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Welcome to Waihi School

At Waihi School, we take great pride in our history and traditions. Each generation has written their own stories 'Behind the Hedge', from the first three boys arriving in 1907, to the introduction of day boys almost a century later. In 2021, we are excited to create a new chapter in our history as we become fully co-educational. We are looking forward to welcoming your daughters, and your sons, to Waihi and offering them the plethora of rich and varied opportunities that are part of the experience of every Waihian.

We understand the formative years of your child's education are extremely important. The experiences, values and challenges presented to them at this stage of their development are proven to be fundamental in shaping and determining their future views, dispositions, and successes.

For more than a century, Waihi has laid the foundations for achievement and success. Young Waihians have enjoyed an outstanding education and created habits and friendships for life, all with the guidance of our specialist team of educators and the caring and supportive nature of all the extended Waihi staff and family.

These fundamental elements have created our incredibly special school in which we strive to ensure that we live up to our ethos - "Nurturing Success".

In our role as an independent preparatory school for children in years Four to Eight, Waihi caters to both day and boarding students in our magnificent and established school grounds in rural Winchester, South Canterbury. Strong values have shaped our school, along with our belief that every child is unique and should have access to an education that will nourish them; academically, physically, culturally, spiritually and individually.

I warmly invite you and your family to come and visit our unique school to see how we nurture success, with an opportunity to learn, challenge and grow as individuals. Look through this prospectus and visit our website to gain an insight into what Waihi can offer your child and family. I especially encourage your family to visit us on-site, to gain a "real" sense of the possibilities that are on offer for your daughter or son at our extraordinary school.

Ngā mihi

ALLAN SHORT
HEADMASTER





Nurturing Academic Success

Waihi School has been a proven performer in education since its inception 114 years ago.

Our school values the traditional role of academia for our children. We understand that each child is an individual, and we need to be mindful of this in our direction of each student’s learning journey.

Working alongside you and your child, we gain a good understanding of where their strengths lie and in which areas we can work for improvement. We can tailor a learning journey that will see your child develop confidence and success in the classroom.

We have a strong and specialist team of teachers who work with your child to ensure that goals are set and met. As our class sizes are a maximum of 20 students, our teachers have a greater ability to be aware and mindful of each student’s individual needs.

We offer specialist science lessons, small, streamed maths groups, and a strong focus on literacy to ensure the fundamentals of your children’s education create the building blocks for their future success.

Inquiry-led learning and hands-on subjects - such as robotics, music, visual arts and craft, wood technology – and involvement across the school by all students

in everything from choir to sport ensures a holistic and well-rounded approach to all aspects of learning.

Small class sizes enable our staff to deliver focused tuition, providing opportunities for the most able students to extend themselves, and dedicated learning support for those who need it.

We encourage our students to explore, inquire and investigate, and develop the skills to take responsible risks in learning about their world. Your child will have a purpose for their learning, and this is more than mere knowledge acquisition: it is about gaining a more in-depth understanding. Technology is an integral part of that process: each student has their personal device, and our classrooms and learning spaces are set up to take advantage of the latest eLearning resources, without this being the sole focus of our curriculum.

Nurturing Family Success

We believe that boarding creates successful, happy, confident, courteous, independent, and ambitious young people.

Boarding nurtures your child's ability to live and work alongside others; along with providing each individual with the preparation for them to do their very best academically.

Boarding - when treated with the right amount of care, dignity and thoughtfulness - creates a confident, resilient, happy and successful young person, one who is empathetic to others and has the ability to be exposed to experiences that will create friendships and habits for life.

Our boarders are treated with the utmost respect and care, we supervise, nurture and guide them as our own children.

When you speak with our boarders, you cannot get past the fact that they genuinely love our boarding experience and view Waihi as their "home away from home".

Our staff are what makes the experience so enriching and successful with a real family atmosphere. A committed pastoral care team including Head Matron, Assistant Matrons and Gap Tutors are ably supported by our residential team who live and work alongside our boarders whilst also raising their own families on-site.

