



# St Peter's College

[www.stpetersgore.school.nz](http://www.stpetersgore.school.nz)

*Preparation for Life!*



Prospectus



*Welcome to*  
**St Peter's College**

St Peter's College is a co-educational Catholic School in which the community is committed to educating the whole person to strive for excellence in accordance with the values of Jesus Christ and the Catholic tradition.





# Introductions

## *A message from our principal*

**Kia Ora, welcome and thank you for your interest in St Peter's College.**

St Peter's College is at the heart of a nurturing, inclusive and safe rural community. We are a co-educational day and boarding school for young people aged 11 - 18. St Peter's College was set-up in 1969 by the Institute of Charity (the Rosminian Order) and the Sisters of Mercy as the first co-educational Catholic school in Australia and New Zealand. The school is based on Christian principles within the Catholic tradition. Our three key values are **compassion, commitment and community**. The College Motto *Charity Fulfills the Law* underpins our vision for young people.



At St Peter's we are concerned with educating the whole person and this is reflected in our catch phrase *Preparation for Life*. We are justifiably proud of our academic results as seen in our NCEA results. As well as the importance we place on this, we believe that a good school is about much more than academic success alone. Our students enjoy and excel in a wonderful variety of sporting and cultural activities outside the classroom.



Students at St Peter's benefit from outstanding pastoral care and guidance offered by our committed teachers and dedicated support staff. For boarders and international students we offer superb family-styled accommodation to support them and their families throughout their time at St Peter's College.

I would be delighted to welcome you in person to visit St Peter's College, to meet our students and staff, and to share with you some of the very exciting features of our remarkable school.



**John Hogue**  
Principal





# Special Character

*Community & partnerships*

St Peter's College exists as a commitment of the local Catholic Community to preserve Christian values in their children. These values are centred on the Gospel. They imply a belief in Jesus, hope for the future, care and concern for each other, the uniqueness and giftedness of the individual, development of talent and preparedness for leadership in the wider community.

The 'rock' of our College operation is the pursuit of 'right relationships'. These relationships underpin our pastoral care philosophy and the connections we have within the community. These relationships are obvious not only in daily interactions between all immediate College community members, but in the partnerships we have with parents, past pupils, staff and friends of the College. The PTFA and the College Foundation provide a way that community members can be involved and support the work and mission of the College.

The unique special character of the College is also evident in the Catholic traditions and relationships but also in the activities and actions that are part of schooling at St Peter's. The opportunities that exist are designed to enable young people to be the best that God created them to be. These include events and programmes to develop their spirituality through retreats, prayer, liturgy, religious education, leadership training and social justice activities.

The partnerships we seek and model are evident in the safe and caring environment where all are valued and individual differences are seen as a strength. The commitment to a bi-cultural heritage is seen in our curriculum and co-curricular activities. We encourage a holistic approach to life where we pray, play and study together.





# Pastoral Care

*Guidance & support for learning*

The College prides itself on the outstanding pastoral care and guidance offered by our committed staff. There is no doubt that the special character of the College underpins our approach to this. The best results for students are when the parents, staff and students are involved in regular and open communication. An orientation process is designed to ensure the transition to St Peter's College is smooth and effective for the child and family. Students and parents are provided with a framework that includes:

- A Form Teacher
- A Learning Tutor
- A student support leader
- Access to the Counsellor
- Anti-bullying programmes
- Access to the College Chaplain
- Access to a careers adviser
- Regular conferencing and parent-teacher meeting opportunities
- Information evenings

As a College we review our practice and outcomes regularly. At present the College is involved in a "Schoolwide" review of Pastoral Care called *Positive Behaviour for Learning*. This will ensure our expectations and processes are clear and transparent.

Student voice is important in ensuring we are responsive to the realities of student needs and experiences. The Student Council meets regularly and ensures that students can influence College practices.





# School Environment

## *Our location, grounds & facilities*



The College campus is located in the prosperous town of Gore, Southland. This community serves a rich hinterland based on agriculture and other primary and processing industries.



The College is set within 10 hectares of well-maintained grounds. The buildings are modern and well-appointed. They are equipped with the technology and infrastructure needed to support learning programmes and pathways for the students in the 21st century. These include:

- Well resourced library with computer suite
- Dedicated Technology and IT suites
- Spacious gymnasium, stage and school hall for sport, cultural and formal school activities
- A range of classrooms that can accommodate specialist curriculum and learning activities
- A canteen and dining room
- Transportation to and from venues



The College is within three minutes' walk of the Gore multi-sports complex. This facility is made available to the College as part of a community initiative that includes support from the local District Council, Community Trusts and the Ministry of Education. The complex contains:

- Heated swimming pools
- Ice rink for a variety of icesports including ice hockey and skating
- Four courts for netball, basketball, tennis and indoor basketball
- Hockey Turf





# Our Curriculum

*Preparation for life*

At St Peter's College our curriculum is based on educating the whole person, a *preparation for life*. Students in the junior school (Years 7-10) follow the 'core curriculum' which reflects the New Zealand National Curriculum and priorities set out by the Ministry of Education.

