

PAKURANGA COLLEGE SCHOOL PROFILE



VITAL STATISTICS

Total students: 2,200+
Ethnicities/cultures attending: 70+
Staff: 250+
NCEA: Levels 2 and 3 only
Founding date: 1960
Motto: Caelum Certe Patet (Reach for the Skies)

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

FTE international students: 100
Countries of residence: 17
Academic success (2023):

- 92% of students who entered NCEA Level 2 or 3 attained the qualification.
- 100% of students entered in UE passed.



Pakuranga College runs a well-established international student programme, with 28 years of experience in the sector and excellent agent connections across three continents – Europe, Asia, and South America.

We cater to long-term academically-focused students, who largely hail from Asia, and short-term Kiwi lifestyle-seeking students, who typically come from Europe and South America. Whatever experience they are seeking, students can find it at Pakuranga College.

FIND NEW HEIGHTS

All students who enrol with us relish the chance to practise their English in mainstream classes with local students and teachers. For those not yet proficient in English we have an ESOL Department that works with students requiring extra support, from English beginners to more advanced speakers.

International students at Pakuranga College can choose from over 40 subject options and our Year 12 and 13 courses give students the opportunity to gain NCEA at Levels 2 and 3, providing a pathway to tertiary study.

Year 11 students study a curriculum tailored to provide a strong foundation for the rigours of NCEA in Year 12. All subjects at this level offer NCEA-style evaluations, to ensure students are ready for external assessments in Year 12.

The success of our international students is very important to us. In 2023, 92% of international students who entered NCEA Levels 2 and 3 gained their qualification. 100% of students who entered University Entrance obtained it. Our International and Careers Departments work closely with students to ensure they are enrolled in appropriate courses, taking the correct number of credits, and are on track to achieve.



"The subjects I chose were all perfect, I would never change one of them. The teachers helped me when I had problems."

Giovanni, Italy

"My classes go on lots of trips and we do activities outside the classroom, which support what we're studying. I'm planning to study at the University of Auckland after school. I want to do a Bachelor of Design."

Katherine, China

FIND YOUR PASSION

Pakuranga College is a large college and that means plenty of opportunities! We encourage all our international students to get involved in activities to make friends and try experiences that may not be available to them at home.

We have 100+ co-curricular groups and activities that students can take part in! Students might like to dive into one of our 20+ sports codes including basketball, badminton, football, rugby, hockey, and swimming.

For students interested in The Arts, we have Dance, Drama and Music experiences available, plus interest-based Visual Arts groups, such as pottery.

Students can also join one of our many cultural groups, including Māori and Pasifika. Te Tai o Pakuranga, the school Kapa Haka group, immerses members in Māori culture and many of our international students enjoy this taste of New Zealand.

Students may also like to reconnect with their homeland and share their cultures through our cultural groups. The cultural diversity of our students is recognised and celebrated at Pakuranga College, with students encouraged to share their culture through language, music, and dance.



"I didn't expect to connect with my Chinese culture while I was in New Zealand, but I have! Pakuranga College has a Chinese Dance Group and I love to dance, so I decided to join. It's been a great way to feel connected to home and make friends with other students like me. I really like that the group does traditional dances, plus dances from the top Chinese artists right now. We even have a Chinese Rap Club!"

Katherine, China

"My advice to other international students is to give things a go – join groups, meet people, and experience the fun of New Zealand! I joined up to two very Kiwi activities – rugby and kapa haka – and everyone was really welcoming. I think Kiwis are just waiting for a chance to show off their culture, so don't be shy, join and learn some new things."

Jonas, Germany

FIND YOUR SPACE

We take every opportunity to support our international students throughout their time with us. Students receive an in-depth orientation to Pakuranga College from our International Department staff and are welcome to drop into the International Department for assistance with their schooling or homestay at any time.

Students are allocated to one of six Whānau when they arrive, which acts as a family at the college. International students can take any concerns to their Whānau Group Teacher, whom they see four times a week, or to the Whānau Leader. The International Department works closely with teaching staff to ensure students are well-supported.

"I felt really welcomed by all, particularly the staff, they helped me settle in and get used to my new life here. The International Department has been very caring, supporting me to do the best things."

Carla, Italy

FIND YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME

We have an extensive network of homestay families in the local area, many with children also attending the college. All homestays are thoughtfully selected and thoroughly vetted by staff within the International Department, and are managed by the college.

We carefully match international students with homestay families to ensure a good fit that will make students' time in New Zealand even more enjoyable. Students will have their own bedroom, allowing them privacy and a quiet environment to study; plus fibre internet makes keeping in contact with home easy.

Our dedicated Homestay Co-ordinators are on-call 24/7 to answer any questions students have before and during their stay. They also regularly inspect homestays and report back to parents.



"I had an amazing time here in New Zealand, thanks to my new friends and my homestay family. My host parents have been very kind and relaxed, they have supported me throughout my experience. We started communicating even before my arrival and since the first hour here they have helped me and cared about me."

They have introduced me to different traditions and cooked me delicious meals. The best dish is my host mum's Sunday roast dinner and one day every week I cook them Italian dishes."

[Egle, Italy](#)

"My homestay family has been so welcoming, I've absolutely felt at home and I know I'll stay in touch when I return to France. The highlight of my time here was going to a Blues game at Eden Park with my host family, after they discovered that my family back home is rugby-mad.

I've really enjoyed my time here – I've met some great people, made wonderful memories, and my English has improved a lot."

[Gabrielle, France](#)

FIND YOUR SUPPORT SYSTEM

The International Director at Pakuranga College will be well-supported by an Assistant International Director, with strong pastoral care roots, as well as an extremely experienced Administration Manager, who manages the application process from start to finish.

Our team of Homestay Co-ordinators includes a staff member fluent in Mandarin, who is readily able to assist in conversations with Mandarin-speaking students, parents, and homestay families.

The International Department is also supported by the college's Marketing and Communications Manager to produce marketing material for all markets (including translations) in printed and digital formats, ensuring you can focus on agents, not brochures.