



# St. John's College

Holistic Education • Attaining Excellence



The Catholic School  
for Boys in Hawke's Bay



# Growing Boys into Good Men



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## Welcome to St. John's College

### Dear Parents

Thank you for your interest in St. John's College. This prospectus provides an insight into our school, specifically the holistic nature of our College. It includes an overview of our Special Character - who we are as a community and what we stand for. Our holistic vision extends to student achievement and support in Pastoral Care, Academia, Sport, Arts and Culture. By expanding our vision to these particular spheres, we believe we can develop a young man who is balanced, well-rounded and able to face a competitive secular world with confidence. This is the vision of a **'St. John's Man'**.

St. John's College is a hidden jewel. It has evolved through the vision of the Marist Fathers and provides a first-class education as the only Catholic Boys' School in Hawke's Bay. We provide a stimulating educational programme with an emphasis on literacy and numeracy, an excellent range of sporting opportunities, activities to celebrate our cultural heritage and a great house system which fosters school spirit and competition.

The extension of our school is our parents and Old Boys. We are not just a school; we are a community. We value your input and support. Together we can teach our young men to be well grounded in their faith, independent and able to make wise decisions based on Christian values, with resilience to deal with the complexities of modern life. Again, many thanks for your interest in our College.

For further information, please visit: [www.stjohns.school.nz](http://www.stjohns.school.nz)

Opere et veritate **'In Word and in Deed.'**

**Robert Ferreira - Principal**





# Special Character

Every school aims to develop and nurture a positive environment. At St. John's College, our culture is centred on the life of Jesus Christ and the example he set for us all. Our aim is to provide a high-quality education for young men, grounded in Gospel values within our Catholic and Marist tradition. Founded in 1941 by the Marist Fathers, we strive to teach these values, while immersing our young men in an experience of living in a Catholic community. Action is fundamental to our beliefs; if we say it, we must follow with action - **'In Word and in Deed.'**

We have a full school Mass every term, monthly Sunday Mass in our Chapel, weekly lunchtime Masses, liturgies and retreats, regular Benediction, a strong Religious Education programme and our students are encouraged to participate in the life of their local parishes.

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action - **'In Word and in Deed.'**

## Our Values: Distinctively Catholic and Marist



### Service

"If you want to lead, first you have to serve." Jesus Christ is our role model as we strive to serve others first. At St. John's College we actively promote servant leadership. This is encouraged through our Catholic Character Group, Young Vinnies, Caritas, Retreats and Marist Leadership Programmes, many of which are student led.



### Justice

Our young men at St. John's College have a strong sense of right and wrong, equity and a vision of fairness for all. This is reflected in highlighting the harshness of today's world and bringing injustice to light. Once a year our students sleep in cardboard boxes during winter, to highlight the plight of homeless people in New Zealand.



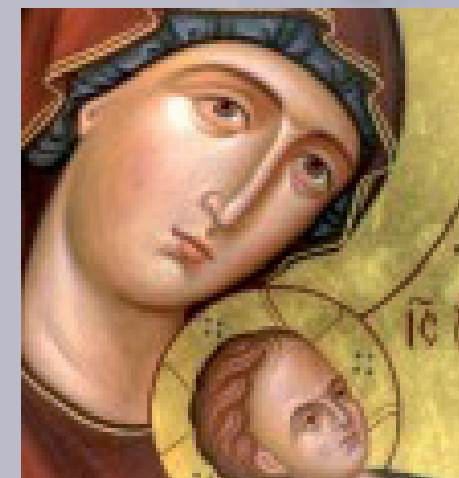
### Manaakitanga

At St. John's College, our aim is to welcome, support and take care of all visitors to our College. Our practice is to draw on tikanga Māori in the protocols used to welcome/farewell visitors, as well as open College events, through the use of powhiri and the incorporation of karakia, mihi and waiata. In doing so, we hope to provide Manaakitanga to visitors, whilst also acknowledging the tangata whenua and tikanga Māori.



### Respect

For ourselves, others and our environment. Through this value we think of others around us, value them for who they are and give them the dignity they deserve as a child of Christ. This respect extends to the pride we show in our College, and the environment we are blessed to inherit. It also includes recognition of 'those who have gone before us', and who built St. John's College.



### All in the Way of Mary

Founded by the Priests of the Society of Mary, at St. John's College we seek to model our lives on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Our spirituality is expressed in our devotion to Mary's attitude towards others, her quiet action, often described as hidden and unseen. In doing so, we strive 'to do as Mary did', in everything we say and do. "All to Jesus through Mary, All to Mary for Jesus."