The emphasis of our curriculum reflects not only what we learn, but how we learn. It is our aim to ensure students are provided with the tools to not only achieve academically, but also to be independent, self-regulated learners.

A graduate from the College will be well-rounded, self-aware, confident and a lifelong learner, who is open to meeting the challenges of global influences in a changing world. He or she will be equipped with the competencies needed to contribute to their community and build supportive relationships.

## Our Core Curriculum consists of:

Religious Education, Social Sciences, English, Arts, Mathematics and Statistics, Science, Technology, Health and Physical Education and Languages.

Students are also provided with a wide variety of courses at the College and within the community. These include a range of conventional academic options in the senior school that contribute to the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA). Students can begin their vocational qualifications which include: National Certificate in Tourism and Travel, National Certificate in Retail, Child Care/Nannyng, Equine Studies, Automotive and Farm Mechanics, Business Administration, Farm Skills and pre-apprenticeship training.

Gateway offers senior students structured workplace learning opportunities. These are across a variety of industries where students pursue individual programmes, allowing for hands-on learning. They are assessed in the workplace for Unit and Achievement Standards which contribute to NCEA as well as industry specific qualifications.



# Academic Excellence

*A proud reputation for success*

St Peter's College is rightly proud of its reputation for high levels of academic achievement. Students consistently return results in NCEA Examinations that exceed similar New Zealand secondary schools. Recent results are available on our website and also inserted in the back of our prospectus/enrolment pack.

The academic success of students is a result of students being served by a hardworking, knowledgeable and skilled staff. This is complemented by students being empowered as independent, self-regulated learners.

Students are encouraged to achieve their personal best. We foster a sense of pride in achievement and a confidence in students whatever their abilities.

Academic progress is monitored through regular assessment, written reports, meetings with academic and pastoral staff to discuss progress and welfare. Student voice and involvement in these processes is expected and is effective.



## Sport & Recreation

*The spirit of healthy competition*

St Peter's College has a long tradition of sporting achievement that reflects the ever-increasing range of sporting opportunities offered to students. Even though St Peter's College is not a big school, it regularly produces nationally ranked sports teams and individual athletes.



There are a wide variety of sports and recreational activities available either at school or in the local community. These include: Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, BMX, Cricket, Curling, Figure Skating, Fishing, Football, Golf, Hockey, Horse Riding, Ice Hockey, Karate, Kayaking, Lawn Bowls, Moto Cross, Mountain Biking, Mountain Running, Netball, Rugby, Rugby League, Softball, Squash, Tennis, Touch Rugby, Volleyball, Dance (Ballet, Ballroom, Hip-Hop, and Jazz).





# Outdoor Adventure

*A world outside the classroom*

Through school camps and specialist classes, St Peter's College provides all students with the opportunity to experience first-hand New Zealand's awe-inspiring outdoors. All students regularly visit the pristine wilderness of Fiordland National Park as part of the Year 8 Deep Cove camp or the Year 10 Borland Lodge camp.

Outside of these experiences, students can elect to experience the following activities through the Health and Physical Education programme:

- Adventure-Based Learning and Safety Management
- Alpine Skiing
- Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award
- High Rope courses
- Mountain Biking
- Rock Climbing
- Skiing and Snowboarding
- Snow Caving
- Tramping





## Cultural Pursuits

*Encouraging creativity & flair*

St Peter's College places a strong emphasis on fostering student's appreciation and love of cultural pursuits. This is exemplified by our annual Eisteddfod – a two-day cultural festival that everyone participates in, even the teachers! Private tuition is available for a reasonable cost in the following: *musical instruments, singing, dance, speech and drama*. Other cultural activities in our school include:

- Public Speaking competitions
- Choir
- Debating
- Eisteddfod
- Jazz Band
- Junior and Senior School Productions
- Kapa Haka Maori Cultural Group
- Rock Band
- Shakespeare drama competition
- Film Festival competition





# Boarding at St Peter's

*A home away from home*



Adjoining St Peter's College is a co-educational boarding house that caters for boys and girls aged 11 – 18 years. St Peter's Boarding House is more than just a place to sleep; it provides a safe, family-orientated environment where students develop academically, socially and spiritually in accordance with our Catholic values. Our Boarding House is characterised by its emphasis on relationships, student welfare and learning.

The capable and professional staff at St Peter's Boarding House provide:

- Clean, homely facilities and spacious landscaped grounds
- A healthy, balanced and varied diet
- Individual cubicles for junior students and flatting-style accommodation for senior students
- High academic expectations and goal setting
- Dedicated daily study time
- A mentoring programme, individualised pastoral care and clear expectations
- Leadership opportunities for senior students
- Interhouse competitions, regular excursions, camps and co-curricular activities





## Contact Information:

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