



KEI KONEI TĀTOU E TŪ ANA  
HERE WE STAND

**WAIHĪ**  
COLLEGE

# Kia ora,

**Thank you for your interest in Waihi College as a potential overseas school adventure for you. We are excited to hear you're considering Waihi College for your overseas study destination.**

My name is Rochelle, I'm the international Director for Waihi College, welcome to our International Department and welcome to our school!

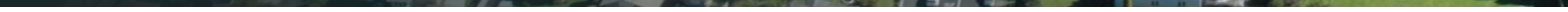
I have provided some information below about the opportunities Waihi College has to offer that may help you choose our school. I hope you find this information helpful for your decision-making process. We sincerely hope we get to share some time with you soon.





# About Waihī College

Waihī College is a school of around 600 students, so is quite small and friendly. In 2026 we will have between 10 and 12 international students from different countries. Our international students make very good friends with each other and with our local students. Waihī College offers an excellent balance between academic courses and interest-based courses like outdoor education and music.



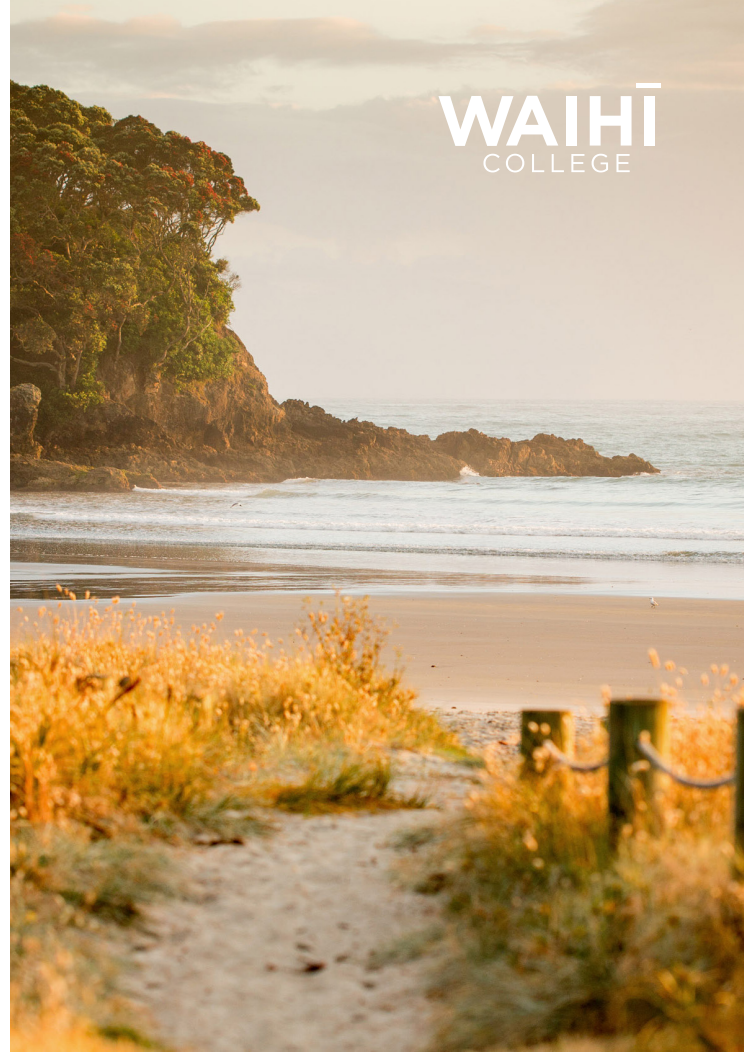
## Homestays

Waihī College has different types of homestays available in Waihī town or at nearby Waihī Beach. We will do our very best to accommodate your request to stay with a host family with similar aged host siblings or older. All our host families are well known to us, and range from families with young children, older children and some, where children have grown up and left home.



## Our Climate

June, July and August are our winter months and temperatures here range from around 10°C - 18°C. It can be quite wet but with a good mix of rain, fine days and frosty mornings. Skiing and snowboarding are popular at this time of year with ski fields within four hours of Waihī by car. September through to November is spring and the days can be warm. Temperatures range between 16 C and 25 C. December to February is our summer with temperatures ranging from 20°C to 30°C. Autumn from March to May is also warm with temperatures mostly in the early 20s during the day.