# Academia

**Excellence is a habit:** “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.” These words endorse our academic philosophy at St. John’s College. Our aim is to produce self-reliant workers, able to take responsibility for their own learning and develop study habits that will see our young men attain the highest level possible.

We provide a robust academic programme, based on the New Zealand Curriculum Framework, gaining outstanding results in Merit and Excellence endorsements and our Scholarship programme. All of our senior students enter National Certificate of Educational Achievement courses at Levels 1, 2 and 3; with a strong core of senior students sitting Level 4 Scholarship exams.

**Academic Dean:** Introduced in 2014 to support all students studying NCEA, the Academic Dean tracks students through their academic programmes. Emphasis is placed on gaining literacy and numeracy credits. Support is offered through mentoring, arranging tutorials, issuing study programmes and close monitoring of NCEA credits. The Academic Dean liaises closely with the House Dean to synchronise the best possible support.

**Kaiawhina Role:** Our College, through the development of our Māori Achievement Plan, has a staff member who advises, mentors and acts as a support person to all Maori pupils in the school. This includes a close working relationship with whānau in our community.

**Pasifika Liaison Person:** Our College, through the development of our Pasifika Achievement Plan, has a staff member who leads the Pacific Pride group within our school with advice and mentoring and is an ideal support person for all Pasifika students in our College.



# Arts and Culture

The arts and cultural activities available at St. John’s College allow our students to express their interests and talents in a co-curricular environment.

**Music** – There is a wide range of musical opportunities available for students at our school; including a strong itinerant programme, a College Choir, participation in both the Big Sing and RockQuest competitions, and our Jazz Band’s attendance at the National Band Championships.

**The O’Shea Shield** – Students are involved in The O’Shea Shield, a cultural competition amongst 17 Catholic schools from the lower half of the North Island and top of the South Island. In 2014, St. John’s College were the proud hosts of The O’Shea Shield, coming second in this prestigious event.

**Debating and Public Speaking** – St. John’s College has competitive debating teams, as well as a strong presence in the Nga Manu Korero Speech competition.

**Productions** – In 2014, St. John’s College and our sister school, Sacred Heart College, Napier, produced the successful ‘Cruisin’ musical; in 2015 we co-produced ‘Popstars’, in 2017 ‘Hairspray’ and in 2019 ‘Bugsy Malone’. Each year we work together to produce a show and/or Arts Festival.

**Cultural Groups** – St. John’s boys are proud of their heritage and there is a strong sense of pride in the school Kapa Haka and Pasifika groups. The Kapa Haka enter the Hawke’s Bay Regional Kapa Haka Festival every year. The Pasifika Group enter the Hawke’s Bay Pasifika Festival.



# Sport

Sport is an integral part of a boys’ school. It does not build character; it reveals it. At St. John’s College we cater for the needs of all our students. This includes compulsory participation for all Year 9 and 10 students in a winter sport and the pursuit of excellence in our main sporting codes. It is supported by first-class coaches to help young athletes attain their sporting goals.

## Sports on offer at St. John’s College include:

- |                          |                                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Athletics              | • Kayaking                         |
| • Badminton              | • Rowing (opportunities available) |
| • Basketball (Institute) | • Rugby (Institute)                |
| • Clay Bird Shooting     | • Softball                         |
| • Canoe polo (Institute) | • Squash                           |
| • Cricket (Institute)    | • Swimming                         |
| • Distance running       | • Tennis                           |
| • Football (Institute)   | • Touch Rugby                      |
| • Futsal                 | • Volleyball                       |
| • Hockey                 | • Waka Ama                         |

## St. John’s College Sporting Exchange

Our sports programme is supported by traditional sporting exchanges with other Catholic schools in New Zealand, the Exchange is a great development tool for the young men and gives them a sense of belonging to the wider Catholic community. Schools visited include:

- St. Patrick’s College, Wellington
- Francis Douglas Memorial College, New Plymouth
- Hato Paora College, Feilding
- St. Peter’s College, Palmerston North
- Bishop Viard College, Porirua
- St. John’s College, Hamilton



# Institutes at St. John's College

Holistic education is critical to the full development of a young man. This entails academic, as well as spiritual, social, psychological and physical growth. To assist this co-curricular programme, St. John's College has set up Institutes so that each gifted and talented student receives specific tuition in his chosen area of specialisation.

Initially St. John's College set up five Sports Institutes which has been very successful. The College has now expanded the Institute programme by an additional five new Institutes in a broad range of subjects.

