

INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTUS



RICCARTON HIGH SCHOOL

Te Kura Tuarua o Pūtaringamotu

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



*He whānau kōtahe tatou.
We are one – we share and live our values*



Welcome. Nau mai, haere mai.

Greetings and welcome to Riccarton High School.

At Riccarton we pride ourselves on the individual attention and support we give our students as they strive to become graduates who will be achieving, independent, lifelong learners as well as caring, responsible, involved, globally connected citizens.

The school also focuses on the importance of character building through Te Wairua o Pūtaringamotu – the Riccarton Way, and its associated values of commitment, honesty, respect and excellence, in addition to the meaning behind the school's motto: Disce ut prosis – learn that you may be of service.

We are a vibrant and wonderfully diverse community of approximately 1,100 students that defines success in a number of different ways. Each year we celebrate our academic achievements, which remain above national averages. A large number of our students represent the school, our province and our country in a wide range of sporting, musical and cultural endeavours.

We are proud of our modern student centred curriculum that is technology rich and responsive to the needs of our students with a strong focus on a philosophy of blended learning.

Our school works hard to meet the expectations of our community. We aspire to be the school of choice for every family in our community.

We very much look forward to meeting you and forming an exciting and fulfilling partnership in the pursuit of success for every student.

Carpe diem.



Neil Haywood
Principal



Riccarton High School has agreed to observe and be bound by the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students published by the Ministry of Education. Copies of the Code are available on request from this institution or from the New Zealand Ministry of Education website at: <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers-partners/education-code-of-practice/>

CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND



Christchurch is the main city in the South Island. The international airport is 10 minutes from Riccarton High School and the exciting, constantly evolving central business district is only 7km to the east.

Christchurch, "gateway to the South Island", is the main access point to world famous tourist attractions which draw millions of people every year from all over the world. Students love that in Christchurch you can surf in the morning and by the afternoon, be in the mountains skiing.

Well-served by city busses and with safe roads to cycle on, Riccarton High School students can reach all of the following within less than 7km of the school:

- University of Canterbury
- Westfield Shopping Mall
- International Antarctic Centre
- English Language Institutes
- Shops, banks, medical clinics
- International Supermarkets
- Jellie Park (largest swim/gym recreation centre in the South Island)
- Intercity transportation links

Christchurch provides big city opportunities, without big city stresses – students here are thriving in a safe, creative and stimulating environment.





RICCARTON HIGH SCHOOL

Riccarton High School is a state run, coeducational school with a roll of just over 1100. Each year we host up to 80 international students for long or short-term study. Our minimum enrolment period is 10 weeks.

With 25 years' experience in hosting international students, we offer a dedicated International Student Department consisting of three full time staff members and two part time language support staff. This enables us to give our international students the individual attention and the opportunities to reach their full potential in a caring, student-focused, academically rigorous environment.

We have a focus on academic excellence and a reputation for achieving success. Our qualification results are above the national averages and our students regularly win scholarships as well as local, regional and national competitions.

Our school offers opportunities to participate in sport, drama, music, and cultural groups. These activities allow students from overseas to develop their social skills, a sense of commitment to the school and its culture – they help build the Riccarton experience.

We are a diverse community – diverse in ethnicity, values and abilities. About 30% of our students were born overseas (from over 40 different countries) and we enjoy the multicultural richness that this brings to the school.

A copy of the most recent Education Review Office for Riccarton High School report can be found here: <https://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/riccarton-high-school-29-10-2018/>



CURRICULUM

Riccarton High School has designed a curriculum for the junior school (Years 9 and 10) which meets the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum and allows all students to receive an education in the faculty areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, Technology, The Arts, and Languages.

Our curriculum is structured to provide students with a depth of experience in a broad range of subjects. As students progress into the senior school at Year 11, the range of subjects that students are required to take reduces.

NCEA

NCEA (the National Certificate of Educational Achievement) is the main secondary school qualification in New Zealand. Levels 1-3 can be completed in 1-3 years from year 11. NCEA is recognised globally as entrance to tertiary institutions world-wide.

NON-NCEA PROGRAMME

Many international students choose to come for a short-term experience rather than to gain a qualification. For students not sitting end of year exams we provide a three week programme free of charge with fun, outdoor activities and a one week tour of the south island free of charge.

For more information about NCEA and New Zealand's education system go to:
<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/studying-in-new-zealand/>





ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

Riccarton High School offers one of the most comprehensive English language programmes among New Zealand secondary schools.

The programme creates a pathway from years 9 – 13, from our Intensive English course, (12-16 hours per week), to the English for Academic Purposes course, ideal for tertiary preparation.

International students do not need a minimum English language level to apply to Riccarton High School. Our testing and placement is done at school during the orientation programme.

As students' English language levels increase, their ESOL class time reduces and is replaced with mainstream school subjects. An advanced ESOL learner may only take four hours per week of a high-level EAL class, such as English for Academic Purposes.

