



*St Peter's
College*



PROSPECTUS

Standing Tall, Promoting Excellence, Developing Understanding



stpeterspn.school.nz



Ubi Petrus, Ibi Ecclesia;
"Where Peter is, there is the Church."

St Peter's College **Prospectus**



**Standing Tall, Promoting Excellence,
Developing Understanding**

MISSION STATEMENT

St Peter's College is dedicated to providing the spiritual development and academic education of their students within the framework of the tradition of the Catholic church.

VISION

St Peter's College celebrates being a Catholic faith community where students, teachers and families work in partnership to develop empowered, self-managing, life long learners, who live the gospel values in a changing world.

Our School Prayer

Dear God,

You call us to live lives that matter, lives that change our world for the better.

Give us eyes that see the needs of others and hearts that reach out to fill those needs.

Help us Lord, to recognise and appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of those we live and work with.

May your spirit move through each of us to strengthen and enrich our St Peter's College faith community.

Amen.

E Te Ariki,

Nāu mātau i karanga kia nōhia
he oranga whai hua,

He oranga whai hua ora
mō te ao katoa,

Tuia kia mātau ngā kamo mārama
ki te hiahia o te tangata,

ā, tākohangia kia mātau he manawa
hai whakaū i aua hiahia

E Pā, tiaho mai ki a mātau
te māramatanga mē te maioha

Ki ngā whirikoka mē ngā ngoikoretanga
o te hunga tata ki a mātau,

Mā to wairua e whakakaha e hono te iwi
whakapono o Hato Petera

Amine

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"As a Year 7-13 Catholic college, we commit to providing an education within the values of the Catholic Church."



Welcome to St Peter's College

Nau mai haere mai ki te Kāreti o Hato Pētera

Nau mai haere mai. Welcome to our St Peter's College community. We hope that this prospectus will give you an insight into our school and support you to make an informed decision regarding enrolment at St Peter's College.

As a Year 7-13 Catholic college, we commit to providing an education within the values of the Catholic church. We believe that every child has the ability to grow and develop into 'the best possible version of the person God created them to be.' To enable this, we focus on providing opportunities to allow students to develop an understanding of how they connect to God and providing an environment where love, compassion and service are highly valued. The St Peter's College prayer challenges our students every day to "live lives that matter, lives that change our world for the better" and "eyes that see the needs of others and a heart that reaches out to fill those needs". We believe that this environment provides all of our students with a set of values to navigate the inevitable moral conflicts in their lives and challenge a world that does not always reflect our Christian beliefs.

We commit to a focus on education and achievement. Our college has a very forward thinking vision, philosophy and set of strategies that has created a unique and innovative educational environment. The initiatives that have developed over the last five years have been built on modern learning theory and give St Peter's College a distinct flavour within the New Zealand education landscape.

We commit to developing strong partnerships between student, family/whānau and the school. Parent and student voice and genuine partnership are acknowledged in research as a key component in improving student achievement and engagement.

The College is committed to strengthening the partnership through our unique 'Connect to Succeed' programme, where every student and parent works with a 'learning coach'. The aim is to improve academic goals and achievement, planning and developing future focus skills. The needs of each individual are a priority for us.

We commit to providing a modern flexible learning environment where students develop the ability to think, to work collaboratively, to meet challenge and promote their self-management skills. We have an obligation to prepare our students to participate in the digital world and encourage the use of digital technologies through our 'bring your own device' policy. At St Peter's College, your child will be well connected to the world that lies beyond the school gates.

We invite you to join our unique educational community. We would be privileged to join with you in assisting your child to become the very best that they can be.

Margaret Leamy

Principal / Tumuaki





“Catholic character is at the heart of St Peter’s College. It sets the standard by which all things are measured”.



Catholic Character

Catholic character is at the heart of St Peter's College. It sets the standard by which all things are measured.

St Peter's College was founded in July 1974 by the Mercy Sisters and Marist Brothers as a result of the amalgamation of St Patrick's Intermediate School, St Joseph's High School and Marist Brothers High School. In 1982 St Peter's College became a state-integrated school.

At St Peter's College we aim to create a worshipping faith community where the gospel spirit is present in all aspects of college life. This means that our values and beliefs influence everything that we do. From our board representatives right down to the students, this shapes the manner in which we build relationships and partnerships with everyone within our college community, challenges us to reach out in our social justice activities and actions, and is a fundamental component of our pastoral care of all who are part of the St Peter's College faith community.

Our onsite chaplaincy team is an integral part of our Catholic character, linking our students with the wider Catholic community – local parishes, the Massey University chaplaincy and the Diocesan youth ministry.

