

# PROSPECTUS 2021



## RICCARTON HIGH SCHOOL

*Te Kura Tuarua o Pūtaringamotu*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



*He whānau kōtahe tatou.*

*We are one – we share and live our values*



## Welcome. Nau mai, haere mai.

### Greetings and welcome to Riccarton High School.

At Riccarton we pride ourselves on the individual attention and support we give our students as they strive to become graduates who will be achieving, independent, lifelong learners as well as caring, responsible, involved, globally connected citizens.

The school also focuses on the importance of character building through Te Wairua o Pūtaringamotu – the Riccarton Way, and its associated values of commitment, honesty, respect and excellence, in addition to the meaning behind the school's motto: *Disce ut prosis* – learn that you may be of service.

We are a vibrant and wonderfully diverse community of approximately 1,100 students that defines success in a number of different ways. Each year we celebrate our academic achievements, which remain above national averages. A large number of our students represent the school, our province and our country in a wide range of sporting, musical and cultural endeavours.

We are proud of our modern student-centred curriculum that is technology rich and responsive to the needs of our students with a strong focus on a philosophy of blended learning.

Our school works hard to meet the expectations of our community. We aspire to be the school of choice for every family in our community.

We very much look forward to meeting you and forming an exciting and fulfilling partnership in the pursuit of success for every student.

Carpe diem.



Neil Haywood  
Principal



*The Riccarton Way*

*Te wairua o Pūtaringamotu*

**The Riccarton Way is the spirit, the wairua that underpins the way we think, act and feel about ourselves, others at the school and those in our local and international community.**

By emphasising the key values of commitment, honesty, respect and excellence the school ultimately promotes a caring, supportive learning culture focused on progress and achievement.

The Riccarton Way is about:

- > showing a positive attitude
- > having high expectations of our staff and students
- > taking pride in our work
- > being confident to take risks
- > showing a desire to improve
- > achieving to the best of our ability
- > getting involved
- > taking advantage of opportunities.

It is about how we treat others:

- > acknowledging cultural differences
- > being tolerant of differences
- > accepting community responsibility
- > treating others with courtesy
- > respecting other people's property
- > caring for others
- > being aware of bullying and helping stop it.

We pride ourselves in encouraging and celebrating behaviour that reflects this spirit every day throughout the year.

*We are one – we share and live our values  
– he whānau kōtahe tatou.*



**FINDING YOUR  
PLACE  
IN OUR  
SCHOOL**

A young woman wearing a dark blue hijab, a white striped school shirt, a red tie, and a dark blue skirt is smiling. She is standing outdoors in front of a building with large windows and some greenery. The text 'STUDENT SUPPORT' is overlaid on a dark blue rectangular background in the upper right corner of the image.

# STUDENT SUPPORT

## PASTORAL AND LEARNING SUPPORT

The Riccarton Way values of commitment, honesty, respect and excellence underpin how we care for our students and the importance we place on positive relationships. All students are placed in one of four whāre where they are supported by a Kaiarataki (Head of House) who works alongside a Kaitiaki (Dean of House) and a group of whānau teachers. Students will be connected to their allocated whāre throughout their time at Riccarton High School. Help is also available from the Guidance Counsellors, Learning Support Coordinator and Careers Advisor.

We have a reputation for a strong school spirit and sense of community. We work to provide the best possible learning pathways for our students within an inclusive family/whānau atmosphere.

> [www.riccarton.school.nz/pastoral-care/](http://www.riccarton.school.nz/pastoral-care/)

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

All our teachers maintain ongoing professional learning in working with students who are English language learners. Specialist ESOL teachers work with students who need extra support to improve their skills in reading, writing and speaking in English so that they can be well-prepared for their studies across the curriculum. Programmes are flexible and target students at their level of need. Students in the senior school can enter for NCEA assessment in most of our ESOL courses.

> [www.riccarton.school.nz/international/esol/](http://www.riccarton.school.nz/international/esol/)



## CURRICULUM YEAR 9 AND 10

**We aim for all our students to be successful academically, and to strive to reach their goals. Our community tells us they want our students to be engaged, confident, resilient, risk-taking, flexible thinkers, who respect and value others.**

We encourage students' strengths and interests and support them to identify their future pathway beyond school.

Our curriculum is structured to provide students with a depth of experience in a broad range of programmes.

The learning programme for Year 9 and 10 students includes all eight Learning Areas from the New Zealand Curriculum: [nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/](http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/)

These programmes run for the whole year in both Year 9 and 10:

- > English, Health and Physical Education, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies.

Year 9 students also learn in:

- > Arts: a semester each in Dance, Drama, Visual Art, and Music or Performance Music

- > Learning Languages: students choose ONE of: French, Japanese, or Te Reo Māori
- > Technology: a semester each in Design and Visual Communication, Digital Technologies, Food Technology and Hard Materials.

