



Prospectus

Contents

Principal's Welcome	2
Our Vision for Young Women	3
A History of Excellence	4
Why Choose a Single Sex Girls' School?	5
The Power of High Expectations	6
Values-Based Education & Pastoral Care	8
School Facilities	9
Curriculum	11
Sporting Activities	14
Culture Speaks	15
Community	18
Leadership	19
House Rivalry	20
Waitaki House	21
Enrolment	23
How to Apply	24
Checklist	26

Enquiries are welcome at any time during school office hours (8.30am - 4.30pm)

+64 3 434 8429

PO Box 42, Oamaru 9444

office@waitakigirlshigh.school.nz

www.waitakigirlshigh.school.nz

Welcome

Tena koutou katoa, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava,
Kia orana.

It is my privilege, as Principal of Waitaki Girls' High School, to extend a warm welcome to you.

We pride ourselves on offering an exceptional experience to young women. This is influenced by our future-focused curriculum, our belief in the power of high expectations and our focus on values-based education, which underpins

the wide range of opportunities that we offer young women in academia, sport, culture and community.

I feel both pride and privilege to be a part of the Waitaki Girls' High School community and I know that you will also.

Liz Koni
Principal



Our Vision For Young Women

Inspiring Personal Excellence
in Learning and Life



A History of Excellence

Waitaki Girls' High School is amongst the oldest schools in the country having been founded in 1887. We are proud of the women who have been students here and who have subsequently gone on to have significant success in their chosen fields, both nationally and internationally. We are equally proud of the girls who are here today and who will go out into the world and make an impression in the future.

1887

Two local politicians persuade Parliament to establish a high school for girls to serve the North Otago region. WGHS opens on 17th October with a roll of 9 students.

1892

Motto *Dulcius ex Arduis* adopted.

1904

A block of land bounded by Thames, Trent, Ouse, and Reed Streets is purchased as a new site for WGHS. The new building formally opened on 10th February with a roll of 45 girls.

1915

WGHS Old Girls' Association is established.

1920

The first three prefects appointed. Yearly editions of the school magazine begin.

1921

Waitaki House Boarding Hostel opens.

1924

For the first time, one girl was chosen by the Principal and staff as Head Girl.

1928

The magnificent Junior High School building officially opened.

1929

House system introduced.

1935

School song established.

1938

Wilson House built to accommodate senior boarders.

1956

Wilson Park pavilion opened.

1958

The new science block (now A-Block) opened.

1963

Inter-house drama competition introduced. Inaugural competition won by Ferguson House.

1967

The M.K. Dunning Hall, named after ex Principal Miss Mary Dunning is opened.

1970

A school council was formed to encourage student voice.

1973

For the first time in history, WGHS and WBHS combine to present a drama 'HMS Pinafore'.

1980

Mini-house 'vertical' form groups first introduced.

2007

WGHS 120th-anniversary celebrations take place with nearly 900 people attending at Labour Weekend.

Why Choose a Single Sex Girls' School

Waitaki Girls' High School has a proud history of providing young women with an exceptional educational experience. The foundation of this is the belief, supported by unequivocal evidence, in the value of single sex education.

In a learning environment that is free from gender discrimination, girls achieve greater

academic success and are more confident. Single sex education allows young women to be challenged, to take risks, to make mistakes and to step out of their comfort zones in an environment that is safe, positive and nurturing. As a single sex girls' school, Waitaki Girls' High School creates strong, empowered young women.



The Power of High Expectations

At Waitaki Girls' High School we believe in and strive for high expectations in appearance, effort, behaviour and attitude.

We believe that every young woman has the potential to attain greatness. We believe that every young woman has qualities, capabilities and passions that can contribute positively to our school, our community and society.

As educators it is our responsibility to help our students discover what these are and ensure that they aspire to be the best that they can be, so that they can experience success now and in the future.

Holding high expectations for young women in every facet of school life ensures that they work hard and inspires them to strive for and attain personal excellence.





WAITAKI GIRLS'

Values Based Education & Pastoral Care

Waitaki Girls' High School is committed to values based education, primarily encapsulated in our 'Waitaki Way' of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. Values-based education focuses on life-long wellbeing, encouraging young women to strengthen their relationships, build positive emotions, enhance personal resilience, promote a growth mindset and encourage a healthy lifestyle. Incorporating values-based learning alongside the academic, sporting, cultural and service opportunities at school, allows young women to flourish both in their learning and in life.