Students participate in the planning and leading of liturgies at both class and whole-school level. Parents and caregivers are always welcome, and are encouraged to attend these where possible. The St Peter's Feast Day Mass, followed by the dramatised Parables competition, is a particular highlight of the year.

At St Peter's, we educate the whole person: the academic, physical, spiritual, emotional, ethical and the creative. Through our work in the classroom, and through the relationships which students develop with their teachers, we find ways to encourage and build leadership, confidence and community spirit. These include activities which promote social justice, support for the work of Caritas, promotion of social justice in our own country and community, prayer, liturgies, cultural activities, retreats - and our Seekers programme which covers sacramental preparation.

We want our students to have the very best chance of living a fulfilling and successful life that will make a difference to the world in which they live. We want them to have qualifications, healthy minds and bodies, a social conscience, and the ability to form faithful, loving relationships and values which will help them develop a strong moral compass. It is important that we provide an environment where our students can be the best version of the person God intended them to be.





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Teaching and Learning

One of the key strengths of our academic programme is that we are able to offer a seamless pathway for teaching and learning from year 7 through to year 13.

In our junior school, years 7 to 10, we have strong literacy and numeracy programmes which aim to improve all students' abilities in reading, writing and mathematics. We track their progress very closely and provide this information to parents as part of our educational partnership model.

In years 7 - 8, students are taught in homerooms and follow an integrated curriculum, called Foundation Studies, which offers rich contexts for their education. In years 9 -10, they commence their preparation for the senior school and NCEA, with the opportunity to work towards some NCEA achievement at this level.

Our senior school, Years 11 to 13, focuses on the National Certificate of Educational Achievement, with students following their chosen courses through to their final graduation. These encompass specific pathways through to university, trade academies linked with the college, and Gateway programmes which assist students to future employment through gaining work experience.

We have scholarship programmes for year 13 which challenge and extend those students who wish to achieve at higher levels. There are also opportunities for our senior students to undertake university level courses during their final two years at the college.

Our Learning Support department develops an educational pathway for students who need assistance with their learning, providing special wrap-around support in purpose-built, modern facilities.





"Teaching and learning is supported and facilitated by the use of technology and digital collaboration tools".



21st Century Learning

Teaching and learning is supported and facilitated by the use of technology and digital collaboration tools.

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have a major impact on the world in which we live. In schools, the use of these technologies in the curriculum is known as e-Learning.

At St Peter's College, we encourage the use of technology in our teaching and learning programmes. We believe that its purposeful and planned use has considerable potential to enhance learning. We have invested carefully and introduced significant digital development that we believe will support teaching and learning into the future.

Collaboration is encouraged in and out of the classroom. Working with others is a key component in developing a broad range of skills and competencies which will assist students in every learning area and at every stage of their learning. We operate on a "Google School" platform as this platform affords excellent access across multiple devices and has proven to be reliable and efficient.

We have learnt, and continue to learn, how best to utilise the extensive suite of tools and those available from the internet as add-ons. There is the potential for classroom learning moments to be extended, and

the ability for students to contribute to discussion when face-to-face opportunities have concluded.

Students are able to collaborate with one another to include teachers in their collaboration; or they can share a document for feedback or assessment - the possibilities are far-reaching. As we move further into the 21st century, we aim to continue to evolve and redefine the way learning experiences take place.

We require every student to bring their recommended device to school. The extensive wireless network at the college provides a great platform to connect to local, national and international learning environments.

In addition to an infrastructure which encourages the use of personal devices, there are options for students and staff to use in order to develop their digital work examples or to reflect on their learning in a digital space. There are a number of computers available for student use, including in the Library. Furthermore, staff in a number of departments provide students with e-Learning opportunities using appropriate devices.

We are embracing e-Learning and growing together with the future in mind. Our e-Learning and Digital Citizenship Agreement highlights good practice and our managed user accounts ensure the standards are maintained.





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Connect to Succeed

“My child has learnt to take more personal responsibility for learning and subject choices. I like the longer time to meet with the coach”.

Each student has a learning coach tasked with strengthening the partnership between school and home, and improving that student’s achievement.

Launched in 2013, Connect to Succeed (C2S) is a direct product of our school vision to strengthen both the partnership between the school and the home, and the academic skills of, and planning for, each student. Every student is allocated a learning coach, students and coaches meet twice a week, with the aim of improving academic goals and achievement, planning and future focus. C2S groups focus on a curriculum that teaches students how to learn and develop skills that they will need now and when they leave school.

