



WAIMEA COLLEGE

Your Place to Excel

Prospectus

Welcome to your place

Nau mai ki tō kāinga ako

*E ngā reo, e ngā mana, rau Rangatira mā,
ngā mātāwaka, tēnei te mihi nui atu ki ā
koutou katoa.*

*Ko te wawata me te tūmanako ka noho ora
mai koutou katoa.*

Greetings and a very warm welcome to Waimea College.

At Waimea College we work hard to place you at the
centre of everything we do.

We are very proud of our three core values that define
us as a school and are brought to life through our daily
actions. These are:

Manaakitanga – Caring – we always strive to care for
ourselves, others and our environment.

Whanaungatanga – Belonging – we take pride in
being part of Waimea College and respect and celebrate
our differences.

Akoranga – Learning – we always strive to learn
and grow.

Our co-educational college has all the advantages
that come with being one of the South Island's largest
secondary schools, yet we offer you the warmth and
encouragement of a small school.

We strive to develop well-rounded, confident young
adults who are equipped for our modern and changing
world.

Our school has a culture where we won't rest until every
student in our care is engaged and achieving. We believe
that every student, every day, in every class deserves our
very best effort and we strive to make sure that we live
up to this expectation. We are proud of our students, our
staff and our facilities. We are also proud of our modern
student-centred curriculum that is technology rich and
responsive to your needs.

Waimea College is a vibrant and lively school. We know
that success can take many forms and all of these are
valuable. Some of you will succeed in the classroom,
some on the sports field and some in the arts. Our
emphasis on delivering a broad and balanced education
ensures that you can discover and follow your passion
to experience success in any field.

While providing outstanding academic education is our
core business, our focus on values-based education
develops citizens who will flourish in both the local
community and on the world stage. As a graduate of
Waimea College you will have a sense of community and
service, and the ability to relate to and work with others,
including those socially and culturally diverse.

We are proud that parents both locally and from around
the world entrust us with the care and education of
close to 1600 students every day. We aspire to be the
school of choice for every family in our community and
we work hard to meet the expectations and deliver upon
the aspirations of our community.

We know that a strong relationship between home and
school significantly contributes to your success as a
student, and we look forward to partnering with your
family to make Waimea College your place to excel.

Fraser Hill

Fraser Hill
Principal / Tumuaki



Manaakitanga
Caring



Whanaungatanga
Belonging



Akoranga
Learning



“*Waimea College gives students the chance to be involved in many different opportunities, both in and out of school. Students can choose from a variety of subjects and clubs, which are easy to join by checking the notice board. I am really looking forward to meeting new Year 9 students and others who will be joining the school.*

— Fletcher, Year 9

Become the best version of you *Me eke koe ki tōu ake taumata*

At Waimea College we recognise that you are a special and unique individual and believe you deserve nothing less than our very best efforts, every hour of every day.

We want to expand your expectations so you can reach your full potential.

Our co-educational setting offers you academic achievement backed up by dynamic co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities (sports, the arts, community involvement and leadership) that will enable you to learn, grow and excel.

Providing a world class academic education for you is our core focus, but equally as important to us is our commitment to instilling positive social values and to create in you a sense of citizenship, community and service. We will support your development so you can relate to and work with a wide range of other people.

Our vision is that you develop into a well-rounded, confident young adult prepared for our modern and changing world.



“ I enjoy Waimea College because of the wide range of opportunities available. Whether it’s academic or sporting, there’s something here for everyone, which makes it a great place to learn and grow.

— Maggie, Year 10



So many opportunities to learn *He nui ngā āheinga ki te ako*

The huge range of opportunities available at Waimea College is what sets us apart. We offer a broad curriculum, with one of the largest range of subjects of any school in the country. This means there is something here for you to individualise your learning.

Our staff are well-qualified and carefully selected professionals. They are committed to supporting your achievement and success in all curriculum areas.

At the junior level there are several compulsory subjects from the eight learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum. In addition, you can select from a range of option subjects from The Arts, Languages and the Technology Curriculums. These feature learning that is engaging and responsive to your needs and focus on the key competencies.

