

Values: Respect, Excellence, Honesty, Fun, Teamwork



# Waihi College



# Prospectus

Step it up, Always be prepared, Manaakitanga







## **Achievement Statement**

Waihi College is committed to providing an education which has an emphasis on achieving academic, cultural and sporting goals. We also recognise that there are many other facets which contribute to the development of a well-balanced and mature adult who will actively and productively contribute to society, in life and beyond school. Through a wide range of academic, cultural and sporting opportunities we aim for students to leave Waihi College well equipped to meet the demands of employment, tertiary education and life in general.



# **Mission Statement**



"Waihi College supports students on their life - long learning journey to develop the knowledge, skills and characteristics that form the foundation of success today and in the future."

## A word from the Principal

# Alistair Cochrane

It is my pleasure, as Principal, to introduce you to Waihi College. Our school is a vibrant, innovative co-educational Year 7 - 13 secondary school situated at the base of the magnificent Coromandel Peninsula. The beautiful Waihi Beach (11km from the school gate) is part of our catchment area and the Karangahake and Athenree Gorges define our boundaries.

Our school campus is expansive with numerous trees and open areas where our students can relax and socialise. Our classrooms are regularly upgraded and have quality equipment to aid learning and teaching, and our teachers are passionate and committed.

Successful people in the future will be those who are adaptable, who thrive on challenge, who have a strong sense of personal values, and who want to improve themselves throughout their lives.

The arrival of the New Zealand Curriculum has provided us with the opportunity to review our teaching and learning programmes. We are clearly focused on providing a range of learning opportunities that meet the needs of our students and aim to produce young adults who are confident, who are connected to their communities, who strive for excellence and have the skills to become lifelong learners.

I invite you to become part of a school community prepared to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with confidence and assurance.

# Alistair Cochrane PRINCIPAL



"The Principal is focused on meeting the needs of students"- Education Review Office

## "To be the best we can possibly be,can be a reality."





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"The school is willing to consider different approaches to engage students and support their learning and participation of school life" - Education Review Office

All students will be supported to build a range of transferable skills and a strong work ethic which will help them to make informed decisions about their future pathways through school, tertiary study and life beyond school and to make a valuable contribution to New Zealand society.







# Waihi College Striving for excellence



# Learning

"Students have access to a well organised pastoral care network to support their emotional development"- Education Review Office





Key Learning Themes (KLT's) that cross the boundaries of traditional subject areas form the basis of our learning programmes in the junior school and help students to develop their Literacy, Numeracy, Thinking and Communication skills in a context that is real and relevant to their lives.

Students are challenged to learn how to acquire and develop personal learning objectives.



We are moving towards a co-constructed 'Inquiry based' learning environment that allows students to apply the knowledge and skill they have attained in different contexts. Our aim is for all students to perform at or above national standards and benchmarks.

A very strong focus on literacy and numeracy continues in the senior school as students focus their attention on achieving NCEA LEVELS 1, 2 and 3.

Students have a wide range of subject choices which allow them to follow particular interests while ensuring they gain a qualification.

For Year 12 and 13 students, specific pathways leading to either academic tertiary study, alternate study or work based further learning are provided.

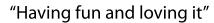
Our aim is for all students to gain NCEA Level 2 as a minimum and to challenge themselves to achieve Merit and Excellence endorsements.







# "Respect is mutual"













"Excellence is irresistible"

# Our Vision

"Honest to ourselves"

# at Waihi College

"Together we can go further"

"Essential to our sense of school history and development."



## Community

We encourage participation in a wide range of activities, both in school and in the wider community. We encourage students to involve themselves in work and activities that are for the common good of the community. We provide learning experiences that make connections with the lives of our students and are supported by the community and society. We encourage students to involve themselves in community activities and to share in the development of public/community opinion.



#### Learning

Learning to learn is the purpose of the school. Students are taught to learn and become active, confident, creative and innovative learners and thinkers. Students are prepared to be lifelong learners who possess the qualities of Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflectiveness and Reciprocity.



#### Citizenship

We strive for a caring, supportive and friendly environment. Everyone is treated with respect and consideration. Honesty, courtesy and reliability are key values that are expected and encouraged, and everyone is expected to be accountable for their actions. We aim to develop a sense of belonging for all.



#### Excellence

We encourage the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of school life, while continuing to develop the whole person (Hauora). We emphasise excellence in learning, through excellence in teaching. Every individual involved with the College is continually challenged to be the best they can be.