## Outdoor Education

Our outdoor education courses utilise spectacular outdoor venues including nearby Waihī Beach, the Kaimai Ranges and Karangahake Gorge, all of which are near our school. Outdoor education options during the year include rock climbing, low and high ropes, surfing, tramping, camping, sea kayaking, survival skills, mountain biking and abseiling, so loads for you to choose from.

Waihī College International now offers exciting new programmes including a surf school open day for all Waihī College international students during student orientation, a six-week surf module as part of our outdoor education course and further six-week courses for those seeking advanced and short board surf skills. Surf school has been a popular addition to our programme with many international students taking to the waves since it started in September 2013. Waihī's great climate and ideal surf conditions for learning to surf mean that these courses are offered all year round.



## Sport

A range of sports courses are offered covering physical education, sports education and health. A range of sports teams also seek members. International students are encouraged to join college sports teams as it's an excellent opportunity to make friends and become part of the local community. Sports on offer include athletics, basketball, rugby, squash, tennis, swimming, volleyball plus loads more. A range of other sports are available through clubs in the community to and we can help you to find sports clubs that you may be interested in.

Waihī has become a centre for biking with trails from a leisurely glide along the Hauraki Rail Trail to a shock pounding work out on the Black Hills purpose-built mountain bike track. Mountain biking features heavily in our outdoor education course with two major modules covered during the year.



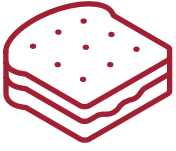
## Digital Media and Design

At Waihī College media design courses focus on print, website and moving image design. Digital technology uses coding to solve complex real-world problems. Students will become skilled in a range of software applications for use in media design and will be involved in creating real world solutions to a customer brief.



## English, Mathematics and Science

Waihī College boasts some wonderful academic successes and encourages all our students to find what makes them tick. From math competitions, science days, calculus, statistics, biology, chemistry, physics, geography to chess and debating teams, there is lots to get involved with at Waihī College. English is also an important part of why many international students come to New Zealand and Waihī College offers students ESOL & IELTS on request.



## Food Technology and Technology

Hospitality at Waihī College offers students the opportunity to dip their toes into the life of a chef. We offer different courses to suit café style work and a finer dining approach. Students work in realistic environments to create dishes and serve these to customers. Hospitality is also a chance for students to show their creative side through plating techniques, flavour combinations and presentation. At different stages throughout the year the coffee machines are put into action with our Barista training sessions. Due to the nature of the service component of these courses, cafes and restaurants are often run during lunchtime, which means a different break time for that day.

There are several other areas of technology offered at Waihī College. While junior students focus on pure technology and the process of design, many seniors chose to focus on a more trades-based course. We offer building and engineering through our Hard Materials Technology Department. Digital technology and design and visual communications cover all facets of computer design and use from coding through to 3D design projects and architecture. Textiles technology and food technology continue to follow the design process and focus on the creation of a product and its perfection. If you have the idea, we have the space to make it!



## Horticulture

Waihī College is fortunate to have its own farm plus commercial kiwifruit orchard and native plant nursery on the farm to. We run Horticulture classes which include growing vegetables in gardens in term one and propagating and caring for plants in the greenhouse in the cooler and wetter months. A Beekeeping course is also run on the farm, this runs for one year, starting in June each year.



## Languages

Currently Waihī College offers Te Reo Māori from year 7 through to year 13. We also support students who want to study another language in classes up to year 10 where you can study your language of choice via online programmes which are supervised by a Waihī College teacher.



## Hub

Students can take this option up to 3 times. The hub will allow students to experience multiple opportunities to develop the skills that are needed when students leave home, be it to enter the workplace, attend university or travel overseas. The focus of the hub is on strengthening students every day skills focussing on areas of careers, leaving home, communication, wellbeing, and community.



## Visual Arts, Photography and Design

Waihī College offers three full year levels of visual art and photography. Creative photography covers digital processing, camera functions, composition and photography as art. Art courses develop painting skills, leading to a portfolio of work and often involves some visits to local galleries and exhibitions. Design courses are also available including media design, graphic design, product design and textile design.

As you can see, Waihī College has a wide variety of courses and experiences for you to meet your academic, sport and outdoor interests.

Please let me know if there is anything I have mentioned that you would like to hear more about.

All the best as you make your decision, and we hope to meet you at Waihī College soon!

Ka kite ano,

See you soon.



**Rochelle Kean**

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