



Important Dates

Open Afternoon

Wednesday, August 30th
2:15pm - 4:30pm

The open afternoon is an opportunity for parents and whānau of current Year 7 & 8 students and Year 6 students and whānau to visit Year 7 & 8 classrooms, where students will be presenting information about different cultures who live in our local area.

Enrolment Forms Due

Friday, September 15th

The early return of enrolment forms will ensure that the Waihi College team have plenty of time to organize the 2024 program. Please return all completed enrolment forms to the front office at your Primary School.

Waihi College School Tour

Thursday, November 2nd
9am - 11:20am

This is an opportunity for all students who have enrolled, to visit Waihi College and see how our school works. Parents are welcome to join their child on this tour.

Parent Information Meeting

Thursday, November 2nd
5:15pm - 6:15pm

Parents are welcome to visit the Year 7 & 8 area of the school and find out how the program works. It is a chance to meet the teachers, see the waka environment and ask questions. The meeting will be in Te Arawa waka - there will be students to help you find the way!



Enrol today!

105 Kensington Rd,
Waihi 3610

07 863 8349

www.waihicol.school.nz



Haere mai! Talitali fiefia! Afio mai! Welcome to Year 7 and 8 Our Waka, Our Space!

Year 7 & 8 students are fortunate to have classrooms that offer flexible learning opportunities. Our two classroom blocks are named after two waka - Tainui and Te Arawa. In Te Arawa waka there are four learning spaces and a common area, shared by Year 7 & 8 students. Tainui waka has two learning spaces and a common area. The waka are unique, as they have large glass sliding doors which can be left open, but can be closed when a quieter space is needed. Collaborative use of the waka is fostered - areas are created to meet different learning styles and needs. All areas within the waka are flexible. The waka are not individual classroom spaces with closed doors, but instead spaces where shared and collaborative teaching and learning can take place.

Classroom furniture has been carefully chosen so that it can be moved easily to accommodate different learning experiences and needs. Technology is readily available to classes and students when required. Storage lockers for students owning digital devices are also available within each learning space.

In addition to the waka, Year 7 & 8 have two stand alone or single cell classrooms, where a more structured traditional environment is utilized.





Learning spaces

Collaborative areas are created to meet different learning styles and needs. All areas within the waka are flexible.



Learning Together

All Year 7 & 8 classes work together, using a shared direction, to plan and construct learning programmes that connect each of the curriculum areas. Students are taught according to different factors - curriculum level, interests and learning style.

Each Homeroom class has a mixture of Year 7 & 8 students. Benefits of composite classes include:

- Peer relationships and supporting growth.
- Ability to work across classes according to learning needs and / or interest.
- More flexibility to make changes.

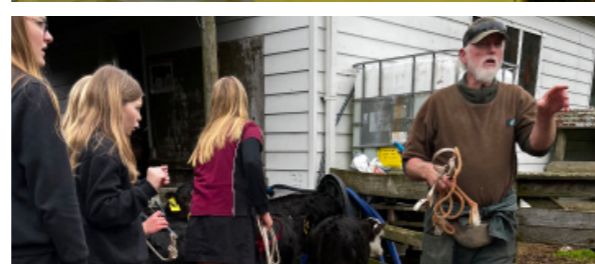
”The Waka are awesome! High top tables, our own kitchen and break-out spaces... fields, courts, Hollis Bush, basketball hoops, picnic tables are right outside and I love having access to it all.”

- Year 8 Student



Year 7 & 8 students operate in their waka / classroom most of the time. The core subjects of Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Te Reo and Health are taught in the homeroom class. For subjects, such as Science and Physical Education, students leave the homeroom and go to specialized classrooms and teachers.

Over a two year period, students experience a range of subjects from the Arts and Technology curriculums - these include Digital Technology, Music, Drama, Te Ao Maori, Food Technology, Engineering and Art. Once again, the students are fortunate to be able to access specialised teachers and classrooms for these rotation subjects.



Starting Together

All students at Waihi College are divided into four House groups: Amaranth, Empire, Royal and Dominion. Within each House, there are a number of Ako classes, which are a mixture of Year 7 - 13 students. Each Ako class has a pouako (teacher) who focuses on making connections and providing support for each student and their whanau. Ako classes meet at the start of every day where they go over the daily notices and take the opportunity to talk about things happening in the school. In addition two kaiārahi (Deans) work within each House and are responsible for the pastoral care of students.

Year 7 students are assigned a House at the beginning of the year. Please indicate on the enrolment form whether or not you have a family / historical connection with a House on the enrolment form, so your child can be placed appropriately.

For the first two terms, Year 7 students are involved in a Year 7 Ako program. They are assigned a House (please indicate on the enrolment form whether or not you have a family / historical connection with a House on the enrolment form). Their House Ako teacher will be a Year 7 & 8 Homeroom teacher. Year 7 students meet together at the start of each day, and then “break off” into their House Ako class. This is an opportunity for teachers to help Year 7 students orientate into Waihi College - who people are, what they do, where to find places, Waihi College values etc. In Term 3, Year 7 students join their own Ako class, where they will remain for the rest of their schooling at Waihi College.

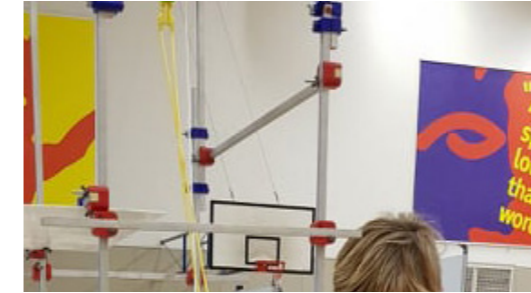


Opportunities Galore

Our Year 7 & 8 students have many different opportunities to try things. Both the Tainui and Te Arawa waka have a quote printed on the doors, that is like our Year 7 & 8 philosophy - “I can, I will, I did”.

In 2023, all Year 7 & 8 students are involved in our Super Tuesday program, where a significant period of time is spent on different things each term. In Term 1, every student was involved in the planning and preparation of a Gala Activity, and in Term 2, students were either involved in the “Grease” production or were designing innovative solutions to community problems. In Terms 3 & 4, students are rotating around a number of physical and STEM activities - Te Ngahere, Forest Science, EPRo8, Sphero and Lego.

Some sporting activities are compulsory - Swimming, Triathlon, Cross-Country and Athletics. Other opportunities are available for our students to choose if they wish - activities that range from college sports teams, Kapa Haka, itinerant music lessons, WPRo8 challenge, chess club etc. Our Sports coordinator, Jess O’Brien and Arts coordinator, Wendy Shave help ensure our students are kept informed of opportunities as they occur.



“From field trips to sports games, art exhibitions, Spirit Days and Kapa Haka, there’s always so much going on at Waihi College!”

- Year 7 Student