeping, fishing, water sport or diving activities? Yes No
- Items that have been used for outdoor activities, including any footwear, tents, camping, hunting, hiking, golf or sports equipment? Yes No

In the past 30 days (while outside New Zealand) have you visited any wilderness areas, had contact with animals (except domestic cats and dogs) or visited properties that farm or process animals or plants? Yes No

**6** **Are you bringing into New Zealand:**

- Medicine: over 3 months' supply, or medicine not prescribed to you? Yes No
- Restricted or prohibited goods: for example, weapons, indecent publications, endangered plants or wildlife, illegal or controlled drugs? Yes No
- Alcohol: more than 3 bottles of spirits (not exceeding 1.125 litres each) and 4.5 litres of wine or beer? Yes No
- Tobacco: more than 50 cigarettes or 50 grams of tobacco products (including a mixture of cigarettes and other tobacco products)? Yes No
- Goods obtained overseas and/or purchased duty-free in New Zealand: with a total value of more than NZ\$700 (including gifts)? Yes No
- Goods carried for business or commercial use? Yes No
- Goods carried on behalf of another person? Yes No
- Cash: NZ\$10,000 or more (or foreign equivalent), including travellers cheques, bank drafts, money orders, etc? Yes No

**7** Do you hold a current New Zealand passport, a residence class visa or a returning resident's visa? – If yes go to 10 Yes No

Are you a New Zealand citizen using a foreign passport? – If yes go to 10 Yes No

Do you hold an Australian passport, Australian Permanent Residence Visa or Australian Resident Return Visa? – If yes go to 9 Yes No

**8** **All others.**

**You must leave New Zealand before expiry of your visa or face deportation.**

Are you coming to New Zealand for medical treatment or consultation or to give birth? Yes No

Select one: I hold a temporary entry class visa (Tick yes if you currently hold a visa, even if it is not attached as a label to your passport. Yes or I do not hold a visa and am applying for a visitor visa on arrival. Yes

**9** Have you ever been sentenced to 12 months or more in prison, or been deported, removed or excluded from any country at any time? Yes No

**10** I declare that the information I have given is true, correct, and complete.

Signature Date

(parent or guardian must sign for children under the age of 16)

The Privacy Act 1992 provides rights of access to, and correction of, personal information. If you wish to exercise these rights please contact the New Zealand Customs Service on 0800 428 736 or Email: Feedback@customs.govt.nz or another metropolitan New Zealand at PO Box 1473, Wellington.

Please check the Customs website for more information about what you're allowed (and not allowed) to bring into NZ [www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)

## Arriving in New Zealand

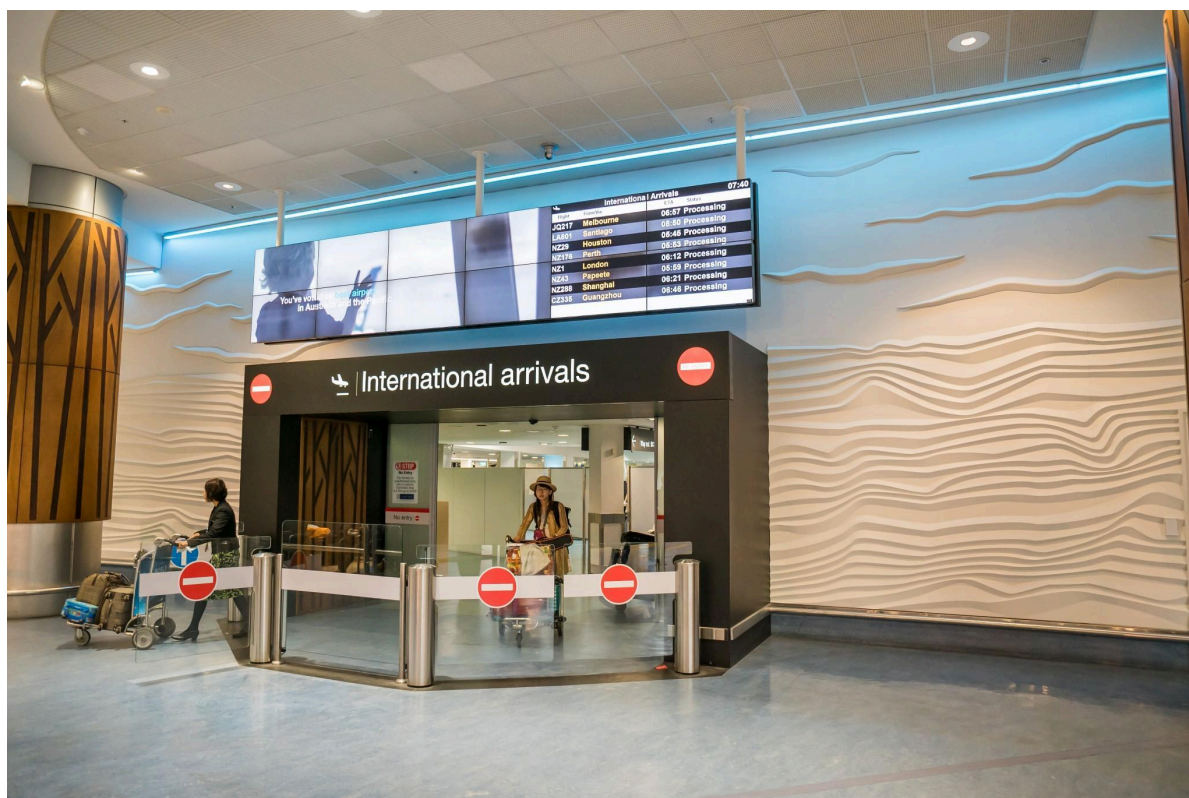
Once you advise us of your flight arrival details, you will be collected by either your Homestay family, your Agent or a Waitakere College staff member.