ENGLISH & NCEA EXAMINATIONS

For long-term students expecting to graduate from Riccarton High with NCEA Levels 2 or 3, it is strongly advised that students start this process with a level of English equivalent to IELTS level 5 (academic).

The International Department is available to consult and advise students on the best course of study to meet their long-term education goals after completing Riccarton High School.

HOMESTAY

Riccarton High School arranges homestay accommodation for its international students. Many of our homestays are within walking distance of the school and for those a little further away, the school is on a main bus route, so transport to and from school is easy, safe and convenient.

Homestays are organised by the school before students arrive, based on students preferences and interests indicated in our Enrolment Document.

All homestays are vetted by the New Zealand Police and regularly inspected by our dedicated Homestay Manager to ensure the highest quality in safety and reliability.

Homestay accommodation includes:

- > Fully furnished bedroom, including writing desk
- > Airport pick up/drop off
- > All meals, linen and laundry
- > Regular interviews and checks with the school's homestay manager

Parents who have questions or concerns about their children's welfare may contact the Homestay Manager during school hours on the number below and emergency, 24 contact numbers will be supplied to enrolled students at orientation.

Phone: +64 3 348 5073

Email: by@riccarton.school.nz

Pastoral care and counselling services from the International Student Director, Guidance Counsellors and the school Deans are also available to students who have school, study or personal concerns.

STUDENT SERVICES

DEANS

As well as a dedicated International Office, there is a Dean in charge of each year level. The Deans place students in classes and subjects and are responsible for the discipline and welfare of their students.

COUNSELLORS

Riccarton High School has two counsellors who ensure students receive information to assist them to make positive, informed and appropriate decisions about their future. The counsellors are also available if students have specific concerns about anything at school or home.

CAREERS ADVICE & EMPLOYMENT

Riccarton High School has a school-wide career development programme. It is a student-centred, holistic approach where the students at each year level are interviewed either individually or in small groups on an annual basis. The Careers Adviser also has access to comprehensive network of employers and tertiary institutions allowing for individual pathways to be developed dependent on student need.

Under the New Zealand Immigration Service Policy Guidelines students are permitted to work while studying in New Zealand. Year 12 and Year 13 students may apply in writing to the school for permission to work up to 20 hours per week during term time. You cannot start work until you have received the Variation of Conditions of Student Permit from New Zealand Immigration services.



COURSES OF STUDY



JUNIOR SCHOOL

SUBJECT		AVAILABLE IN YEAR	
■ ■	English or ESOL ¹	9	10
■ ■	Health and Physical Education	9	10
■	Languages: French or Japanese or Te Reo Māori	9	10
■ ■	Mathematics	9	10
■ ■	Science	9	10
■ ■	Social Studies	9	10
	Art: Dance	9	10
	Art : Drama	9	10
	Art: Music	9	10
	Art: Performance Music	9	10
	Enterprise Studies		10
	Money Matters		10
	Technology: Design & visual communications	9	10
	Technology: Design awards	9	10
	Technology: Digital (ICT) ²	9	10
	Technology: Food	9	10
	Technology: Hard Materials	9	10
	Technology: Textiles	9	10
	Visual Art: Art	9	
	Visual Art: Design		10
	Visual Art: Painting and Printmaking		10
	Visual Art : Photography		10

Year 9

Compulsory subjects ■

Other subjects are studied in semesters, grouped to ensure students receive a balance of the Arts and Technology

Performance Music is a course for experienced musicians. On acceptance, students can apply for entry to this course.

Classes are mixed ability, and organised around literacy needs. We aim for class sizes of 10-27.

■ Compulsory subjects

¹ESOL English for Speakers of Other Languages
An intensive ESOL programme is provided as needed.

²ICT Information and Communication Technology

Year 10

Compulsory subjects ■

Languages are studied for the whole year; the other optional subjects for six months.

Optional subjects are grouped to ensure students get a balance of Arts and Technology.

Students select 4 options (2 for each half year) or 3 if they are taking a language (1 language for whole year, 2 for each half year).

³SPEC Specific Preparation for Employment and Citizenship

⁴NCEA Language for Native Speakers - Credits in NCEA language standards may be offered to native speakers of Chinese, German, Japanese and Samoan.

SENIOR SCHOOL

SUBJECT	AVAILABLE IN YEAR			SUBJECT	AVAILABLE IN YEAR		
Accounting	11	12	13	Physical Education	11	12	13
Biology		12	13	Physics		12	13
Chemistry		12	13	Science	11	12	13
Classical Studies		12	13	Science and Sustainability		12	
Drama	11	12	13	SPEC ³	11	12	13
English for Academic Purposes			13	Sports Leadership			13
Economics	11	12	13	Statistics & Modeling			13
Electronics			13	Technology: design & visual communications	11	12	13
English	11	12	13	Technology: digital (ICT) ²	11	12	13
ESOL ¹	11	12	13	Technology: Food	11	12	
French	11	12	13	Technology: Hard Materials	11	12	13
Geography	11	12	13	Technology: textiles	11	12	13
Health		12	13	Te Reo Māori	11	12	13
History	11	12	13	Tikanga Māori	11	12	13
Japanese	11	12	13	Tourism Studies		12	13
Legal Studies		12	13	Visual Art	11		
Mathematics	11	12	13	Visual Art: Design		12	13
Mathematics with Statistics		12	13	Visual Art: Painting		12	13
Mathematics with Calculus			13	Visual Art: Photography		12	13
Media Studies		12	13				
Music	11	12	13				
Pasifika Studies	11	12	13				

