



NELSON COLLEGE FOR GIRLS | PROSPECTUS

Te Kura Tamawāhine o Whakatū



PRIDE

HINE TŪ

POSITIVITY | NGĀKAU REKA

RESPECT | MANAAKITANGA

INTEGRITY | NGĀKAU PONO

DIVERSITY | KANORAU

EMPATHY | AROHA



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WELCOME | NGĀ MIHI

Kia ora koutou. A very warm welcome to Nelson College for Girls.

With a history spanning more than 135 years, Nelson College for Girls has a proud record of female empowerment. Our first principal, Kate Edger, was the first woman in the British Empire to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree. That spirit lives on in our school, where our girls are encouraged to be their very best, personally and academically. We know it's important to have fun and excel at school, so at Nelson College for Girls we encourage you to make the most of the huge range of opportunities that are available, both in and out of the classroom.

We have passionate and caring teachers who work together to provide an inclusive, supportive learning environment. Evident in everything we do are our school's social values of PRIDE: Positivity – Ngākau reka, Respect – Manaakitanga, Integrity – Ngākau pono, Diversity – Kanorau, and Empathy – Aroha.

At the end of your journey here, we hope you feel confident, articulate, and ready to explore your place in the world. We will help you develop a strong sense of yourself and for social justice, as well as a commitment to make the world a better place. You will leave with lasting memories and life-long friends.

In the following pages, discover a little bit of what's on offer here at Nelson College for Girls. We look forward to showing you around our vibrant school in person.



Mauri ora
Cathy Ewing, Principal



BE YOUR BEST



ACHIEVEMENT | PAETAE

You'll relish the opportunities here! Whether it's sport, science, music or student leadership, we'll support you to get stuck in, extend yourself and be the best you can be.

Nelson College for Girls' all-girl environment gives you the absolute freedom to be who you truly are, without falling into traditional gender roles or stereotyped academic pathways.

Research shows that girls in all girls' schools:

- Do better academically and are more likely to graduate from tertiary education
- Are more likely to choose maths and sciences courses and excel in them
- Are more likely to take on leadership responsibility

- Have a greater sense of self-esteem
- Are more likely to be professionals or hold executive or managerial positions in business

As the only all girls' secondary school in Nelson Tasman, Nelson College for Girls can offer you the chance to be your best. It's not girls, girls, girls all of the time, though! We have a great relationship with Nelson College, and invite the boys to be involved in sports' competitions, house events, school productions and, of course, our famous annual school ball for years 12 and 13.

"Nelson College for Girls is definitely helping me achieve my goals and dreams"

Lizzie Neale Y11 - Elite sportswoman



Compared to girls from co-ed schools, graduates of girls' schools are six times more likely to consider majoring in maths, science and technology, and three times more likely to consider engineering.

Source: National Coalition of Girls' Schools

EMPOWERMENT | WHAKAMANA

Keen to make your mark on the world?
Take on student leadership roles to develop your skills, build your confidence and prepare yourself for a brighter future where you're in charge.

At Nelson College for Girls, we encourage our students to take the lead and make things happen. Renowned for making positive environmental change in the Nelson community is our student-led Enviro Action Group. They successfully changed parking tickets to recyclable paper, called on supermarkets to remove plastic bags, and led Nelson's student strike for climate change. The only secondary school in the region with the title, Nelson College for Girls is now recognised as a Silver Enviro-School thanks to the group's activities.

The Keeping Kids Warm campaign was the brainchild of our Social Services Committee, who are engaged in local issues and raise money to make change happen. Pants are now part of our uniform, thanks to our LGBTQ group dedicated to equality.

You'll get the chance to take the lead in our whole school house competitions throughout the year, which are all about giving it a go and having fun. Also organised and run by students, tabloid events, theatre sports and themed weeks (like arts, sport, drama, music and culture - to name a few) give you the chance to step up. The colourful spectacle of HPAC (House Performing Arts Competition) is 100 hundred percent produced by students, who develop all the narration, dance and song. Girls and families tell us it is one of their absolute highlights of the school year!





PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE

SUCCESS | ANGITU

If you love to learn, we've got exceptional and passionate teachers across the curriculum, and a record of academic achievement that's well above the national average.

Nelson College for Girls has a fantastic academic record across a wide range of subjects including English, all of the sciences, history, and performing and visual arts. Endorsement of certificates at both Excellence and Merit levels are well above the national average and scholarship is achieved by a number of our top students every year. Check out the wide selection of subject choices available on our website, www.ncg.school.nz.

As a junior student at Nelson College for Girls, you can expect to experience all eight curriculum areas. Choose from English, languages, maths, science, social studies, health and physical education, technology and the Arts. Then, in the senior school, choose specialty areas, which could be anything from media studies to music to printmaking to earth and space science, as well as history, painting and printmaking... there are so many!

With our fantastic academic reputation, we're lucky to attract world class teachers, whose passion about their subject areas is contagious. You can expect them to go above and beyond the call of duty to make sure you succeed in whatever you choose to pursue.

Supported by a dedicated team of highly qualified IT technicians, one key to our students' success is the fact they are savvy users of modern technology. Proficient in industry-standard software like Microsoft, Adobe and Autodesk, our students engage in learning in innovative ways and are well prepared for life after school, whether that's tertiary study or work. Since 2014, we have encouraged students to bring their own device to school. Having your own device means you can get regular feedback from your teachers online, as well as access to key course information at any time, making sure you're confident and connected.

FUN | PĀREKAREKA

Ready to get out of the classroom? Our field trips, sports events, outdoor education and cultural activities offer fun and life-changing experiences, if you're up for a challenge!

Discover a new passion and make life-long friends and memories at Nelson College for Girls. We have more than 75 activities on offer across sports, arts and technology that are an essential part of school life.

In fact, there are so many opportunities at Nelson College for Girls, we guarantee you'll find one you won't have experienced before. Try kayaking, sailing, or mountain biking. Join the ski team or learn to abseil. Some student groups focus on brain-centric activities like chess, Amnesty International, or future problem solving. Want to express yourself? Try anime, kapa haka, or Rockquest. The range is enormous; here you can do anything.

As the most centrally located secondary school in Nelson, it's easy to take learning out of the classroom. Our classes take regular trips on foot to the Suter Art Gallery, Nelson Provincial Museum and the Nelson Public Library. There are also heaps of character-building activities further afield like our Year 9 Adventure Day at Teapot Valley and our Year 13 Leadership Day at Founders Heritage Park.

Students at Nelson College for Girls excel at sports like netball, rowing, athletics, rugby, football, cycling, golf, and hockey. Be involved in as many sports as you want. Some girls love being part of a team and learning from our strong network of coaches. Others join for fun and exercise. Those looking to excel go on to compete at local, national and even international levels. Our top netball team is regularly the leading school team in the regional Premier Grade and made it to the national championships last year, and we are the only the school in Nelson Tasman with a rowing team that competes annually against the country's top rowers at the Maadi Cup.

If you stand out in sport, consider joining our high performance NCG Infinity programme, with dedicated coaching, sports psychology, nutrition and visualisation. Acceptance is by application only. Meantime, everyone is welcome to join our sporting collective NCG Wings for inspirational guest speakers, coaching sessions and discounted sports gear.



ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE



GROW WITH SUPPORT

WELLBEING | ORA

Need a little support at times? We're here for you with a mentoring programme that spans all year groups to make sure you are happy, healthy and settled at school.

A nurturing, welcoming and supportive environment at school is extremely important to us. This approach is evident in our PRIDE values and the wide range of help services to make sure you are well supported and happy at school and home.