They will be waiting in the public arrival area.

**Turn left** as you walk through the **arrival gate**, and you'll see the pick up area.

If you get lost please wait in the seated arrivals area and someone will come and find you.

- After you have collected your luggage and completed the Immigration and Customs Clearance, you will then proceed to the Arrival Hall.
- As you come out of the doors please **turn left** and you will see the pick up area.



Turn **LEFT** as you come through these gates

If you are getting collected by shuttle, there will be a person holding up a sign with your name on it. The company is called Shore Shuttles.



## ***Important Websites***

Below are some websites that you may find useful before you come to New Zealand.

New Zealand Immigration  
[www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)

New Zealand Customs Service  
[www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)

Ministry of Education  
[www.education.govt.nz](http://www.education.govt.nz)

Code of practice for International Students  
[www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)

Auckland Transport  
[www.at.govt.nz](http://www.at.govt.nz)

NauMai  
Official Government website for International Students who are about to arrive in NZ.  
[www.naumainz.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz](http://www.naumainz.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz)

## ***New Zealand Weather***

In Auckland, we have typical weather but we can also have “four seasons in one day” especially during Autumn and Spring. We can start with sun in the morning, and go from wind to rain to cold.

Because we are in the Southern Hemisphere, New Zealand's seasons are the opposite of those in the Northern Hemisphere. Temperatures range from 5 degrees celsius in winter to 30 degrees celsius in summer.



<b>Summer</b>	December — February
<b>Autumn</b>	March — May
<b>Winter</b>	June — August
<b>Spring</b>	September — November



## ***What to pack***

Below are some items we suggest you pack for your time in New Zealand.

Regardless of the season, bring shoes that are black as this is part of the school uniform. Bring warm clothing including trainers/sneakers, a jacket, raincoat and jumpers for the cooler months. For summer, bring light clothing including swimming gear as well if you can swim.

## ***Clothes to bring***

During September – April you will need to protect yourself with sunscreen/hats and sunglasses to help prevent sun damage. New Zealand can have high levels of ultraviolet light (UV) rays from the sun so it is important that you protect yourself. You should use a waterproof sunscreen which has an SPF (Sun Protection Factor) of 30 or above.

There are a range of great shops and department stores where all clothes and shoes can be brought while you're here in New Zealand

## ***Clothing for Summer/Spring:***

If you are coming during our Spring and Summer months, we suggest you should bring the following items.

- Swimwear
- Sun hat
- Sunglasses and sunscreen
- Shorts and/or skirts
- T-shirts and/or short sleeve shirts
- Jumpers and/or sweatshirts
- Light raincoat
- Good walking shoes and sandals



## ***Clothing for Autumn/Winter***

If you are coming during Autumn and Winter months, we suggest you bring the following items.

- Warm waterproof jacket
- Jumpers and/or sweaters
- Long pants and/or jeans
- Long sleeved shirts
- Scarf and gloves
- Hat and/or beanie
- Good walking shoes and/or boots
- Umbrella

## ***Bring a Laptop or Chromebook***

We are a BYOD (Bring Your own Device) school and we recommend you **bring a laptop or a Chromebook**. An iPad is not powerful enough to support some of the apps the teachers use.

Please ensure you bring a laptop. If you are borrowing a laptop or Chromebook from your school, please ask the IT department to remove any restrictions on the laptop or Chromebook.



