



WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS



WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

Students graduating from Whanganui High School will have the following attributes and skills:

- *The ability to communicate effectively with others.*
- *Be trustworthy, honest, reliable, and dependable.*
- *Be respectful, caring and empathetic.*
- *Be open minded and enthusiastic for learning new skills.*
- *Be independent, motivated, confident, persistent and resilient.*
- *Value cultural diversity - be inclusive of all cultures and backgrounds.*
- *Be literate and numerate.*
- *Have self-discipline.*

VISION

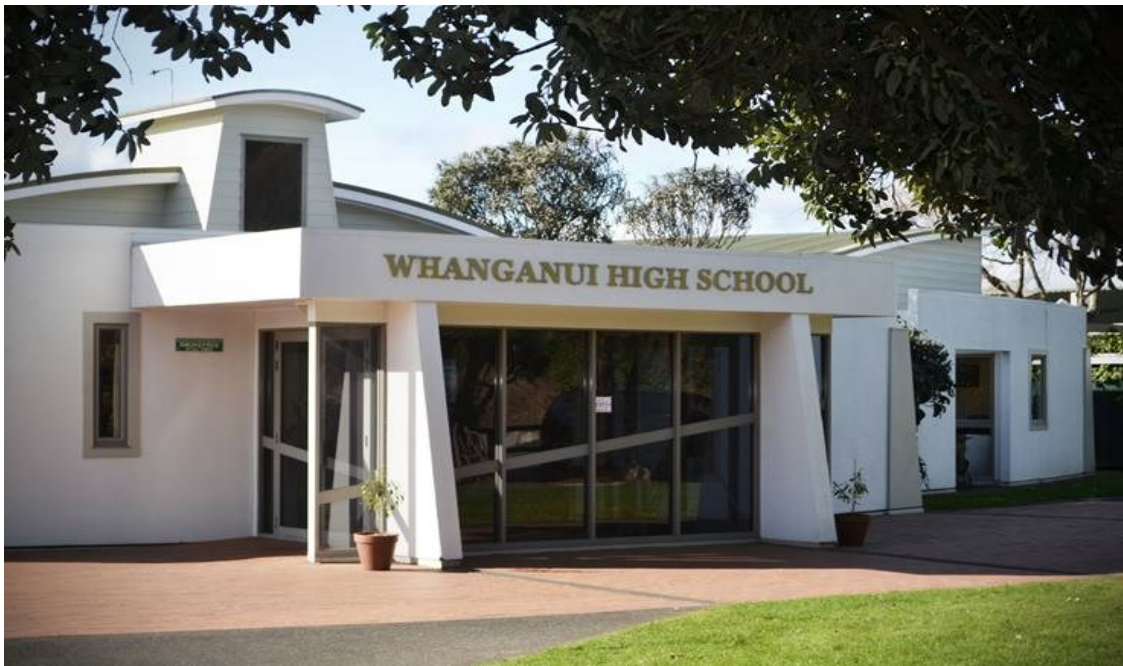
Whanganui High School will provide a future-focused education which promotes success for all students.



WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL

Your community school, committed to caring for students in a quality educational environment.

Ko tō koutou kura-ā-iwi, he kura atawhai tangata i roto i te taiao tupu ai te tino tounga o te matauranga.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Whanganui High School community strives to ensure that all students are given the opportunity and support required to reach their potential in all aspects of their education.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the Whanganui High School Prospectus.

Whanganui High School is a leading co-educational secondary school. We have approximately 1500 students; more than 100 specialist teachers and more than 50 support and administration staff.

The choice of secondary school for your son or daughter needs to be a carefully considered decision. I personally assure you that Whanganui High School is an outstanding school, with nationally significant points of difference across all academic, cultural and sporting areas.

In addition to this, our school values of LIFE (Learning, Integrity, Fellowship, Excellence) underpin the balanced and caring education we offer to our students.

Students at Whanganui High School enjoy all the advantages associated with attending a large secondary school - a diverse range of educational opportunities; access to all our dedicated and well-qualified teachers; a fully inclusive and welcoming learning environment - as well as benefitting from the personalised learning that occurs in all classes and across the entire school.

