



New Appointment: Headmaster Waihi School

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Gareth Wood as our new Headmaster of Waihi School, commencing in April 2025.

Gareth is currently the Deputy Headmaster of Huntley School. Huntley is situated in Marton and is New Zealand's oldest and largest preparatory boarding school.

Gareth also holds the combined roles of Head of Pastoral Care and Director of Boarding and is a past Director of Curriculum.

Throughout his career, Gareth has demonstrated sound leadership and genuine care for all his students, with a collaborative approach to working with teachers, staff, parents, and the wider community.

He brings a wealth of experience and passion for education, having taught in various prep schools, including in the UK. Gareth understands the culture and rich history of Waihi and is committed to the continued growth and development of our School.

Gareth holds a Bachelor of Education and a post graduate Diploma in Teaching from Massey University. He is married to Katharine and they have two school age daughters. He enjoys many sports including cycling and Triathlon.

We look forward to welcoming Gareth and his family to Waihi and the South Canterbury region.

Michael Tayler
Board Chair



Tēnā koutou,

It is a great privilege and responsibility to be appointed the new Headmaster of Waihi School. For the last 10 years, I've been the Deputy Headmaster at Huntley School in Marton; a school very similar to Waihi in its ethos, values and desire to deliver a well-rounded education to students.

At Huntley, I was actively involved in the day-to-day operations of a busy co-educational boarding school as well as teaching and guiding our students to reach their academic, cultural, physical, spiritual and social potential. Throughout my teaching career, I've enjoyed coaching many sports, including bringing teams to Waihi School as part of the Southern tour.

As the eighth Headmaster to serve at Waihi, I look forward to continuing the great work undertaken by Allan Short and the excellent team at Waihi, and I'm excited by the opportunities to come.

My wife, Katharine, and daughters, Amelia and Maisie, are also looking forward to setting into life in Winchester and being part of both the school and local communities.

I would like to thank Michael Tayler and the rest of the Board for giving me this opportunity and I look forward to getting to know the students, staff, parents and other stakeholders involved in helping to create such a unique and special school.