The College offers:

- a comprehensive range of subjects from Year 9 to 13 leading to the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Levels 1, 2 and 3;
- a comprehensive range of senior subjects including Trades Academy and Vocational Pathway options;
- education of Tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori;
- a technology rich curriculum delivery including BYOD (Bring Your Own Device);
- a BYOD strategy that is built on extensive research into emerging best practices, insights from other schools’ BYOD experiences, and feedback from our dedicated teaching and support staff;
- enhanced student learning and collaboration from using personal devices;
- additional opportunities to accelerate learning and extend any special abilities in a range of curriculum areas;
- additional assistance if you need help with your learning, via specialised support through our student support network.

A strong focus on values-based education and our consistently high expectations for student behaviour supports your achievement and success.



Your place to excel

Tōu papa whakaangitū

We support students to excel in what matters most to them, understanding that success can take many forms. We are proud of our students and celebrate all achievements in a variety of ways.

“Our staff and students work together to make Waimea College a positive place where we can all develop our skills. Regardless of your strengths and areas for growth, we have the resources and opportunities for all students to excel in any area you are passionate about.”

— Academic Captains

You will have access to a wide range of subjects, academic and extra-curricular activities, providing you with many opportunities to excel. Our strong school culture will encourage and support you to discover and follow your passion to experience meaningful success.

Waimea College students have a particularly strong record of success in academic, sporting, music and performing arts, with a number that have gone on to represent New Zealand, and experience higher education at prestigious organisations around the world.





Growing future leaders

Whakatupu Rangatira mō Āpōpō

We foster and develop the leadership capabilities that many students possess. At every year level you are given opportunities that enable you to reach your leadership potential and develop into a future leader.

“Excellence at Waimea College is lived, not just expected. The values of *Manaakitanga, Whanaungatanga, and Akoranga* help build a culture that is based on respect and connection, as well as academic achievement. At Waimea College, students are challenged to achieve their highest while contributing to the dynamic school community. No matter your skillset or interests there are opportunities for you.”

— Head Students

The Student Leadership Team at Waimea College comprises an elected representative to the Waimea College School Board, Head Students, House Captains, and Pou Herenga Waka. This diverse team ensures that student voices are heard and represented at all levels of school governance.

A variety of senior leadership positions are available to you including but not limited to:

- Academic
- Sport
- Performing Arts
- Visual Arts
- Business
- Culture
- Environment
- International Student Support
- Community
- Diversity
- Events
- Student Ambassadors
- Special Education Captains

At Waimea College, students across all year levels have the opportunity to engage in various community events such as ANZAC Day, Wheelchair Dancing, and Special Education activities at school. Additionally, our involvement in the community, with programmes like Big Brothers Big Sisters, further enriches these experiences. These opportunities help shape our students into the leaders of tomorrow by fostering a strong sense of community and responsibility.



Be creative in the arts

Kia auaha i ngā mahi toi

Your creativity will be nurtured at Waimea College through our diverse range of subjects that cater to the arts – visual, performing, and musical.

Additional to the curriculum subjects, we offer a wonderful array of extra opportunities that support the learning in the classroom.

“Through numerous activities in music, dance, drama, cultural groups, and school productions Waimea College offers students the opportunity to develop performance and technical skills. These skills integrate well across other areas of the school, so take the opportunity to get involved as much as possible.”

— Arts Captains

We actively encourage you to take advantage of a large number of opportunities through:

- participating in a range of performing arts and cultural activities;
- being able to experience Māori culture through Tama Tū Tama Ora, Ngā Manu Kōrero, Te Rourou Kura and other available events;
- participating in Theatre Sports, Shakespeare Festivals, competitive drama, performance music, public speaking and creative design competitions;
- learning a variety of musical instruments as part of the itinerant music tuition programme;
- becoming part of our successful and vibrant orchestra or jazz band.