You can find more information about BYOD on our school website:

[www.waitakerecollege.school.nz/school-info/bring-your-own-device](http://www.waitakerecollege.school.nz/school-info/bring-your-own-device)

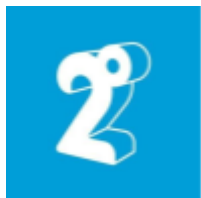
## ***Mobile Phones***

Make sure you bring a mobile phone with you so that you can use a New Zealand SIM card. You can choose a mobile plan that is prepay or pay monthly.

It is a good idea to start with a \$5 credit so that you can phone/message your parents to say you have arrived safely in Auckland.

Make sure you have your family and friends contact details, including phone numbers with you, so that you can advise them what your New Zealand mobile number is.

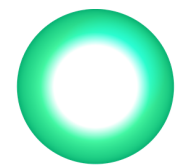
Below are the main mobile phone companies that are used.



2 Degrees  
[www.2degrees.nz](http://www.2degrees.nz)



Spark  
[www.spark.co.nz/shop/mobile-plans](http://www.spark.co.nz/shop/mobile-plans)



**one.nz**

One.NZ  
[www.one.nz](http://www.one.nz)



## ***Bank Accounts***

For students staying longer than a term it is important to open a New Zealand bank account as it is safer to have your money in a bank account rather than carrying around lots of cash.

Your homestay family (or agent if you have one) will help you open a bank account when you are here. You will get an ATM card or Eftpos card with your account number. And with this account number you will be able to make deposits (including international payments) and withdrawals.

In NZ, it is more common to use an EFTPOS card rather than cash. Almost all shops and restaurants will take an EFTPOS card.

The five major banks are: ANZ, ASB, BNZ, Westpac and Kiwibank.

Their opening hours are 9-4.30 pm, Monday – Friday, and sometimes over the weekend.

Do not carry large amounts of cash with you.

## ***NZ Currency***

The New Zealand Dollar is the only currency used in New Zealand.

One dollar (\$1) = 100 cents. Our coins come in 10 cents, 20 cents, 50 cents and \$1 and \$2.

Below are the different notes and coins used.



## Homestay

The homestay families that we use are all approved by Waitakere College. We keep in touch with both you and the homestay family to make sure everyone is happy. We are also here to help and support you.

- Make sure you learn how to say - **please, thank you, hello, good morning and good night.** If you leave the house to go out, say **“good bye, I’m leaving now.”** And when you come home say **“Hello, I’m home.”** These simple phrases will let your homestay family know that you are a polite student and have good manners.
- You will have your own bedroom with a bed, desk, chair, wardrobe and possibly other furniture. You are expected to keep your room clean and tidy.
- In NZ, we usually have 3 meals a day— breakfast, lunch and dinner. In New Zealand, lunch is usually not a hot cooked meal. You might find this hard to get used to if you normally have a cooked meal in the middle of the day, but you will adjust. Please don’t take food or drink (other than water) into your bedroom.
- Help with household chores like washing the dishes, taking out the rubbish, putting dirty dishes in the dishwasher - little things like that. Your family will appreciate this very much!
- You will likely walk to school but if your homestay is a bit further away, your homestay family will show you how to catch the bus and where to buy a bus card from.
- **No alcohol, no smoking, no drugs.** It is **illegal** to sell cigarettes or tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18. It is also illegal to sell alcohol products to anyone under the age of 18. Drug taking is **illegal** in New Zealand. You can be fined and arrested.
- No offensive weapons. Carrying weapons such as knives, batons or guns, is not allowed in New Zealand and is against the law.
- You are not allowed to drive or own a motor vehicle.
- No members of the opposite gender are allowed in the bedrooms.
- Please read the “International Student Homestay Handbook” thoroughly which has more information about homestay once you arrive.



## **Road Safety**

### **Cars**

In New Zealand we drive on the left-hand side of the road. When you are crossing the road, make sure you look Right-Left-Right before you cross the road.

You must only travel in a car with an approved driver who has a full drivers license. You must also wear a seatbelt whenever you are travelling in a car.

### **Helmets**

If you're using a bicycle, you must wear a helmet. This is compulsory under NZ transport law. If you do not wear a helmet, you may be fined and your bicycle could be taken away by the authorities.

### **Crossing the road**

Always use pedestrian crossings when available. Additionally, as an international student, you are not allowed to own or drive a car while you're enrolled at school.



## **Medical Insurance**

You must have medical insurance while you live and study in New Zealand. If you visit the doctor you will need to pay for your appointment. Please keep your receipt. Your receipt needs to show the reason you went to the doctor and the cost you paid. You will need to make a claim in order to arrange for a refund. Your agent can help you with making a claim. If you don't have an agent we can help you.



kite wawe koutou (see you soon!)