Additionally, Year 10 students choose combinations of Arts, Learning Languages and/or Technology courses as listed above. Year 10 students may also choose Enterprise Studies and/or Business and Personal Financial Skills.

There are a range of half-year Year 10 elective courses for students to select from to complete their course. Electives cover a wide range of learning and areas of interest. Options include cross-curriculum, project-based, collaborative and contextual learning.

 [www.riccarton.school.nz/academic/](http://www.riccarton.school.nz/academic/)

### CONNECTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

We have a strong focus on encouraging connections across all learning areas within the school. This includes:

- > Teachers of the same learning groups working together
- > Teachers in different learning groups working together
- > Teachers sharing best practice with each other
- > Students working together to develop their skills around problem solving, collaboration and resiliency
- > Students and teachers working together to develop the most effective teaching practices from the student's perspective.

### GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE)

Our GATE coordinator mentors students who have been identified as gifted and talented. We offer enrichment programmes, extension within school learning programmes, support for students working towards competitions and scholarships. We have established links with the University of Canterbury and with professionals working in a variety of industries and educational institutions.



# LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



**Riccarton High School is dedicated to providing a variety of learning opportunities and environments that will enable our students to learn to the best of their abilities and in their own style.**

A vital part of this is using the wide variety of facilities we have access to, both on and off the school campus, to provide your child with the resources they need to succeed. From the use of our Orohaki outdoor education facility, to the community library that is housed within our school property, and the integration of technology around the school, we can provide an environment that will stimulate and enrich learning for our diverse student population.

As students progress through the school our comprehensive careers programme can provide practical pathways for the future. The programme gives students the opportunity to gain valuable real life and workplace experiences.

## **OROHAKI OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE**

Riccarton High School is very fortunate to have its own superb outdoor education facility at Birch Hill in North Canterbury. Year 9 and 10 students engage in a programme that provides the opportunity to develop self-confidence, team and leadership skills in an outdoor education setting that is facilitated by specialists.

The programme is a compulsory part of the school curriculum and it serves us well in helping to develop well-rounded individuals. Often, our graduates refer to the outdoor education experience as the highlight of their time at Riccarton High School.



## LIBRARY

The school's unique partnership with the Christchurch City Council has created a state-of-the-art school/community joint-use library on our Main South Road boundary.

This wonderful asset increases the learning opportunities for our students by giving them access to not only excellent study facilities, but also an extensive range of printed and electronic resources, two dedicated school librarians and the expertise of City Council staff.

The library is also very well utilised by a range of community groups looking for meeting spaces and a venue to host a range of activities, benefiting both the public and the school.

> [www.riccarton.school.nz/library/](http://www.riccarton.school.nz/library/)



BYOD

## BLENDED LEARNING AND BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

Blended learning brings together the best of traditional learning methods and the use of electronic technologies. We are well resourced for e-Learning and blended learning. We have school-wide WIFI coverage and students have access to specialised software and equipment. All internet use is filtered for safety, and logged against students' usernames. All students are expected to bring their own portable, internet-capable electronic devices to support their learning. Information to help students and caregivers choose suitable devices is available here:

> [www.riccarton.school.nz/e-learning/](http://www.riccarton.school.nz/e-learning/)





## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

As Riccarton High School strives to create well-rounded individuals, there are numerous opportunities available in both the sporting and cultural arena.

### SPORT

With the school set on 10 hectares of park-like grounds including all-weather netball and tennis courts and two gymnasiums, students have excellent facilities for sport.

Our impressive participation rates as a state co-ed school is largely due to the significant commitment of staff, senior students, parents and 'friends' of Riccarton High School.

School teams are involved in competitions on Wednesday afternoons, some evenings and weekends, in addition to annual summer and winter exchanges with other schools.

Riccarton High School is committed to the Fair Play charter and SPARC Sportsmark programme emphasising all the positive qualities sport can bring to our students.

A large number of performance groups, including Pasifika, Kapa Haka, Filipino and Chinese, perform at both school and community events.

### ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Arts and Cultural area of Riccarton High School continues to experience significant growth.

Music thrives in a supportive and collaborative environment with opportunities provided at both the individual and group level by our highly experienced teaching staff and tutors.

Drama is both a curriculum subject and an opportunity to get involved in a range of extra-curricular activities, such as Theatresports, Shakespeare festivals and major school productions.

Dance is also offered as a subject at all year levels and students are given opportunities to perform at a number of school events.

[www.riccarton.school.nz/co-curricular/](http://www.riccarton.school.nz/co-curricular/)





2021

**RICCARTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
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