

A guide to Huntley for International Families



FROM THE HEADMASTER

At Huntley we celebrate success. We expect every child to give their best from the moment they wake to when they go to sleep at night.

Dear Parent and Family,

Thank you for considering a New Zealand primary school education at Huntley school.

Huntley is an independent school for boys and girls in years three to eight (ages 8-13 years). It is located on the outskirts of Marton, a pristine rural township, 2 hours north of New Zealand's capital city, Wellington.

Huntley was established in 1896 and is New Zealand's oldest and largest independent primary boarding school.

At Huntley every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential academically, physically, socially, culturally and spiritually. We have had a proud history of educating and caring for international students since 1990. Through immersion in our boarding environment our international students make rapid gains with their spoken and written English.

As a parent, you understand these years before secondary school are crucial for a child's education and development. Previous Huntley international students have been accepted at prestigious secondary schools in New Zealand, the United States and United Kingdom.

At Huntley we celebrate success. We have high standards for work ethics, appearance and behaviour and expect every child to give their best from the moment they wake to when they go to sleep at night.

I understand your decision to invest in a Huntley education is a significant one. This prospectus is a snapshot of what we at Huntley can offer you and your child.

Sam Edwards Headmaster E sedwards@huntley.school.nz





ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Huntley's culture of academic excellence makes us a leader in independent education in New Zealand. Our academic approach includes:

- Specialist teachers in Music, Technology and Science
- An emphasis on literacy and numeracy. Over 50% of lessons are in these two core subjects
- Small classes; less than 22 students
- Supervised homework each week night
- Academic extension programmes where appropriate
- Academic support for those students requiring extra help with their studies.
- All students attend art, technology and woodwork classes.

English as a Second Language (ESOL)

Mrs Laurine Stantiall leads our International Student academic programme. She is a trained and qualified primary school and ESOL teacher. She is also an active member of the Ministry of Education's ESOL online education programme and participates in a number of innovative ESOL forums.

All international students whose first language is not English are given dedicated ESOL lessons each week. These lessons are individual, in small groups of 3-4 students and once a week all the International Students have a larger group lesson. All other lessons are in their normal year group classes.

This total immersion programme is very effective. Our International students experience rapid improvement in their English while living at Huntley 24 hours a day surrounded by English-speaking children their own age.

Our International students experience rapid improvement in their English while living at Huntley.





SPORT AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Participation in exercise is a vital part of the school's holistic philosophy. The physically active child who is well nourished is more likely to have a successful learning journey.

All Huntley students are required to play some form of sport and there is an abundance of quality sports fields and facilities in Huntley's wide open spaces. Huntley has a swimming pool, two full sized rugby fields, a football field, a cricket field and eight tennis courts which are converted to a hockey turf and netball courts in winter. The school also has a fully equipped gymnasium for basketball, badminton and table tennis. There are also dedicated areas for woodwork and a large school orchard where students work together to build their own wooden huts.

Each year Huntley students bring home medals from national championships for swimming, triathlon and cycling. The school also has a proud history in rugby, netball, hockey, tennis and cricket.

During the year all students take part in school wide sports events such as the Huntley Triathlon, Swimming Sports, Cross Country, Winter Sport Squad Tournaments and Athletic Sports.

In Summer students choose one of four sports:

Cricket Softball

Tennis Triathlon and cycling

In Winter the sports are:

Rugby Hockey Football

Netball Cycling





CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

More than 50% of our students learn musical instruments and the school employs four specialist music teachers.

The cultural richness at Huntley is apparent from the outset. Music, drama and the arts are celebrated by students and staff alike. More than 50% of the boys and girls learn musical instruments and the school employs four music teachers.

The Chapel Choir is highly regarded for its expertise in choral singing and is often requested to perform at concerts and in churches around the region.

All children at Huntley participate in musical and dramatic performances throughout the year. Children with a particular talent in the performing arts have the option of extension specialist teaching from an outside agency.

Public speaking is another one of Huntley's strengths. All students participate in debating, public speaking and the New Zealand Speech Board (NZSB) examinations each year. International students are assessed at NZSB ESOL examinations and achieve very good grades every year.





BOARDING AT HUNTLEY

The Huntley boarding house has one girls' dormitory and four dormitories for boys. There are three large dormitories accommodating up to 26 boys which are subdivided into 6 sections, usually with 4 students in each section. A smaller dormitory has 13 boys. The total number of boarders varies between 100 and 120 students.

Each dormitory has students of all ages in it and each student has his/ her own bed and cupboard space. We provide bedding requirements and attend to all laundry needs for each child. A matron is on duty at all times, day and night, in the boarding house. The Headmaster's family residence is also connected to the boarding house.

There are several other teaching staff living on-site with their families. The presence of on-site staff and their families enables all students to connect closely with their teachers. With our mentoring and coaching philosophy, we provide one to one guidance for your child with an adult they respect and relate to. New pupils will also have a senior student as a guide who will help them make the transition into Huntley life.

Our International students receive additional attention from our International Student Coordinator, Mrs Laurine Stantiall, who will maintain close contact with you while your child is at Huntley.

We aim to develop a partnership of care between students, parents and staff.





SPIRITUAL LIFE AT HUNTLEY

Morning services in our St Barnabas Chapel give students time to reflect and prepare for the day ahead. Huntley is a Christian school, affiliated to the Anglican Diocese of Wellington. All our Chapel services are inter-denominational and values based. The students are often involved in the services and twice a year each class conducts a service. We recognise the importance of religion as a specific way of students being able to exercise their spirituality. In our teaching we focus on values including service, honesty, tolerance, enthusiasm, kindness and respect





DEVELOPING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

We provide a safe and stable environment where students grow into young adolescents free from many of the pressures of modern urban society.

Huntley students are respectful, willing to take risks and self confident but without arrogance. They are encouraged to set and achieve goals, focus on tasks and apply time management skills.

At Huntley your child will learn the social skills of living in a tight-knit community. Students learn to work alongside their peers while celebrating individual differences.

Pastoral Care for each student is a high priority at Huntley with year group teachers at the heart of caring for your child. We provide a safe and stable environment where students grow into young adolescents free from many of the pressures of modern urban society. Students are given guidance and support to develop independent attitudes and stand on their own two feet. Huntley surrounds the students in opportunities that enable every boy and girl to succeed.

There is a healthy and positive atmosphere about the school. Good manners are emphasised at all times and we set high expectations and standards. Huntley students are proud of their school, both during their time at Huntley, and after they leave.





INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

We provide a comprehensive service to ensure your child is cared for from the moment they arrive in New Zealand.

Once your child is enrolled we ensure a safe and successful transition to Huntley.

Our International programme coordinator, Laurine Stantiall, is responsible for the pastoral and academic care of your child from the moment they arrive in New Zealand.

This service includes:

- Transferring students between airports and Huntley
- Arranging uniform supplies
- Monitoring health needs and liaising with boarding staff about medical requirements
- Organising homestays with New Zealand families during weekend leave and holidays*
- Facilitating regular contact between your child and home by phone, skype or email.
- Regular updates and liaising with parents about their child's progress and activities
- Events and gatherings specifically for International Students**
- Social media posts on activities at Huntley Huntley School on Facebook and Sam Edwards on Twitter.

*All NZ families who host international students are police vetted.

**Students are required to speak English while at Huntley. The international outings give students an opportunity to get together, share their home language and eat food from their own culture.





Notes