Year 11	students study 6 subjects	Year 12	students study 6 subjects	Year 13	Students study 5 or 6 subjects in addition to Directions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English or Te Reo Māori: or ESOL¹ Mathematics 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English or Te Reo Māori: or ESOL¹ <p>Students select 6 subjects for the whole year or a mixture of full-year and semester courses.</p> <p>Students can study a combination of Level 1 and Level 2 subjects</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directions (one hour per week) <p>Students can study a combination of Level 1, 2 and 3 subjects</p> <p>High achieving students have the option of entering for Scholarship in individual subjects.</p>	

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for entrance of a university in New Zealand the student must obtain from the national qualifications framework:

- > Three subjects at Level 3, made up of 14 credits each, in three approved subjects.
- > Literacy 10 credits at Level 2 or above, made up of 5 credits in ready and 5 credits in writing
- > Numeracy - 10 credits at Level 1

SPORT AND CULTURE

As Riccarton High School strives to create well-rounded individuals, there are numerous opportunities available in both the sporting and cultural arena.

SUMMR SPORT

- > Athletics/Swimming
- > Cricket
- > Equestrian
- > Fencing
- > Lawn Bowls
- > Rock Climbing
- > Softball
- > Tennis
- > Touch Rugby
- > Ultimate Frisbee
- > Volleyball
- > Waka Ama/Dragon Boating

WINTER SPORT

- > Badminton
- > Basketball
- > Chess
- > Cycling
- > Equestrian
- > Fencing
- > Football
- > Hockey
- > Netball
- > Rugby
- > Table Tennis

CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- > Barbershop
- > Book Club
- > Budding Biologists
- > Chess
- > Choir
- > Christian Fellowship
- > Computer Club
- > Concert Band
- > Debating
- > Drama
- > Dance Clubs
- > Environment Action
- > Homework Club
- > Jazz Band
- > Kapa Haka
- > Learn an instrument
- > Lighting and Sound
- > Media and Advertising
- > Pacific Island Group
- > Philosophy
- > Rock Band
- > Senior Vocal Ensemble
- > Theatre sports
- > School Production
- > Stage Challenge
- > Ukulele



PREPARATION

BYOD (BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE)

All new students are expected to bring a suitable electronic device to school. An internet capable device is now an important part of student's toolkit, giving them access to unlimited resources and enabling them to support, extend, collaborate and share their learning in a way that prepares them for the future. Riccarton High recommends a Chromebook. If you prefer an alternative brand, check the recommended specifications on the school website: <https://www.riccarton.school.nz/e-learning/>

ORIENTATION

Comprehensive multi-day international orientation programmes run each at the start of every term.

During this time students are tested in English, mathematics, science, briefed on school rules, uniform is selected and new friends are made. Mini-orientations are run for students who arrive outside our main orientation times. Please consult with the International Department if you cannot arrive for the start of any given term.

MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a Government requirement that you have a medical and travel insurance policy before you depart from your home country for New Zealand. Riccarton International can arrange insurance for you through Unicare or Southern Cross. You may request this service during enrolment.





HOW TO APPLY

Step 1. Apply

Apply with the following documents:

- > Completed and signed enrolment contract (downloaded from <https://www.riccarton.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019-Enrolment-Contract.pdf>)
- > Copies of two most recent school reports
- > Letter of recommendation from a Teacher at the student's school
- > A letter from the student stating the reasons for applying to study at Riccarton High School
- > A copy of the student's passport including passport number and expiry date
- > A copy of the student's insurance policy only if they are using their own provider and not organising insurance through the Riccarton High School

Step 2. Review

Riccarton High School reviews the application; successful applicants will receive a fees invoice and offer of place

Step 3. Payment

Pay the fees to Riccarton High School, who in return issues a fees receipt and confirmation letter.

Current fees can be found on the school website: <https://www.riccarton.school.nz/international/fees-and-scholarships/>

4. Visa

Students staying in New Zealand longer than three months need to apply for a Student visa. Online

Apply for a Student Visa through www.immigration.govt.nz. Or contact Riccarton High School for recommendations on immigration and educational agents in your country

Things to remember

- > Riccarton High School accepts applications all year round; however, the International Office closes for processing applications over the Christmas/New Year holiday break
- > For students wishing to undertake NCEA examinations, it is strongly advised that students arrive with an English level equivalent to IELTS 5.5 (academic)
- > For any further information and advice, including the school's refund policy and dispute resolution procedures, contact the Riccarton High School International Department: international@riccarton.school.nz





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Te Kura Tuarua o Pūtaringamotu

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