You are always very welcome to visit our school and meet with me at any time.

Nga mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Martin McAllen'.

Martin McAllen
PRINCIPAL

*MEd Leadership with First Class Honours,
PG DipEd Leadership, BA, Dip Tchg*



Positive Behaviour for Learning

Whanganui High School is part of the Ministry of Education's initiative Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) and Restorative Practice

The School's values underpin the PB4L and Restorative Practice programme and the key expectations we have of student behaviour.

Staff, students and all other members of our School community are encouraged to model and explore School values and aspire to be guided by them in their interactions with others and in their approach to learning.

We believe this is an important aspect of helping young people develop into fine young adults.

L	Learning	Be Prepared Participate
I	Integrity	Be responsible Show respect
F	Fellowship	Be cooperative Encourage others
E	Excellence	Do your best Celebrate success

That we might have LIFE





WHANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL VALUES

Whanganui High School has established a set of values, in keeping with the New Zealand Curriculum. These eight values reflect some key understandings about what we believe is important and desirable. We aim to reflect these values in our administration, guidance and teaching programmes.

Staff, students and all other members of our School community are encouraged to model and explore the School values, and aspire to be guided by them in their interactions with others and their attitude towards learning. We believe that this is an important aspect of helping young people develop into fine young adults.

The School values are:

Community	Whakawhanaungatanga, wairua auaha Working together in harmony, while respecting our diversity.
Responsibility	Mana Whakahaere Meeting our obligations to ourselves, others and our environment
Respect	Whakaute Respect for self, others, property and human rights.
Inquiry	Patapatai Hunger for learning.
Excellence	Kairangi, Hiranga Doing our best, aiming high, expecting and achieving high standards.
Integrity	Ngākau tapatahi, Mana Doing the right thing even when nobody is looking, being honest.
Consideration	Ngakau mahara, manaakitanga Considering others' needs as well as your own.
Fairness	Tika, Pono Justice, equity.

Students are encouraged to consider these values through presentations at House and Year Level assemblies and through all aspects of school life—classroom programmes, form class discussions and extra-curricular activities. We aim to help students explore what these values mean and how they can apply them to themselves and their community.



THE SCHOOL IS PROUD OF ITS STRENGTHS

Academic Excellence

- The School's facilities are exceptional, purpose built to deliver the NZ curriculum.
- Students are taught and extended at a level appropriate to their needs.
- All senior students work towards National Qualifications including the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA), and in some subjects international qualifications, including Cambridge.
- Our examination results are the envy of other schools in our region.
- Over 90% of our Year 13 students achieve their Whanganui High School Diploma.



Promotion of the Arts

- Quality facilities support Art, Design, Drama, Dance, Music and Photography.
- Tuition is available in a range of string, voice, brass, woodwind and percussion instruments.
- All students have the opportunity to be involved in school-wide highlights including School Productions, Show Quest (formerly Stage Challenge), the annual Performing Arts Concert, Rockquest, Chamber Music and Sheilah Winn Shakespeare festivals.
- Cultural Groups such as Pasifika and Kapa Haka have the opportunity to represent the School both regionally and nationally.
- The visual arts include Design, Painting, Printmaking and Photography through to Level 3 NCEA.
- Drama, Art and Music Groups are involved in various competitions and performance opportunities throughout the year.





Recreational and Sporting Opportunities

- The School facilities include extensive sports fields, a gymnasium complex with a training gym and numerous other specialist facilities.
- Physical Education forms part of a comprehensive approach to life education and includes practical Physical Education and Health Studies. Students with strengths in this field can advance through to Level 3 NCEA.
- Outdoor Education is a subject offered to senior students.
- Both winter and summer sports are extremely well catered for. The School's level of success both at regional and national level is exceptional.
- Our traditional interschool fixtures provide opportunities for both senior and junior students.