Connected through sports

Te whakawhanaunga mā ngā hākinakina

Waimea College has an excellent record of achievement at regional and national level in a number of sports and is represented by teams and individuals in many codes.

You will be encouraged to participate in a variety of sports, at either competitive or social levels, to enhance your overall health and well-being. We have a huge range of sporting codes on offer, including the major sports of basketball, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rugby, volleyball and multisport.

Our achievements in sport are the result of the skilled coaching and involvement of staff, parents, past students and members of the wider community. This dedicated group will support you with expertise, energy and enthusiasm.

In the junior levels we offer Sportspro, a high-performance sports course that provides selected students with the knowledge and skills to develop towards their potential in their chosen sports. The course covers goal setting, personal fitness training and sports psychology.

“*Waimea College views sport as a powerful way to build personal growth, strengthen teamwork, and create lasting friendships. Students are encouraged to develop their abilities both in and beyond their sports. With options ranging from social participation to competitive play, there is something for everyone. Our Sports Captains actively connect with as many students as possible, keeping them informed about upcoming events and celebrating student achievements. Throughout the year, they lead engaging activities that encourage participation and promote a healthy, active lifestyle.*”

— Sports Captains





Find your passion

Rapuhia te ngākau whitawhita

We are a big school and we pride ourselves on offering a range of extra-curricular activities that will enable every student to discover their place to excel.

There are so many ways for you to get involved, these may include:

- Adventure Racing
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Chess Club
- Choir
- Creative Writing
- Cricket
- Cross Country
- Debating
- Disc Golf
- Drama
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Environment Committee
- Football
- Futsal
- Hockey
- Instrumental Lessons
- International Student Buddies
- Jazz Band
- Junior Leader Programme
- Kapa Haka
- Ki o Rahi
- Lawn Bowls
- Mountain Biking
- Netball
- Orchestra
- Rock Bands
- Rugby
- Sailing
- School Production
- Shakespeare Festival
- Speech Competition
- Spelling Bee
- Squash
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Theatre Sports
- Touch
- Triathlon
- Volleyball
- ... and more, please visit our website for more details.



Supporting your well-being

E tautoko ana i tōu oranga

Our goal for you is to become a person who is resilient and able to cope well with the demands of the modern world, while retaining your natural curiosity and creativity and accepting of those who are socially and ethnically different to you.

At Waimea College, every student is part of a Whānau class, a small group of students from the same year level. The Whānau Kaiārahi (guide) is a teacher that will stay with the Whānau class for their whole time at Waimea College and will act as the first point of contact for both akonga and whānau.

Whānau time occurs three times a week, focusing on fostering a growth mindset and a positive attitude towards learning. During these sessions, students engage in goal setting and organisational skills, develop personal and social capabilities, enhance their well-being through meaningful actions, and explore sustainability and global issues.

We have an excellent reputation for commitment to student support provided by teachers, deans, counselling and support staff, this includes pastoral care for the needs of Māori students to succeed and achieve as Māori. Together, we develop your sense of turangawaewae through encouraging the values of Waimea College.

Your support network includes:

- belonging to one of six Houses: Carrington, Cooper, Hillary, Ngata, Rutherford and Sheppard;
- the Houses are divided into a number of Whānau Groups;
- your Whānau Kaiārahi and Deans who are responsible for your pastoral care;
- your Deans follow your Whānau Group throughout your time at Waimea College to provide consistent support;
- a well-resourced Counselling Centre with fully trained counsellors and access to some health services, should you require additional support;
- The Kura Hub is a learning space to cater for small groups and individual learning needs.
- 24/7 Youth Workers.