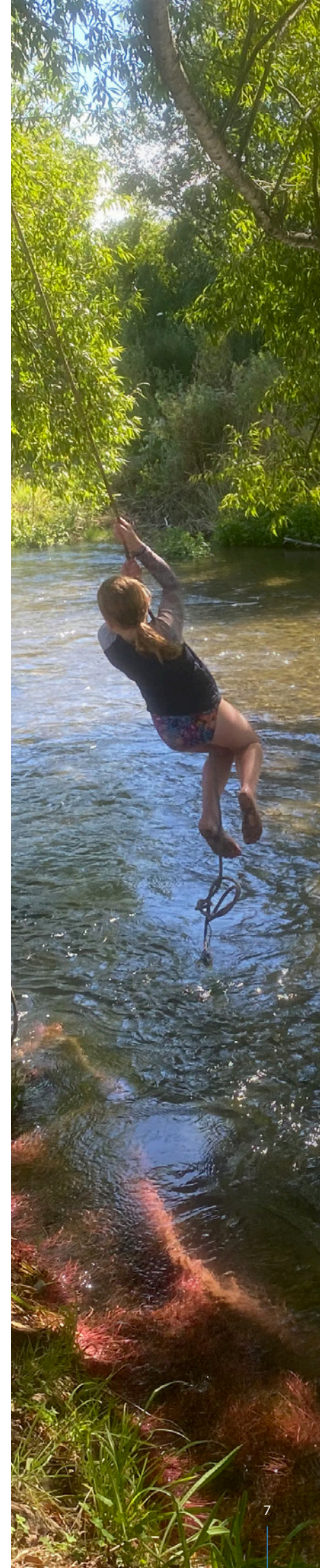
Your child always has someone to guide, advise and support them on their boarding journey at Waihi.

As a parent, you will still be strongly connected with your boarding child. Communications are continual and easy, and writing and receiving letters is a highlight of the day!



Flexibility allows for each child to access both full-time and weekly boarding. Meaning that whilst gaining the enrichment of the boarding environment they can also take the option of some participation in family life at weekends or visits out to stay with friends.

Your child always has someone to guide, advise and support them on their boarding journey at Waihi.



Nurturing Sporting Success

Through sport, our children learn about friendship, comfort zones, leadership, teamwork, accountability, and responsible risk-taking. They gain self-esteem, determination, and organisational skills.

Our students also learn about winning and losing. To be humble in victory and gracious in defeat is one of the hardest, but most important, life lessons, preparing them for life's ups and downs.

Our students are passionate about sport, and as a school, we encourage every child to take part in a team sport. Our grounds are set up to help our children achieve in sport, with cricket, football and rugby fields, tennis and netball courts, a mountain bike track, outdoor climbing equipment and our heated swimming pool.

Literally and metaphorically everyone at Waihi takes pride in

pulling on the school jersey. In winter children have the option of playing rugby, hockey, netball, basketball and football, switching in summer to cricket, tennis, swimming and touch rugby.

We also have the opportunity to provide a number of individual sports - such as skiing, triathlon, athletics, road cycling, karate, and mountain-biking. If your child has a particular interest, please do communicate with us so that we can endeavour to facilitate them participating in whatever direction their physical passion lies.

Across the year, we take part in many fixtures with other preparatory schools from across New Zealand, challenging and growing our students' abilities and character. Through these fixtures with other schools, our children achieve local and national representation in many sports.

Through sport our children learn about friendship, comfort zones, leadership, communications, accountability, and responsible risk taking.



Nurturing Creative Success

Creativity: Noun:

“The use of imagination or original ideas to create something, inventiveness.”

At Waihi, we celebrate children’s passion for creativity, we nurture their inner artist, musician, technician or actor. Through our broad programme in arts and technology, we encourage your child’s sense of discovery and unlock their passions for the task at hand. Our specialist and skilled teaching staff foster the student’s thirst for discovery and what drives them, working alongside them to ensure that each student can reach their full potential in all areas of the curriculum.

All students participate weekly in a wide variety of experiences both in groups and individually: Kapa Haka, choir, bands, music tech groups, speech and drama, visual arts all provide a vibrant creative experience.

Waihi is passionate about providing your child with the opportunities that can help them become a well-rounded, successful learner. We drive this with our broad participation for all students in the creative arts. A child must be challenged and extended to reach their full potential. We know at Waihi your child will surprise themselves with what they can achieve!



Nurturing Values

He aroha whakatō, he aroha puta mai - If kindness is sown, then kindness you shall receive.

We are lucky to have the beautiful Anglican church of St John the Evangelist at Waihi. It is here that our whole school chapel service is held each Monday morning to set the tone for the coming week, placing emphasis on the traditional values of good manners, courtesy, considerate behaviour, graciousness and respect. We encourage participation in chapel duties or singing in the choir as part of your child’s education.

Waihi is an Anglican school, and we believe in a world where traditional values are being constantly challenged, an education rooted in a Christian-based values system is more relevant to our children than it has ever been.

The wellbeing of your child is paramount; physically, mentally, emotionally. Our bespoke weekly health programme addresses the individual needs of our young people at this important stage of their development.

At the centre of all we do are our values. We have developed our list of eight values as a focus for both students and staff for use both within and outside of the classroom every single day. These reflect what our students aspire to be and the expectation of those around them. Our values guide everyone’s behaviour within the school and

are on display in each of our classrooms as visual reminders of this expectation for the whole Waihi whanau.