The values that guide us are spelled out in PRIDE and influence everything we do: Positivity - Ngākau reka, Respect - Manaakitanga, Integrity - Ngākau pono, Diversity - Kanorau, and Empathy - Aroha. It's how we treat each other. It's how we learn and live. It's who we are now and who we want to be in the future. Before we introduce new initiatives, recruit new staff and plan resourcing developments, we check that they fit with these social values which underpin our everyday life at Nelson College for Girls.

Our new Ārahi mentoring programme is a vertical mentoring class, with girls from Year 9 to Year 13 coming together three times a week for 30 minutes to chat about issues or topics that may be about their wellbeing or learning. The idea is for girls to get to know each other across year groups, breaking down stigmas associated with age, background and culture.

As you move through the school year after year, our Pastoral Care system will be with you throughout to ensure we understand and help you with all your needs. Deans and Kaiārahi follow and stay with you through each of your five years at school, so they will get to know you and can offer consistent support. Our Māori students, international students and boarders are supported by liaison teachers, who provide regular contact and ongoing support.

"I've been told that I can do it while I've been at this school"

Olivia Avery - 2018 Head Student - Studying at Canterbury University

DIVERSITY | KANORAU

With a high number of refugee and international students from dozens of countries from around the world, you can meet people from across the globe and make lifelong friends.

More than 40 different nationalities are represented at Nelson College for Girls. Students come from diverse and eclectic backgrounds, including from Germany, Hong Kong, Colombia, Austria, Japan and Korea.

Our international and migrant students are well supported by our Pastoral Care system, while our ESOL programme helps those in need improve their English skills so they can take full part in school life. International students

are warmly welcomed into the homes of one of our dedicated host families or can choose to live in the supportive and social atmosphere of our hostel.

Local students will broaden their horizons by meeting people from all walks of life and experiencing colourful and cultural activities throughout the year. A highlight is our Cultural Diversity day, when we come together to celebrate the music, dance, food and dress of our many ethnic groups.

“Students are given a lot of control of what they want to do and what they want to pursue”

Josephine Ripley Y13 - 2018 Head Student





NURTURE YOUR CREATIVITY

CULTURE | AHUREA

Whether you love drama, music or any form of art, Nelson College for Girls is the place to nurture your creativity.

If you're passionate about the arts, we can provide you with the dedicated expertise and creative opportunities so you flourish in the arts field you love.

Highly skilled teachers in our music department - with its own state-of-the-art music suite complete with high tech computer systems, stage and quality music equipment - help you discover and develop your passion. Join one of our colourful music groups like the award-winning Stella Nova choir, Jazz Band, or sign up to music lessons. Many Rockquest finalists and winners nurtured their creativity at Nelson College for Girls including Estella Romagnoli, who won the solo-duo category and best song award in the national finals in 2018.

Our visual arts department is also led by thoughtful, forward-thinking teachers, with many graduate students going on to study fine arts at tertiary level after leaving school. The department makes the most of our artistic region, taking students to exhibitions, meeting local artists, and engaging in Nelson's thriving arts scene.

In drama, you'll experience a huge range of opportunities like the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival, theatre sports, joint productions with Nelson College and HPAC. Pikimai, our kapahaka group also offers a fantastic opportunity to take to the stage while learning about tikanga Māori.

STAY | MANAAKI

We're your home away from home. Come and experience traditional boarding school life in a caring, supportive environment at Clarice Johnstone House.

Boarding is a very important aspect to life at Nelson College for Girls. We host up to 150 students in the modern boarding house made up of two buildings on College grounds. They offer students comfortable, well designed facilities. The Levels, opened in 2011, offers individual accommodation for our Year 13 boarders.

Boarding students experience a wide range of learning and recreational opportunities, with mutual trust and shared responsibility.

Students living a long way from home are given particular care in a supportive, secure environment. Senior girls look after and mentor junior students in a big sister/little sister scheme that is a win-win for both groups.

We also have the option of five-days-a-week boarding for those who live close to Nelson and casual overnight stays for day students who may need it on occasion.

"The atmosphere here is very friendly and supportive"

Gillian Cheung - 2018 International Student

FEEL AT HOME





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