A Safe and Caring Environment

- Facilities include a comprehensive Guidance Suite offering Counsellors' rooms, Deans' interview rooms and a Nurse's interview room attached to the purpose-built Student Centre.
- The School's guidance structure focuses resources into Houses so that the extra staffing Whanganui High School has available is used most effectively in the support of students and their families. Each of the four houses has a Deputy Principal and two Deans who work together with the School's Guidance Counsellors, Nurses and Student Centre to ensure students are known as individuals and are supported and advised, on an on-going basis. Each year level, from 9 to 13, has a Deputy Principal who has an over-view of the group. Additional support is provided by the Maori Dean, Kaiawhina, Academic Dean and our PB4L Co-ordinator.
- The School provides individual course counselling and career education for each student. A well resourced careers centre, with specialist course counsellors and careers advisers, is available.
- The School has highly effective systems in place, which help ensure the School's expectations in terms of behaviour are met.





Excellence in Performing Arts

- Ten times winners of Regional Stage Challenge competition, including recently in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2016. National winners of Stage Challenge in 2004, 2016 and 2018, and second nationally in 2009. Now renamed Show Quest, WHS were regional winners in 2022.
- Acclaimed whole School productions take place every other year, with junior productions and Show Quest in alternate years.
- Regular winners and place-getters at regional RockQuest. In top eight New Zealand Bands 2012.
- Performance tour opportunities. In 2008, 2012 and 2015 the WHS Choir performed at the Sydney Opera House as part of a trip to compete in the Australian International Music Festival, winning Silver Medals twice.
- Annual Regional Chamber Music Festival.
- Pasifika Group participate in Pasifika Fusion regionally.
- Kapa Haka group participate in Paerangatahi and the Manu Korero competitions.
- Otago University Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival annual performance and National winners for costume design. Regional winners 2015 and 2016 and a WHS student was chosen for the NZ team to travel to the Globe Theatre in England in 2017.
- One Act Play Festival annual performance-Regional winners 2014.
- The Performing Arts Concert has become a feature of the year to showcase the talent of WHS.





Excellence in Sport

SCHOOL SPORTS

Athletics
Badminton
Basketball
Cricket
Cross Country
Football
Hockey
Netball
Rowing
Rugby
Softball
Sports Performance Pathway
Touch
Volleyball



SCHOOL EVENTS

Adventure Racing
Equestrian
Lifesaving
Motocross
Mountain Biking
Multi-Sports/Triathlons
Sailing
Skiing & Snowboarding
Swimming



SCHOOL RECREATIONAL SPORTS

Darts
Fit Club
Lawn Bowls
Surfing
Tramping



SPORTS offered by LOCAL CLUBS

Archery
Canoeing
Cycling
Golf
Judo
Kayaking
Pool 8 Ball
Small-Bore Rifle Shooting
Squash
Tennis
Waka Ama





Excellence in Co-curricular Activities

Students are given the opportunity to take part in a wide range of events and activities during their time at WHS.





THE NEW ZEALAND CURRICULUM

Whanganui High School delivers programmes that are based on the structure of the NZ Curriculum.

This sets the direction for student learning to create:

*Young people who will be confident, connected,
actively involved, lifelong learners.*

In the **Arts** students explore, refine and communicate ideas as they connect thinking, imagination, senses, and feelings to create works and respond to the works of others.

In **Digital Technology**, students develop knowledge and skills using a wide range of exciting internet and computing technologies.

In **English**, students study, use and enjoy language and literature communicated orally, visually or in writing.

In **Health and Physical Education** students learn about their own well-being, and that of others and society, in health-related and movement contexts.

In studying **Languages**, students learn to communicate in another language, develop their capacity to learn further languages, and explore different world views in relation to their own.

In **Mathematics and Statistics**, students explore relationships in quantities, space and data and learn to express these relationships in ways that help them make sense of the world around them.

In **Science**, students explore how both the natural physical world and science itself work so that they can participate as critical, informed and responsible citizens in a society in which science plays a significant role.

In the **Social Sciences**, students explore how societies work and how they themselves can participate and take action as critical, informed and responsible citizens.

In **Technology**, students learn to be innovative developers of products and systems and discerning consumers who will make a difference in the world.



