



WAITAKI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL International Prospectus

OAMARU | NEW ZEALAND



Welcome to Waitaki Boys' High School

We are enriched by a proud heritage, but forward-looking and progressive in our task of educating boys to meet the challenges of the current day and beyond.

The environment and traditions of the school have exercised a remarkable effect upon generations of boys. We are blessed with a spectacular site, magnificent buildings and gardens, and generous resources. Our ethos is that our boys will be “inspiring young men of outstanding character”. They will reflect our school values of Respect, Resilience and Motivation in striving to be the all-round Waitakian. We are clear about our primary task. It is to identify and develop the potential of every boy.

With a roll of just over 440, we are small enough to know each boy well, and to recognise his individual character and needs, but large enough to offer an extensive academic and growing vocational curriculum, and an impressive co-curricular programme.

Our students are proud to be Waitakians. You will find here a tremendous sense of brotherhood. The big ‘events’ of the school year such as the ANZAC Day Service, Scrano Cultural Competition and the Senior Prize-giving are inspirational. The enthusiasm and vitality of the boys shines through.

The primary purpose of this prospectus is to outline the breadth of opportunities which are available to your son at Waitaki Boys’. This is a very exciting time for our school and I am looking forward to sharing this journey with your sons.

Darryl Paterson
Rector

“Inspiring young men of outstanding character”

Why Waitaki Boys' High School?

- Academic Excellence, Pathway to University. NCEA offered in a wide range of subjects.
- Our academic support network includes providing an English language programme for those who may desire it.
- Wide range of sporting, extracurricular and cultural activities with high quality coaching and tuition.
- Boarding options on campus at our Don House Hostel
- Expansive grounds and facilities
- Founded in 1883 and is one of the oldest schools in the country.
- Our school roll is currently around 440 - big enough to offer a broad curriculum (we also share classes with Waitaki Girls' High School and run courses through ARA Polytechnic) but small enough (the smallest boy's state school in the country) to know every student and their particular needs.
- We have a multi-cultural team focused on assisting all international students in reaching their individual goals so that they may pathway on to the next step in the learning journey.

“Students are challenged to stand up for themselves, to develop resilience and be highly motivated. The school offers a full range of academic and vocational pathways. They are supported by modern IT and leading technology”

- Rector

Curriculum Pathways

Year 9	Year 10	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Science	Science	L1 Science	L2 Biology L2 Chemistry L2 Physics	L3 Biology L3 Chemistry L3 Physics
English ESOL	English *ESOL *Pasifika Studies	L1 English ESOL L123 Pasifika Studies	L2 English Academic L2 English Everyday ESOL L123 Pasifika Studies	L3 English Academic L3 English Everyday ESOL L123 Pasifika Studies
Social Studies	Social Studies *Commerce	L1 Geography L1 History L1 Commerce	L2 Geography L2 History L2 Economics	L3 Geography L3 History L3 Tourism
Mathematics	Mathematics	L1 Mathematics	L2 Mathematics with Calculus L2 Mathematics with Statistics	L3 Mathematics with Calculus L3 Mathematics with Statistics L3 Mathematics Everyday L3 Mathematics Further Study
*Technology	*Technology *Digital Technology	L1 Hard Materials Technology L1 Digital Technology	L2 Hard Materials Technology L2 Digital Technology	L3 Construction L3 Digital Technology
*Physical Education	*Physical Education *Outdoor Education	L1 Sports Studies L1 Outdoor Education	L2 Sports Studies L2 Outdoor Education	
*Art	*Art	L1 Art	L2 Painting/Printmaking L2 Photography	L3 Painting/Printmaking L3 Photography
*Music	*Music	L1 Music	L2 Music	L3 Music
*Agriculture	*Agriculture	L1 Agricultural Science	L2 Agricultural Science	L3 Agricultural Science
*Options (8 weeks)				
Careers			ARA L2 Agricultural Engineering ARA L2 Automotive Engineering ARA L2 Hospitality L23 Vocational Pathway L23 Gateway	L23 Vocational Pathway L23 Gateway
Te Kura	Te Kura	Te Kura	Te Kura	Te Kura *Options (2 options per semester)



Waitaki Boys' has outstanding facilities, in particular an onsite swimming pool, a new multi-purpose artificial turf, multiple sports grounds, an Outdoor Education Lodge at Lake Middleton - Ohau, 50 acres of spacious grounds and the world renowned Hall of Memories.