“*Waimea Collage is more than just an academic learning space. It is a community that encourages creativity, passion, and individuality. Despite its size, Waimea is a school where each student and their achievements are valued and celebrated. These things create a strong feeling of belonging, which is one of the College’s three values. To add to this, it is easy to find like-minded people and make lifelong friends as you navigate your interests and learn new skills. I have enjoyed my time here far more than I ever thought I would, and I feel proud to be a part of Waimea College.*

— Fabien, Year 12





“*Waimea College is a diverse and supportive community where students are encouraged to be themselves and feel included. The school has a strong sporting culture, with students training regularly and striving for their personal best through teamwork and dedication. With students from many countries, the international community brings new perspectives, and a wide range of activities helps everyone connect and enjoy a rewarding school experience.*

— Yugo, Year 11

Connecting globally *Te whakawhanaunga ki ngā iwi o te ao*

At Waimea College we are proud of our richly diverse student body and we warmly welcome international students from around the world.

Our international students come from a wide range of countries that include Austria, Brazil, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Norway, Switzerland, Thailand, Taiwan and Vietnam amongst others.

Waimea College offers not just an education, but a whole new lifestyle for our international students. As an international student, you will be integrated into regular classes with local students. You can choose from a wide range of subjects and will mix with a variety of other students.

Our international programme provides:

- experienced and committed staff dedicated to supporting you;
- the opportunity for a world class education, including incredible outdoor education experiences;
- specialist ESOL support classes from elementary to upper intermediate;
- a safe environment which allows you to reach your full potential;
- a wide range of sporting, cultural and recreational activities;
- support for you to have an amazing experience in another country, while excelling academically and learning about yourself.

As an international student you will live with a family in the Waimea College area. These families are carefully selected by our dedicated and experienced homestay staff, who regularly stay in touch with you and your family.

We work hard to produce well-rounded global citizens by also providing our domestic students with the opportunities to experience international exchange programmes.