Young women flourish when they feel safe and have a sense of belonging. At Waitaki Girls' High School we take great pride in providing a positive, caring environment where people feel valued, appreciated as individuals and able to achieve their potential. Students support each other through Whanau groups, the House system, and the Peer Support programme.

Our Waitaki Way underpins all that we do and young women who attend Waitaki Girls' High School learn to be respectful, responsible and resilient at all times in all settings whether they are in the classroom, the grounds, the sports field or the wider community.

School Facilities

Waitaki Girls' High School is nestled in the heart of Oamaru and sits amidst stunning grounds which provide a nurturing and inspiring environment for students to learn in. Our centrally located campus boasts a combination of historic buildings and modern learning spaces, which reflect not only our proud history, but our future-focused vision.

We offer well-resourced facilities, including recently refurbished library, language

and performing arts rooms, music suite and science laboratories. Our spacious recreational area, Wilson Park, the tennis/netball courts, pavilion and the Waitaki Community Recreation Centre which incorporates two gymnasias and facilities for aerobics, rock climbing and weight training, are conveniently located on site, as is our boarding establishment, Waitaki House. These facilities provide all students the opportunity to pursue their personal passions.



Curriculum

It is our goal that those who attend Waitaki Girls' High School leave as confident, well-rounded independent young women who feel empowered to follow their aspirations and make the most of the opportunities in life. As such, we offer a broad, innovative and flexible curriculum designed to meet the learning needs of our students and provide them with opportunities to develop the key competencies and values which are vital to becoming valued, contributing members of our society.

We work with our students to help them set personal goals and to achieve personal excellence across all areas of the curriculum. Young women who attend Waitaki Girls' are mentored to become confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners.

To cater for individual needs, we offer a wide range of learning options, which extends beyond the classroom, to include distance learning, work experience, industry-based training and collaboration with our brother school, Waitaki Boys' High School.





WAITAKI GIRLS'

Sporting Activities

Whether you are pursuing your competitive sporting passion or enjoy the participation and socialisation that sport provides, Waitaki Girls' High School can cater for your sporting goals. We have a proud sporting record and with our extensive sporting facilities on site, we encourage all students to get involved, whether it be as a member of a sports team, or involved in leadership, coaching, managing or officiating.

Athletics
Badminton
Basketball
Bowls
Cricket
Croquet
Cross-Country
Equestrian
Football
Golf
Hockey
Multi Sport
Netball
Rock-climbing
Rowing
Rugby
Squash
Swimming
Table Tennis
Tennis
Touch
Volleyball

WAITAKI GIRLS'

Culture Speaks

Waitaki Girls' High School has a proud cultural record. The Arts Curriculum is highly valued and there is a strong tradition of participation and excellence in all things cultural. Our girls have many opportunities to showcase their talents and develop their skills and confidence in the wide variety of cultural opportunities on offer. We coordinate with Waitaki Boys' High School to combine cultural opportunities including Kapa Haka, Language Weeks, Orchestra and biennial production of our school musical.

- Art Exhibitions
- Arts Week
- Book Week
- Choir
- Concert Band
- Dance Club
- Debating
- Drama Club
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Film and Media Club
- House Choirs
- Itinerant Music
- Junior Drama
- Kapa Haka
- Language Weeks
- Orchestra
- Pasifika
- Photography
- School Production
- Theatrix
- Vocal Coaching
- Wai' Factor Talent Quest
- Waitaki Singers
- Youth Orchestra



Community

Giving back to the community and becoming a contributing member of a global society is a part of the vision of Waitaki Girls' High School. Students have a myriad of opportunities to grow their confidence in ways that will ensure they are positive of their own identities, resourceful and resilient.

Through service to the community, young women learn to relate well to others, develop empathy and understanding of their world, build confidence in their identity and become valued citizens. They become active contributors to the well-being of New Zealand socially, culturally, economically and environmentally.

Amnesty International
ASTRA
Blue Light Committee
Canteen Assistants
Cultural Council
Enviro Club
Health Committee
Gala
Librarians
Mufti Days
Operation Christmas Child
Peer Tutoring
SADD
Sports Council
Student Executive
Student Council
Student Leader roles
Student Social Committee
Victorian Heritage Week
Waitaki District Council
World Vision
Young Farmers



Leadership

Girls are offered many opportunities to demonstrate and develop leadership skills, in a supportive environment, across all year levels. Students are expected to work hard and challenge themselves to optimise their personal growth in academic, sporting, cultural and service activities. They are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities and

through these activities to build character, determination and resilience. Opportunities for leadership comes in many facets of school life; from formal leadership positions in Year 13 and peer support roles, to peer tutoring, captaining sports teams, and representing your class on the Student and Health Councils.