Learning conferences involve the learning coach, the student, and their parents or caregivers, the focus being the feedback of progress and achievement, and planning for the future.

This programme was developed as a response to a considerable amount of research which stated that the stronger the home-school relationship, the more learning is promoted. To be effective, this relationship must be systematically planned for, integrated into school life, and sustainable. Problems and issues are preempted and resolved together in partnership at an earlier stage, and post-school options for careers and employment are better served. The C2S curriculum supports students to develop the key skills they need to promote two of the essential keys that underpin our learning philosophy - ‘My Future’ and ‘My Learning’.

Coaching is a powerful way to move learners towards achieving their goals. We have had overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents, students and staff in our review surveys, and parent attendance at the conferences has been well above 90%.

“I have enjoyed the C2S conferences - keep them going. I got so much more feedback and understanding of how the school works, and action is taken when I have a concern”.





"Your child will be looked after, educated and cared for in a values based community - a key part of our Catholic character".



Caring For Our Students

Your child will be looked after, educated and cared for in a values-based community - a key part of our Catholic character.

St Peter's College takes great care to ensure that your child is valued and treated with dignity and respect. This affects the way in which they respond and relate to others.

We get to know our students as individuals and ensure that they are supported at the college and are confident to ask for help if they have concerns. The House system reinforces our desire to build positive community relationships. Every student new to year 7 is introduced to a peer support leader. These senior students arrange activities and social events with great enthusiasm.

Our C2S programme helps us to make the care of our students and their achievement the main focus of group gatherings. As students progress through the year, the deans monitor their academic progress,

behaviour, attendance and punctuality. Should the occasion arise, a dean will work with parents or caregivers, a deputy principal, a school counsellor and/or other agencies in order to support a student at St Peter's College.

We have high standards and expectations for all our students. Expectations relating to behaviour and uniform are clearly stated in the student handbook. When students make mistakes, help is offered to show how these can be put right and avoided in the future. We have developed a set of consistent, positive approaches to addressing behaviour. We are a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) school that focuses on building and maintaining positive, respectful relationships.

We use restorative practices, and staff have been trained in this process to help to restore key relationships when these have broken down.





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Leadership and Service

St Peter's College focuses on developing leadership qualities in its students through extensive leadership programmes.

The model for the programme is that of servant leadership. Year 7 and 8 students work towards a "Poutama" award through challenging themselves to meet self-determined academic, spiritual and service goals. Year 9 students are invited to become part of the school ambassador programme working alongside local Catholic primary schools where they mentor, motivate and encourage students.

Year 10 is the final year of the junior school, and many students will take part in the junior leaders programme. From this group, the junior head boy and head girl, and junior council are appointed. The programme, which includes a leadership camp for all year 10, challenges students to be role models within their class and to take responsibility for a number of aspects of junior school life.

As part of the extensive House system at the college, Year 12 students are invited to take leadership roles as peer support leaders. They receive training to work with small groups of new year 7 and 8 students.

All year 13 students begin the year with a camp during which they undergo leadership training. School leaders include the head boy and head girl, committee leaders and house captains. Together, these students make up the school council, many of whom are selected to take part in both regional and national leadership training programmes.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an integral part of college life and a leadership programme for students from years 10 to 13. Students are enabled to demonstrate enterprise, develop leadership skills and self-reliance and respond to challenges as well as to broaden their horizons and build their confidence levels.

Participants complete individualised programmes of community service, physical recreation, skill and an adventurous project. Often, the programme includes a Duke of Edinburgh overseas expedition and St Peter's College students have undertaken several of these in the past few years. These enriching experiences have provided our students with lifelong memories and have enhanced their personal and leadership skills.

The college crest bears the keys of St Peter and, in recognition of this, the 'Keys to the Kingdom social justice project' is run annually. All classes take up the challenge to raise funds for worthy causes, with significant donations in the past few years going to Caritas, the Fred Hollows Foundation and other selected charities. Students have raised in excess of \$10,000 each year. Other service projects include the 'Relay for Life' for the Cancer Society, the senior charity ball and the work for St Vincent De Paul Society. In addition to this our community garden assists families and provides food for Just Zilch.

These projects recognise both the global nature of a Christian's work and that it includes practical deeds which change the lives of others for the better.





"St Peter's College offers a broad range of performing and visual art opportunities for students. From our music, drama and dance programmes through to fine arts, digital and commercial arts".



The Arts and Culture

St Peter's College offers a broad range of performing and visual art opportunities for students. From our music, drama and dance programmes through to fine arts, digital and commercial arts.