The outdoor classroom

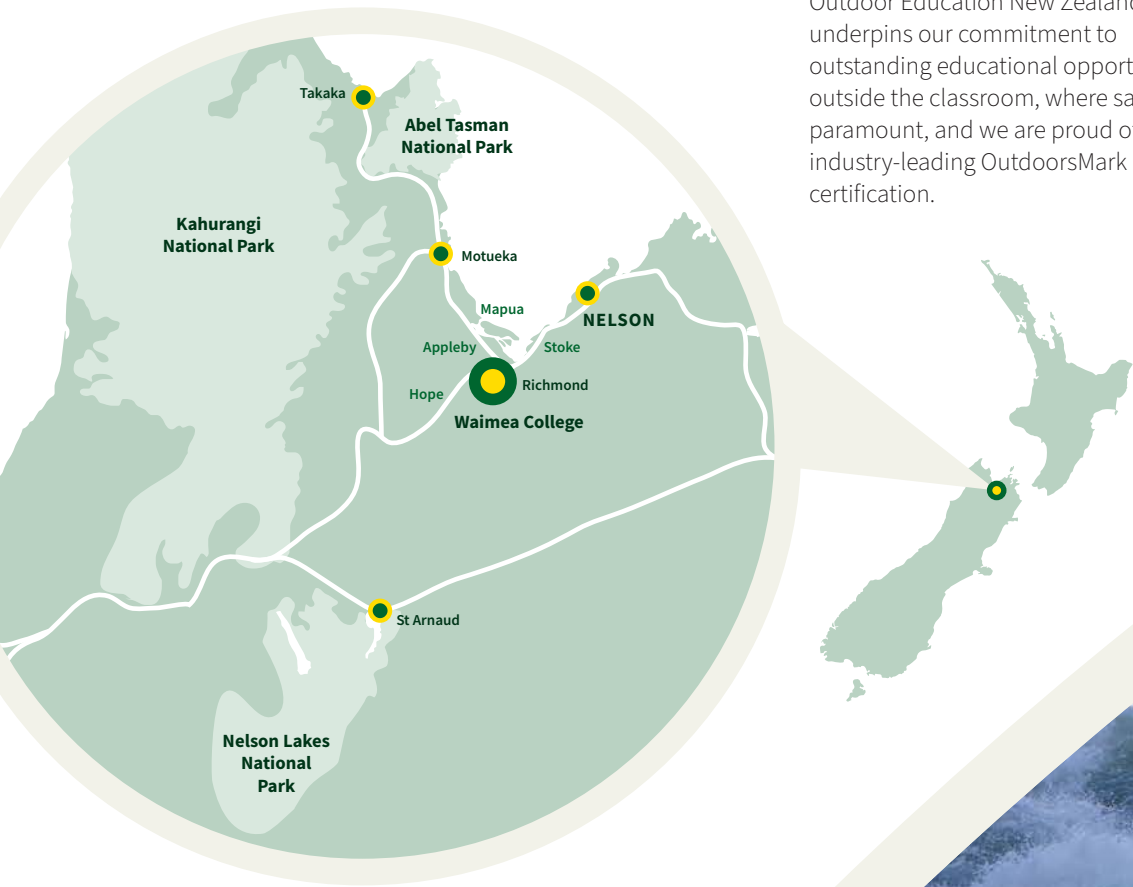
Te akomanga o waho

In close proximity to three National Parks, our region is an adventure-seekers’ paradise. It provides an incredible classroom for all students to experience exhilarating outdoor activities through our extensive Outdoor Education programme.

In Year 9 you will have the opportunity to attend camps in our great outdoors. The focus of the camps is to challenge you personally while working as a team, and includes activities such as tramping, rafting, canoeing or kayaking, and a confidence course.

In Years 11, 12 or 13 you can participate in a range of outdoor pursuits such as kayaking, rock-climbing, tramping, alpine skills and mountain biking.

Waimea College’s membership of Outdoor Education New Zealand underpins our commitment to outstanding educational opportunities outside the classroom, where safety is paramount, and we are proud of our industry-leading OutdoorsMark Safety certification.



“Outdoor Education at Waimea College is more than just a class — it’s an experience many students love. From kayaking on the Buller River to climbing, caving, and time in the mountains, students build skills like leadership, organisation, and resilience. The friendships and sense of community are hard to match, and the memories last well beyond school, senior students should definitely give it a go.”

— Bruno, Year 13

“My time at Waimea College has been really meaningful. The school’s focus on values like manakitanga, akoranga, and whanaungatanga connects strongly with my cultural background and has helped me feel a genuine sense of belonging. The wide range of opportunities offered has also allowed me to build on my strengths, improve my academic performance, and feel confident about my future.”

— Rosarine, Year 11



Our Campus *Tō tātou Marae Ako*

Feel at home in our large, attractive, park-like grounds that border a local primary and intermediate school. This is your school community and it has excellent facilities that will support all your needs.

Considerable emphasis is placed on ensuring that our classrooms are stimulating, well-managed environments that support the work of great teachers and the delivery of a wide range of subjects.

Our facilities include:

- modern covered astroturf outdoor court area;
- spacious outdoor fields;
- campus-wide Wifi freely available for your use;
- well-resourced science laboratories;
- modern learning environments;
- an excellent music and performing arts environment;
- a spacious, modern Library and Information Centre;
- a modern Technology Centre;
- two fully-equipped gymnasiums and a weights room;
- a solar-heated swimming pool;
- an extensive Counselling Centre and Kura Hub (Learning Support Centre);
- a dedicated International Centre;
- a large and centrally located Special Education Facility.





“*Waimea College has encouraged me to challenge myself academically while staying fully involved in sport. As a Head Student, I’ve grown as a leader through opportunities, both in and out of the classroom. With dedicated teachers, a positive learning environment, and strong sporting pathways, Waimea College has supported me in striving for excellence and making the most of every opportunity.*

— Madeline, Year 13

Where you belong *Tōu tūrangawaewae*

Being part of Waimea College is being part of a wider school community. It is a community for you to belong to, where you are welcomed and accepted for who you are and for your unique contribution.

At both junior and senior level, Waimea College students enjoy the sense of pride, loyalty and respect that partaking in community service brings them, and it is something that the school community greatly values.

Features of our school community include:

- a strong sense of belonging;
- a myriad of opportunities to engage through activities;
- solid partnerships with our contributing schools;
- connection with alumni;
- strong links and support with our Māori community;
- active parent support groups.





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