Consideration and Cooperation - We try to be a good friend to others, support our peers, be inclusive and be a good listener.

Kindness - It is important to be caring, to be compassionate and kind to all.

Love of learning - We have a positive attitude to our learning. We are focused, we take on challenges, and we are curious and creative.

Tu Igitur Perfer Adversa (Thou shall therefore endure hardship) – This is our school motto. It means that in striving for success, we are persistent, we have determination, and we value the struggle that comes with difficulties - it makes us stronger!

Responsibility - It is important to be responsible and reliable so that people can depend on you.

Honesty - We want everyone to be honest and trustworthy and always to tell the truth no matter what.

Respect - We need to have respect for ourselves, for other people, and for our environment.

Manners - Everyone at Waihi should be courteous and polite. Good manners show that you care about other people.

Nurturing Tradition

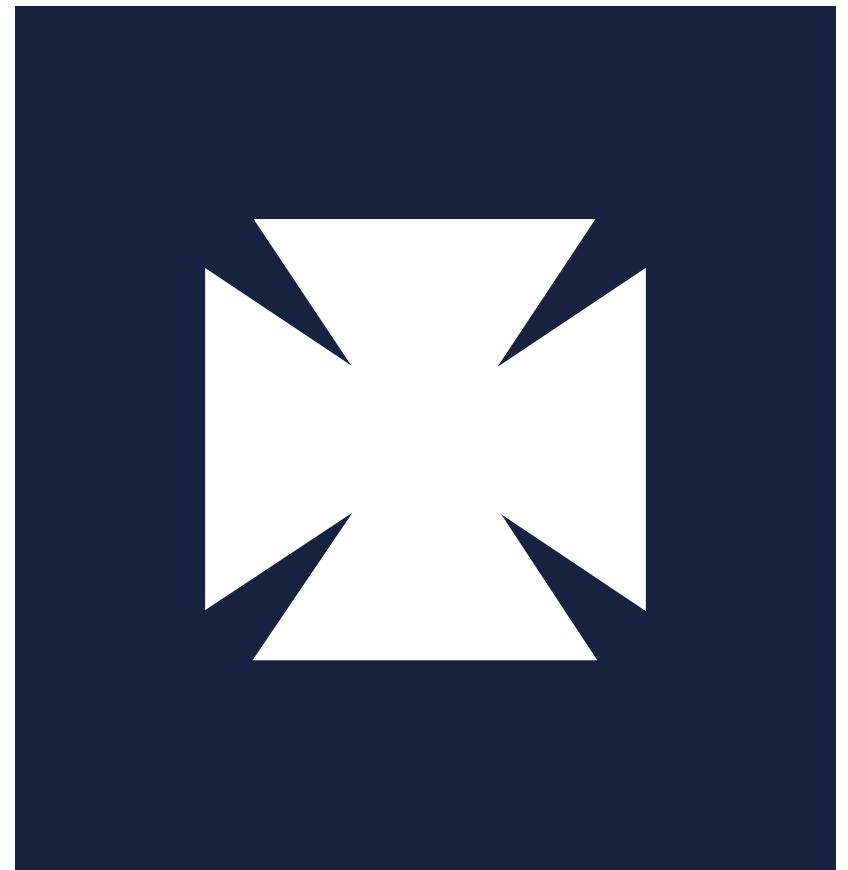
The founder and first headmaster, **Joseph R Orford**, opened the school doors for the first time on 5 September 1907 to just three boys.

He was a quite exceptional character, a top academic and sportsman, with a real sense of compassion and generosity of spirit along with being a very humble man.

Waihi values and respects its traditions, and for over a century, our past students have done outstandingly well in their chosen fields. Today's Waihians are proud of those who have gone before them and understanding our history continues to create a strong sense of the values that we hold dear.

Whilst we ensure that the children understand our past, we are keenly focused on looking forward and the most exciting is the challenge for each student to help write the next chapter of our history book, the future is in their hands.

The thriving Waihi Association welcomes old boys and girls and their families. Its mission is to both ensure that enduring friendships and connections continue to last a lifetime, whilst also, through scholarships, provide support and assistance to enable future students to enjoy a Waihi experience.



The School Crest

The school crest is a white Maltese cross on a dark blue background. (This is also the crest of Joseph Orford's Shrewsbury School Rowing Club.)

The eight points of the cross represent the eight beatitudes: to live in truth, to have faith, to repent of one's sins, to give proof of humility, to love justice, to be merciful, to be sincere and

wholehearted, and to endure persecution which originated from the bible and Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

These values hold true today for Waihi School; they help our students become good young men and women who are compassionate, confident, courageous citizens prepared to contribute to their communities.





P 03 687 8071 | E admin@waihi.school.nz
611 Temuka-Orari Highway, RD 26, Temuka 7986
waihi.school.nz