A range of cultural experiences and opportunities are interwoven into our daily school life such as Kapa Haka, Pasifika, debating, dance and drama groups that compete in our annual inter-house competitions as well as regionally and nationally.

Kapa Haka at St Peter's College is a great way for students to get to know each other and enjoy the art of Māori music and performance. We have a Kapa Haka group that annually prepare for Ngā Manu Kōrero speech competitions, Pae Taiohi (Regional Kapa Haka Competition), Pae Rangatahi (Secondary Schools Kapa Haka Festival).

We encourage our Pacific Island students to stand strong in their Pacific heritage. They are actively involved in school leadership programmes, and success and involvement is celebrated. The active Pasifika cultural group takes part in all sections of the Pasifika Fusion competition with much success.

Our students enjoy competing across a variety of public speaking disciplines such as prepared and impromptu speeches and debates. The debating club attracts students from year 7 to year 13, where teams participate in local and regional debating competitions.

Music technology has been developing at the college over recent years. A recording facility is part of the music department enjoyed by students, particularly for the song-writing vocalists and band performers. Students have the opportunity to learn to play a variety of instruments including guitar, drums, piano, brass and strings, and vocal.

Our annual performing arts evening is one of the social highlights of the year with students from all age groups showcasing their talent from musical items to choreographed dance routines and drama, the evening has a little something for everyone.

Our visual art department is home to our visual artists and students are encouraged to explore a range of artistic mediums including the fine arts – painting, printmaking, sculpture including the commercial arts – design and photography.

Our creative technology & design department offers students an opportunity to explore the commercial creative industry through interactive media in the fields of film, advertising campaigns, animation and web design. This department is home to the Young Enterprise Scheme where students create their own business and compete for a national title with local business mentors.

Students and staff are always excited to be involved in the O'Shea Shield competition, along with the other Catholic colleges from the lower North Island and upper South Island. Religious drama, scripture reading, oratory and debating have always been strong components of our team performance.





“Education Outside the Classroom encompasses a wide range of curriculum based learning and co-curricular activities. EOTC at St Peter’s College holistically deepens and enriches learning”.



Education Outside the Classroom

Education Outside the Classroom encompasses a wide range of curriculum-based learning and co-curricular activities. EOTC at St Peter's College holistically deepens and enriches learning.

These opportunities at St Peter's College make learning in the classroom more relevant; they inspire career pathways and provide sporting, cultural, leadership and special character experiences that develop well rounded young people.

Charity ball, chapel band, swimming sports, year 13 leadership camp, religious education retreats, Nga Manu Korero, ambassador programme, restorative training, catering courses, SuperSport, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions bronze/silver and gold, local

and regional sports competition, DanceNZmade, Young Enterprise Scheme, senior council, Relay for Life, central North Island Debating, Easter cross walk, Vex robotics, PE Studies camp, Survive-a-Slum, St Bernard's exchange, Inter-House netball and volleyball, Pasifika Fusion, NZSS athletic champs, UCOL taster day, Sort It careers expo, national cycling champs, Performing Arts evening, Biology zoo trip, year level camps, Viard Shield athletics, Inter-School cross country, canoe polo, senior Geography field trips, Marist student leaders forum, Gateway & STAR courses, World of Wearable Arts... are some of the EOTC activities we participate in here at St Peter's College.





“Through its sports programmes, St Peter’s College aims to provide for all its students the opportunity to experience and enjoy a wide range of sports and physical activities”.



Sport and Opportunities

Through its sports programmes, St Peter's College aims to provide for all its students the opportunity to experience and enjoy a wide range of sports and physical activities.

St Peter's College encourages students to be active and enthusiastic participants, committed team members, and to aim for personal and team excellence.

Our year 7 and 8 students are involved with both club and school based sports and we are part of the Super Sport cluster which provides a competitive series of regional sporting events. Our year 7 and 8 students develop through sport, friendships and confidence to continue into the secondary school

years still involved in their sporting pursuits.

There is a deliberate attempt to ensure students see the wider value of sport and through the schoolwide Connect to Succeed programme individuals are encouraged in all aspects of co-curricular interests, particularly sport. This system supports one on one conversation and guidance between student and teacher.

Both our teaching and support staff and members of our wider community are encouraged to be part of sport at St Peter's. They are a valued part of our sports management structure, and through their involvement build an important partnership with the school.





St Peter's College is a Catholic Integrated co-educational College.
Year 7-13

Standing Tall, Promoting Excellence, Developing Understanding

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