The subjects we've added to our Institute programme are shown below along with the name of each respective tutor:

|   |  |  |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| Fine Arts<br>Mr Don Dickson   | Performance Arts<br>Mr Christopher Wilson  | Culinary Arts<br>Mr Craig Ireland  | Debating<br>Mrs Lyndie Balfour  | Music<br>Mr Christopher Wilson   |
|  |  |  |  |  |

# Sports Institute

The Sports Institute was established in 2014 to identify and develop high-performing students who we believe have the potential to become elite sportsmen. The aim is to improve the fundamental skills of our junior athletes in their aspirational years, setting up correct pathways to help these sportsmen excel in their given sports. The Institute is available to Year 9 and 10 students and places are only available for those selected. The main part of the selection process involves sports-specific skills, chosen by our sports coaches and a panel of expert coaches from outside the College.

Coaching is fundamental to the success of the athletes. At St. John's College we will endeavour to select Level 3 or above coaches in our Sports Institute. This means talented athletes will have expert tuition in all their years at the College.

The Sports we include in our Institute programme are shown below along with the name of each sport's respective coach:

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Rugby<br>Mr Matt Wyatt   | Football<br>Mr Bill Robertson  | Cricket<br>Mr Tony Hutchins  | Basketball<br>Mr Damian Whitten  | Canoe Polo<br>Mr Jason Pearson   |
|  |  |  |  |  |





# Pastoral Care and Support

Every student has the right to experience their education in a safe and equitable setting; just as every teacher has the right to experience their profession in the same environment. This culture, emphasised in our school, is developed through the Gospel values that underpin our Catholic and Marist traditions. At St. John's College we accentuate the positive and celebrate our achievements.

## House Classes

All students are members of a House Class, where their teacher will often be the first to identify a student who is having particular difficulties. Parents with concerns should contact the House Class teacher, who sees their son on a daily basis. More serious concerns should be addressed to the House Dean.

## Support Services

**Prefects** - Prefects are ideal support people for young men to approach at times when approaching a member of staff seems difficult. Prefects are encouraged to develop positive relationships with our junior students to make such interactions possible.

**Counselling** - St. John's College has two experienced counsellors who deal with myriad issues that can beset teenage boys. Contact is made readily accessible and all meetings are strictly confidential. Our counsellors will make the first contact with outside agencies, should expert help be required in a particular field.

**Careers Guidance** - Our College provides a range of opportunities and experiences that encourage our students to develop future career pathways. This includes the use of the Gateway and Star programmes, to assist our students in making informed decisions.

**Chaplain** - St. John's College employs a Chaplain to assist the spiritual life of the College. Our Chaplain ensures all our programmes are Catholic and Marist in their structure, creating a spiritual climate that permeates every facet of our school. Our Chaplain is also an ideal person to approach if non-preference pupils are seeking spiritual guidance, or expressing a desire to become a Catholic.

**House Deans** - House Deans are an integral part of the pastoral care system at the College. As House leaders, they ensure the pastoral network is efficient in recognising particular issues or students who require assistance. The House Deans:

- recognise and celebrate student achievement
- reinforce and recognise appropriate behaviour
- support and advise students on course selections and options for the following year
- support school rules by maintaining school standards
- identify underachieving students
- seek solutions for students with learning difficulties, using departmental support or outside agencies
- use reconciliation and our values system, in a Marist tradition, to deal with behavioural issues
- identify and assist students who require counselling
- identify and refer students requiring assistance from outside agencies
- assist students with their transition to tertiary education or the workforce

All of these actions are supported by our House Class teachers, who work with the House Deans to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students.

# International Students

We welcome the opportunity to host International Students and to provide them with the quality traditions of academic achievement, cultural involvement, sporting excellence and community service.

## Code of Practice

St. John's College, Hastings, has agreed to observe and be bound by the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students. Copies of the Code are available from the NZQA website at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)

## Immigration

Full details of immigration requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying, and reporting requirements are available from Immigration New Zealand, and can be viewed on their website at [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)

## Eligibility for Health Services

Most International Students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. Students who receive medical treatment during their visit may be liable for the full costs of that treatment. Full details on entitlements to publicly funded health services are available through the Ministry of Health, and can be viewed on their website at [www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz)

## Accident Insurance

The Accident Compensation Corporation provides accident insurance for all New Zealand citizens, residents, and temporary visitors to New Zealand, but students may still be liable for all other medical and related costs. Further information can be viewed on the ACC website at [www.acc.co.nz](http://www.acc.co.nz)

## Medical and Travel Insurance

International Students (including group students) must have appropriate and current medical and travel insurance while in New Zealand.

We welcome all enquiries and look forward to welcoming International Students to our school.

**Dean of International Students** – This position is held by Christopher Wilson, HOD Music, who is responsible for the overall management and welfare of the International Students.

For further information, please email the Dean of International Students: [cwilson@stjohns.school.nz](mailto:cwilson@stjohns.school.nz)





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