Waitaki Boys' pass rates across all levels of NCEA

significantly above the national boys average and of those schools with a similar equity index. We support international students to reach their full potential. Our academic support network includes providing an English language programme to prepare our students for entry into mainstream classes.



The Arts

Waitaki Boys' offers many opportunities for our young men to try the Arts. We have a purpose built auditorium equipped with lighting and sound. We use this for our annual inter-house Scrano competition. The boys write and perform their own drama, perform 2 songs and a Haka.

We have an annual Talent Quest competition and a Mid Winter concert where our, world famous in North Otago, 'Big Choir' of usually 100ish boys performs for local primary schools and then at an evening concert in conjunction with the Oamaru Youth Orchestra and Concert Band. In addition to this our boys are offered free music lessons in a range of instruments from the guitar to the bag pipes.

We also encourage public speaking and have an annual junior speech competition, one in Year 9 and one in Year 10. This ties in nicely with our Scrano speech competitions and the prestigious Robert Falcon Scott speech award. Our school has amazing art and music departments where creativity can be unleashed in a range of forms.

The Arts make our boys all-round Waitakian's. We are very proud of the traditions that enable us to be able to offer these experiences to all who wish to take up the opportunities

Waitaki Boys' offer abundant art and cultural opportunities and we respect the actor, the musician and the debater.

We are aiming for a balanced, all-round student with achievement in academic, cultural and sporting fields with an emphasis on character development - to be "inspiring young men of outstanding character".

Sporting Excellence

We offer a comprehensive sporting programme, excellent coaching from staff and local sports people, and outstanding on-site facilities, including a brand new multi-purpose turf. In 2025 we celebrated national champions in Rowing and Challenge Wanaka. Sport has huge benefits for boys. They make new friends, grow in confidence and develop physical skills. Through their involvement they learn more about themselves. They develop good sportsmanship, learn about competition, teamwork, discipline, initiative and how to win with good grace. Sport is character building.

We offer many sports with students able to participate at social, competitive and elite level.

Sports we offer at Waitaki Boys' High School:
SUMMER SPORTS: **WINTER SPORTS:**

- Adventure Racing
- Athletics
- Cricket
- Cross Country
- Mountain Biking
- Multisport
- Road Cycling
- Rogaines
- Rowing
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Touch
- Triathlon/Duathlon
- Volleyball

- Badminton
- Basketball (social and competitive)
- Chess
- Debating
- Fencing
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Rugby
- Smallbore
- Snowsports
- Squash
- Trapshooting



Our International & Boarding Team



Kylie Mayhew

International Student Coordinator

kyliem@waitakibhs.school.nz



Sue Robb

International Student Administrator

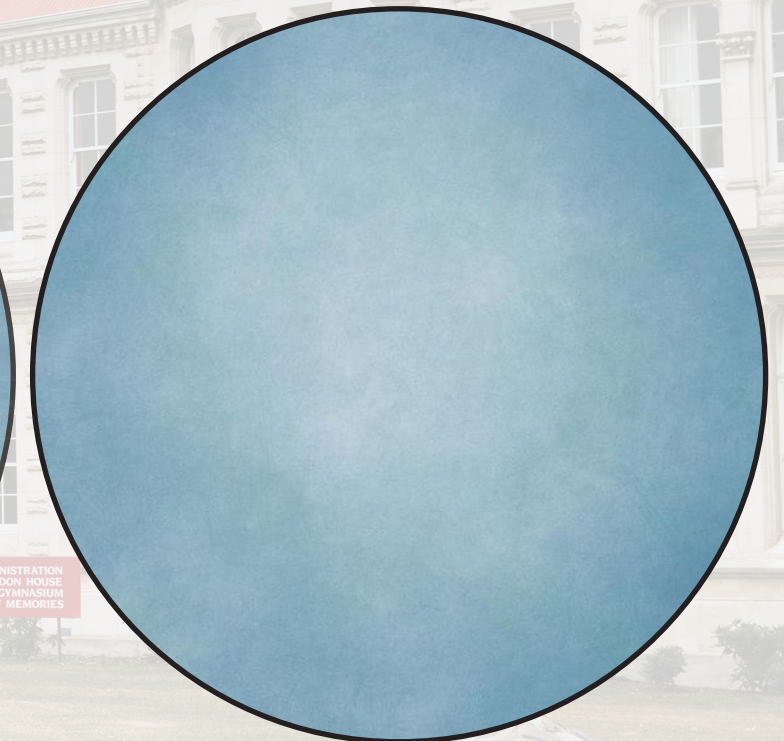
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Scott Mayhew