House Rivalry

House spirit and friendly rivalry has been woven into the life of Waitaki Girls' for almost one hundred years. The four houses - Burn, Ferguson, Gibson and Wilson - are named after the first four Principals of the school,

and every year students join with their fellow House members to compete in numerous school events, culminating in Dux House being awarded each year at Senior Prizegiving.

Athletics Day, Cross Country, Choirs, Curriculum Weeks, Debating, Drama, Music Competitions, Service Clubs, Swimming Sports, Theatrx, Wai Factor Talent Quest



Waitaki House

Our boarding hostel, Waitaki House provides excellent facilities in a caring, positive and structured environment for young women needing accommodation away from home to complete their secondary education. Boarders come from throughout New Zealand and the world providing for a unique experience in boarding and lifelong friendships.

Boarding at Waitaki House offers young women the opportunity to learn about themselves and others, through the shared experiences of living together. Our boarders form close bonds and shared interests with one another and develop personal growth, independence, confidence and leadership skills.

Our hostel manager and staff support the young women who reside at Waitaki House to pursue their education and interests outside of school hours. During evenings and weekends boarders have access to school facilities and they can take part in the wide range of academic, sporting, cultural and service activities that are on offer. Special boarding events and activities are also scheduled throughout the year, including themed

evenings, special celebrations, joint activities with Waitaki Boys' boarding hostel and trips out of town.

Waitaki House offers a family atmosphere which respects and values the needs of individuals, while at the same time encouraging young women to be sensitive towards, and accepting of others. We offer both seven day and flexible boarding and invite you to visit us at any time.



Enrolment

Whether you live in the beautiful historic town of Oamaru or wish to attend Waitaki Girls' High School as a boarder in our hostel, Waitaki

House, we invite you to visit us and become a part of our community.

How to Apply

Get in Touch

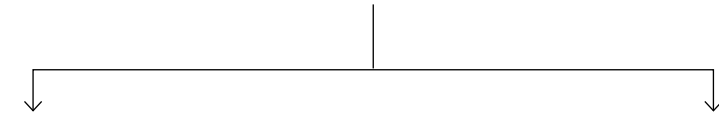
Make contact with the school office and request an Enrolment Pack.

Email: office@waitakigirlshigh.school.nz

Phone: 03 434 8429



Boarder or Day Student?



Boarder

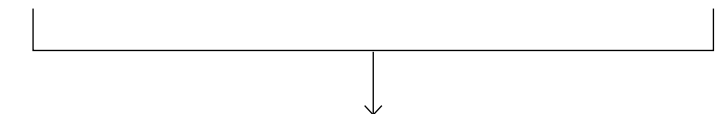
Attend Open Night / Visit Waitaki House hostel for Boarders.

Contact Hostel Manager for further enquiries.
Email: waitakihouse@waitakigirlshigh.school.nz
Phone: 03 434 6587

Day Student

Attend Open Night.

Contact School office for further enquiries.
Email: office@waitakigirlshigh.school.nz
Phone: 03 434 8429



Apply



Meet the Principal

An appointment will be made to meet with the Principal for an enrolment interview.

(This is not a mandatory part of the application process, it is optional if you wish to find out more information about the school)

Email: office@waitakigirlshigh.school.nz

Phone: 03 434 8429



Complete Enrolment Process



WAITAKI GIRLS'

Enrolment Checklist

Application Form

Complete details on the application.



Birth Certificate

Attach a copy of your daughter's birth certificate if she was born in New Zealand.



Passport

Attach a copy of your daughter's passport showing residency status if she was not born in New Zealand.



School Report

Attach a copy of your daughter's most recent school report.



Return Application Form

Either drop to the school office or mail to Waitaki Girls' High School, PO Box 42, Oamaru, 9444.



Confirmation

You will receive confirmation of your enrolment.



Meet the Principal

An appointment will be made to meet with the Principal for an enrolment interview.



Enrolment Approved

We will be in touch when enrolment is approved.

All enquiries should be directed, in the first instance, to the Principal. Information for specific year levels is available on request, or can be viewed on, and downloaded from the website. Enquiries are welcome at any time during school office hours (8.30am - 4.30pm).

+64 3 434 8429 PO Box 42, Oamaru 9444
office@waitakigirlshigh.school.nz
www.waitakigirlshigh.school.nz