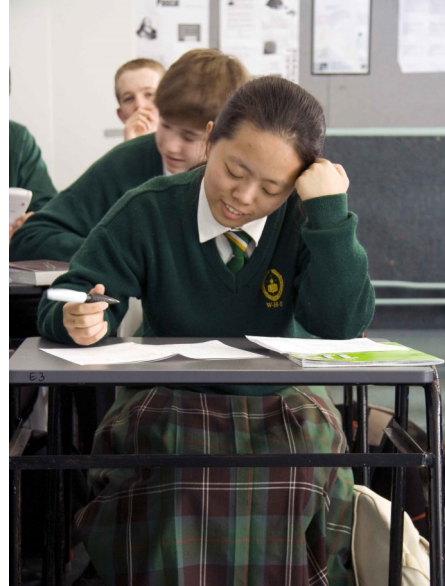


Excellence in the Curriculum

Whanganui High School offers a full and varied range of subjects. The broad base of subjects in Year 9 allows students to study subjects at an introductory level ensuring choices made in the senior school are based on experience.

Year 9

All Year 9 students are required to study English, Digital Technology, Mathematics, Physical Education (including Health), Science, and Social Studies. They all have a 'taste' of two languages - selected from Chinese, French, Spanish and Te Reo Māori. Students also select three subjects each from the Arts and Technology curriculum areas outlined below.



Arts

Art
Dance
Drama
Music

Technology

Design & Visual Communication
Food and Nutrition
Materials Technology
Fashion Design

Year 10

All Year 10 students are required to study English, Mathematics, Physical Education (including Health), Science, Social Studies and Digital Technology. They also select five subjects from the range of options outlined below.

Languages

Chinese
French
Spanish
Te Reo Māori

Arts

Art
Dance
Drama
Music

Technology

Design & Visual Communication
Food and Nutrition
Materials Technology
Fashion Design



Subjects available to Senior students Years 11 to 13

ARTS

Art / Art Digital Focus
Art Design
Art Painting
Art Printmaking
Art Photography
Dance
Drama
Music

ENGLISH

English
English Literature

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Digital Technology
Digital Technology Applied
Digital Technology Media
Digital Technology Science

LANGUAGES

Chinese
French
Spanish
Te Reo Māori
International English

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics
Calculus and Geometry
Probability and Statistics
Trigonometry and Algebra
Cambridge Mathematics

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

Outdoor Adventure Skills
Outdoor Education
Health
Physical Education
Sport Science
Sport Smart
Sport & Exercise

SCIENCES

Biology
Chemistry
Electronics
Physics
Science

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Accounting
Classical Studies
Economics
Geography
History
Psychology
Social Studies
Tourism

TECHNOLOGY

Automotive Engineering
Building and Construction
Fashion Design
Food and Nutrition
Design & Visual Communication
Technology
Technology Engineering

OTHER

External Studies
Supervised Study
Vocational Studies/Pathways



BEHAVIOURAL STANDARDS

The School rules have been established in partnership with the community over a long period of time. They reflect the School community's expectations in terms of acceptable standards of behaviour, dress and personal presentation in the widest sense. Students are expected to follow the School's rules at all times when on the School grounds or when associated with the School. Students are expected to engage in behaviour which:

- promotes the reputation and good name of the School
- promotes learning, including the learning of others
- promotes and helps ensure safety and security
- reflects a high degree of self-respect and self-discipline
- acknowledges the need to show respect for others and their property
- recognises the need to be positive and considerate when dealing with others
- values the School's natural and physical environment.

Positive Behaviour is acknowledged frequently. Students can earn Recognitions for positive behaviour and work.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT & SUPPORT

- No student will be allowed to put the safety or learning of another at risk.
- The School expects parental involvement. We are fortunate to serve a community of parents who care for their children and support the School.
- Students who are experiencing difficulties (or causing them), will quickly learn that the School sets clear boundaries, and that the support of parents will quickly be sought if boundaries are broken.
- Students know that the School and the family will work together to ensure their behaviour is acceptable.





THE GUIDANCE NETWORK

New students are welcomed and made to feel valued members of the Whanganui High School community. They are seen as the foundation of the School's future, and their successful entry to the School is therefore vital. A powhiri will welcome students to the School as we acknowledge the important role Primary and Intermediate schools have had in preparing our new entrants.