#### **Future Focus**

Every individual is also continually challenged to be open minded to others' views and contribute their opinions towards thinking about the future.



## Cultural Heritage

The school's culture recognises that Waihi is a unique community and reflects our bicultural heritage and our multicultural society.



#### Coherence

We provide clear learning pathways and guidance to enable seamless transitions through school and into further education and employment.



#### Environment

Waihi College encourages all its members to care for the physical environment, within the school, the local community and globally.



# Take a look

Waihi College is a Year 7-13, co-educational state secondary school with a roll of 700. We are situated on State Highway 2, 64 km north of Tauranga and 94km east of Hamilton.

The students are predominantly European with a current Maori roll of 28%. Staff at Waihi College are well qualified with most getting involved with extra curricular activities associated with the school.

The ratio of male to female teachers is well balanced.





#### Bradley Colman and Sophia Richards Headboy and Headgirl 2017

"The great thing about Waihi College is how the tight knit relationships between students and staff mean there is a sense of community and belonging within our school."

# "Every effort is made to ensure that the school is a safe environment for students"-

**Education Review Office** 













The school sits on 11 hectares of land – some of which is undulating, requiring more time and expense for upkeep. The most obvious special physical feature of the college is the expansive grounds and the attached Farm Unit. 8.2 hectares of agricultural-horticultural land have been leased for 40 years from the Department of Conservation.

Waihi College has had numerous Capital Works upgrades over the last ten years. These include upgrades of the Science, Art, Drama, English and Technology departments and also the Whare Wananga and Library, Pastoral Care Centre, Gymnasium, and Multi Purpose room on the lower sports field. The Community Gymnasium, Weight Room and Swimming Pool are joint school-community operations and were originally built as a result of joint school and community funding.

We have regular visits from the Public Health Nurse, Youth Aide Officer, Itinerant Music Teachers, Doctor, Psychologist and other agencies, where the need arises. Volunteers from the community also assist with reading programmes, learning for leisure, sports administration and refereeing, outdoor education and music, to name but a few.

Students are drawn from between the Athenree and the Karangahake Gorges. Waihi has an approximate population of 4000, with Waihi Beach providing another 2000.

Other educational institutions in the area are: Play Centre, three Childcare Centres, Kohanga Reo, Kindergarten and six Primary Schools.

The College also runs the Canteen and Uniform shop with all profits given back to the school to directly support/benefit the students.

Community and school relations are very good and there is no shortage of support for school activities.



"Students enjoy success and recognition at both regional and national levels in sport and the performing arts"

- Education Review Office

### Waihi College offers:

Rugby Equestrian
Netball Shooting
Football Touch
Tennis Skiing
Squash Snowboarding

Badminton Golf Surfing Volleyball Hockey League

Basketball Cricket Sport plays an important part in life at Waihi College and we have excellent facilities to cater for most sports. At Waihi College the most popular sports played are netball, basketball, football, rugby and hockey. However a variety of other sporting codes offer opportunities for our students to learn new skills and strive for excellence. Waihi township also offers opportunities for our students to participate in any number of sports either through the school or at local club level.

Despite the problem of being a relatively small rural school, we are proud of the fact that some of our students have achieved national sporting success in recent years. Waihi College frequently sends sports teams overseas to compete in International tournaments. We have sent the Netball and Rugby teams to Australia recently. Waihi College sports teams participate in the New Zealand tournament week and many of the teams travel around the country to compete.

Waihi College always has opportunities to get involved.









**Music and Drama** also play an important role in our school. Students are encouraged to perform in the school organised events (Talent Quests, Productions, Stage Challenge etc) and our street theatre group "Troupe Waihi" is becoming recognised throughout the North Island. Tuition is available free of charge for almost every musical instrument.

**Maori Culture** is offered in several forms. The school has a small Kapa Haka Group. We have recently joined the Waka Ama Fraternity which is based in Paeroa. A significant landmark in the school is our Whare - "Whare Maia". It is our Whare Wananga ( House of Learning ). It provides an excellent learning atmosphere for all students to learn Te Reo Maori.

**Cultural Exchange** Our school participates in an annual two week student exchange with the Hauraki District Council's sister city colleges in Jiading, a suburb in Shanghai, China. Students from Jiading travel to New Zealand to experience New Zealand school life and the New Zealand culture. The New Zealand students then travel to China to experience their host brother/sister's school life and their culture.





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