Director of Boarding

scottm@waitakibhs.school.nz



Sandra Ewing

Residential Manager

hosteladmin@waitakibhs.school.nz

Waitaki Boys' High School International and Boarding staff are here to help students ease into life at Waitaki Boys', and make the most of the opportunities.

At Waitaki Boys' we want our International students to be happy and secure. We have a range of services to ensure International students are well looked after and can get on with the business of studying and having fun. The school utilizes Orah software to enhance student safety, streamline attendance tracking, and improve communication between students, parents, and staff. This innovative platform ensures a seamless and connected educational experience, supporting student well-being.

The door is always open and students are welcome to our School Office where our friendly staff are on hand to help students with any problems or queries and make their stay successful and enjoyable.

Waitaki Boys' High School is a signatory to 'The Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International learners) Code of Practice 2021, overseen by the New Zealand Government. Details are on the website of the New Zealand Qualifications authority www.nzqa.govt.nz

Boarding at Don House

A warm welcome to Don House, the boarding establishment of Waitaki Boys' High School.

Located in the coastal township of Oamaru, Don House has a proud tradition of moulding boys into fine young men of outstanding character. Don House boarders are confidently able to contribute positively to their school, families and communities and leave Don House as well rounded, educated young men.

Staff at Don House are dedicated, experienced, and holistically focused on all Don House boarders. We ensure that all our boys have a safe and enjoyable experience and feel a strong sense of belonging in Don House. Every boy is seen as an integral part of the Don House Whānau (family).

Don House facilities include 4 dormitories and a large communal common room. The Director of Boarding and Residential Manager offices are attached to the common room allowing great supervision and creating an energetic family atmosphere. Staff housing is all within proximity and staff are actively involved each day. A unique aspect of the Don House dormitories is that all boarders from Year 10 to Year 13 have individual rooms. The Year 12 and 13 boarders have their own kitchen and lounge area that helps with the transition from hostel life to being a young adult.

Recreational facilities include swimming and diving pool, full sized gym, weights room, tennis courts, turf area, soccer, rugby and cricket fields, cricket nets and trapshooting range. Don House boarders are encouraged to take every opportunity and we have access to a wide range of off-site activities that we transport our boarders to each day.

Here at Don House, we are fortunate to have a diverse team from a variety of cultural and professional backgrounds who are passionate about supporting our Don House boys in reaching their full potential. Each member of our team utilises their own skill set when fulfilling their role, are open minded and can be flexible in their approach whilst continuing to uphold the values and boundaries that are important to Don House.

Alongside encouraging our Don House boys to do well academically and with their extracurricular activities, we also focus on developing our boys emotional, social, spiritual and independence skills to prepare our young men for the world they will be entering.

DILIGENTIA ET LABORE



International Testimonials

“ I came here for Rugby and English. I love Don House especially Year 10 boys and Kylie is helping me everyday. I feel like I want to come back next year until Year 12” - Thailand Student.

“I really appreciate the international coordinators and all of the staff in the hostel for taking care of [my son]... Of cause it was a challenge for us to send our son abroad, but the international coordinator, Scott and Kylie always shared activities and how he behaved there. It makes us feel relieved. Sometimes, young generations don't talk much to parents but with the help of Scott and Kylie, we can know what he has been doing there... I have recognized that [my son] has grown much in the 4 months there. I'm proud of him and I hope that he develop himself much more in the rest of his time in NZ... “ - Parent

“I am glad that [my son] is studying at Waitaki Boys' High School. Thank you for easing my stress by taking great care of my child. Mrs. Kylie Mayhew has always updated my child by sending his photos. She looks after my son as her child. This meant the world to me... Thank you so much” - Parent





WAITAKI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

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