Seniors will attach themselves to small groups of juniors as they find their way during their first few days. This relationship is extended through an orientation programme early in term one, designed to build confidence and promote a community atmosphere. Whanganui High School is proud of the fact that students settle in quickly and soon adopt the culture of being proud of their School and themselves.

HOUSES

The School has four houses - Awa, Maunga, Moana and Whenua. Each House is led by a Deputy Principal and two Deans. There are 14 vertical form classes within each house, so each form class consists of a combination of Year 9 to Year 13 students. Each House has one Whanau form class which families can encourage their son or daughter to join. Our form teachers are committed to fostering the welfare of students in their care.

HOUSE DEANS

These trained professionals aim to provide student and form teacher support as well as subject selection advice. The Deans have an overview of classes and students, and work with a

Deputy Principal to complete the guidance network for each House. Additional support is provided by the Maori Dean and Kaiawhina, the Academic Dean and the PB4L Co-ordinator.

GUIDANCE & CAREERS COUNSELLORS

Our team of Guidance Counsellors have extensive training in the broad range of issues which can affect students and their families. They welcome parental contact, and will provide a CONFIDENTIAL self-referral system for any person on any matter. Additional counselling skills are made available through the School or relevant outside agencies as the need arises. The Principal, Administration Staff and Board of Trustees play a vital role in supporting the staff members and students who make up the Guidance Network. Each is committed to the concept of Whanganui High School being a caring and supportive centre for learning.

STUDENT CENTRE

This facility aims to serve the needs of students and their caregivers. It is the first point of contact for students who require assistance with timetables, fees, health concerns and daily school activities. Parents with student-related queries should contact the Student Centre in the first instance, Telephone: (06) 349 0177.

VOCATIONAL STUDIES

The School has established a Vocational Studies Centre and employs specialists to work with students both in class and on an individual basis. The Vocational Programme provides opportunities for work experience and links with our tertiary study programmes.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

All students are expected to wear the prescribed School uniform in a tidy manner. Parents are asked to support the School in achieving this goal. All items are of a particular colour, style and material chosen specifically for Whanganui High School.

The Board of Trustees has delegated to the Principal the authority to rule on all matters relating to uniform, jewellery, hair and standards of personal presentation.

The School limits jewellery to one stud per ear. A taonga or necklace of cultural significance may be worn. Students are expected to present themselves in a neat and tidy manner, with boys cleanly shaven. Hair must be natural in colour and of a reasonable length and style.

Summer uniform is worn in Terms One and Four. Winter uniform is worn in Terms Two and Three.

Cycle helmets are compulsory, as required by law.



FINANCIAL

- Subject fees for course related expenses are sought only when there is a take home component which is purchased from the school.
- Subject contributions are requested for curriculum based activities which involve overnight trips.
- Costs of School trips, sports and other special events are charged as and when they occur and payment is requested prior to the event occurring.



YEAR 9 SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are offered in recognition of outstanding ability and potential. A range of scholarships are available in the following areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Sport
- The Arts
- Principal's Scholarship Award

These scholarships are intended for those students who are currently working or performing at a high level in comparison to their peers.

Academic Scholarship examinations usually take place in November each year. These examinations are in addition to the entrance tests which are sat by all students coming to Whanganui High School at Year 9.



ENROLMENTS

The Board is aware that there is likely to be a high demand for places in the School. The Board is also aware that it has a responsibility to parents to support them in their wish to enrol students at the school of their choice, i.e. Whanganui High School.

The School appreciates the support it receives from the community and welcomes applications from all those families who value the excellent education Whanganui High School can offer.

SCHOOL TOURS

Our Open Day is on hold during the pandemic, but you can book a tour of the school through the WHS website from mid-June on. Enrolment packs can be picked up from the main office.

We look forward to receiving your child's enrolment application. If you have any concerns relating to enrolment, please contact the School for advice.

Write to:
The Principal
Whanganui High School
PO Box 4022
WHANGANUI, 4541

Email:
office@whanganuihigh.school.nz

Telephone:
School Office: 06 349 0178
Student Centre: 06 349 0177

Facsimile:
School Office: 06 349 0176

School Website:
www.whanganuihigh.school.nz