



Westlake Boys High School

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROSPECTUS



*"Own it, know who  
you want to be"*



**VIRTUTE EXPERIAMUR  
LET COURAGE BE THY TEST**

# HAERE MAI

## WELCOME TO WESTLAKE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to Westlake Boys High School and thank you for your interest in our school.

We're committed to providing an outstanding learning environment. We will help you make the transition from being a boy into a young man. We aim that when you leave our gates, you will be a life-long learner with respect for yourself and others, armed with the skills and resilience to contribute positively to society and be adaptable in an ever-changing world.

We have students from over 70 countries, who all bring different experiences, perspectives and values to our school, helping all to learn and appreciate diversity. We want you to share your culture and heritage with us.

Research shows that boys do better in all-boys schools. Academically, our students achieve at the highest level, consistently placing Westlake Boys among the top schools in the country for the number of scholarships attained. The majority continue to study at tertiary level, with many going on to attend some of the most prestigious universities in the world. We cater for all abilities, providing the necessary support to ensure that you have the opportunity to achieve your potential.

Learning doesn't happen only in the classroom. Westlake Boys offers a wide range of co-curricular activities and we encourage you to get involved, even if it means stepping outside your comfort zone.

Opportunities to be involved might come in the form of one of our music ensembles or sports teams, a cultural group, the annual production or in one of our many clubs.

Find what you are passionate about, give it your very best effort and don't be afraid to fail – it's one of the most important ways to learn.

We provide boys with many opportunities to develop leadership skills and to serve the school and the community. We encourage all our young men to contribute their time and energy as student coaches, peer tutors, on student-led councils and leading local community projects.

We look forward to meeting you and sharing in your Westlake Boys journey.





# TEACHING GOOD CHARACTER

We are proud to offer traditional values within a modern, progressive learning environment. We have high expectations regarding manners, behaviour and respect and we place significant importance on the teaching of positive character. During your time at Westlake Boys we will promote the skills, values and behaviours that will help you to communicate effectively, to think creatively and critically, and to cope with change. We will encourage and guide you to work effectively with others, to contribute meaningfully to the school community and wider society and to challenge yourself to step out of your comfort zone. Our commitment to your character education is an important part of everything we do at Westlake, inside and outside the classroom.



# DEVELOPING TRADITIONS

We honour our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, incorporating Māori tikanga - traditions and protocols - appropriately throughout school life.

Our unique school traditions form an important part of our culture and help us all develop a sense of connection and belonging. On your first day at Westlake, you will proceed with all the new students through our archway, symbolising the start of your journey as a Westlake boy. You will not walk through the arch again until your last day at Westlake, when you become a 'Westlaker' and enter the world beyond school.

You will be placed in one of our six houses – Hood, Murchison, Pupuke, Smale, Stanley or Ururoto – and will be a member of that house for your whole time at Westlake. The house system encourages healthy competition while helping you develop a sense of pride and belonging in your school. Houses compete throughout the year in different activities for house points, which are tallied at the end of the year to determine the winners of the House Cup. One of the first inter-house activities of the year is the highly-anticipated House Haka Competition, which ends with a rousing whole school Haka.







**“I DIDN’T KNOW I WAS SO GOOD  
AT WRITING BEFORE I CAME TO  
WESTLAKE!”**

**YEAR 9 STUDENT**

# LEARNING AT WESTLAKE BOYS



We want you to enjoy your learning because we know that you will do better when you enjoy your work. Your teachers will make your lessons interesting and relevant and they will get to know you well, to understand how you learn best. You will be encouraged to think independently, to guide your own learning and to be courageous; challenging yourself to explore and be creative. We hope that you will leave Westlake with the curiosity of a life-long learner.

In Years 9 and 10, you will be offered a wide range of subjects to choose from. You will study english, science, mathematics, social studies and at least one language, as well as having lessons in the arts, technology and physical education. In Years 11, 12 and 13, we will guide you to select subjects that are suited to your interests and strengths and which help you on a path towards future study and careers options.



If you need extra support with your learning, we have an excellent Learner Support Department who will work alongside you and help you set and achieve goals. If you have a particular strength in any area, we will extend you and challenge you through our extension pathways. Our excellent ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) teachers will support you and increase your confidence if you need extra help with your English language skills.

We will work with you and your whanau to make your learning experience the best it can be and to provide you with as many opportunities as possible.



"MY TEACHERS MAKE THE LESSONS FUN. I'VE REALLY ENJOYED TRYING A NEW LANGUAGE."

YEAR 10 STUDENT



**“THE SUCCESSFUL HISTORY BEHIND WESTLAKE SPORT HAS MOTIVATED ME TO GO BEYOND WHAT I THOUGHT I WOULD ACCOMPLISH.”**

**YEAR 12 STUDENT**



# LEADING THE FIELD IN SECONDARY SCHOOL SPORT

At Westlake we recognise that taking part in sport has value beyond the sport itself. As well as being fun and improving your health and well-being, sport will also teach you valuable life skills such as leadership, teamwork, empathy and how to deal with failure and success. We know from experience that this will help you learn better in the classroom, build better relationships and gain a sense of belonging.

We offer 30 different sports with teams catering for all abilities, from the premier teams competing at the highest level to the many social teams where you just play for the fun of participation. The majority of our staff are involved in managing and coaching teams and we have more than 70 student coaches assisting with our sports programme. Our social football and basketball programmes are flourishing and attract hundreds of students each year who just want to play with their mates in a friendly but competitive environment.

If you demonstrate significant promise and early ability in sport, our Academy of Sport is a selective, curriculum-based athlete development programme, providing exceptional coaching, facilities and support to help your development.



# THE ART OF PERFORMANCE

You will be offered a wide range of opportunities to take part in the performing arts. From classical to jazz to pop and rock, whether you are already an accomplished musician or just a beginner, the Westlake music programme has a place for you. Our premier choirs, bands and orchestras, combined with Westlake Girls' students, have an international reputation, having won competitions in Europe and Australia. They consistently win accolades in Auckland and nationally. We also have junior bands and orchestras and an un-auditioned choir if you want to make music but have less experience. If contemporary music is more your thing, we have a thriving rock band programme which is growing every year.

If your passion is performing drama and theatre, or developing and executing technical production skills, you will have the opportunity to be involved with our annual school production, either performing on stage or as part of the back-stage crew. The Westlake Schools' productions, in conjunction with Westlake Girls, are innovative, exciting and thought-provoking and have won numerous regional and national awards in recent years. These productions regularly involve more than 100 students from all years and backgrounds.





# CELEBRATING OUR CULTURES



We take pride in being a truly bicultural school in a multi-cultural environment and we celebrate the many cultures and traditions our students bring to Westlake Boys. We are the only school on the North Shore to offer Maori Performing Arts as a curriculum subject and our Kapa Haka and Pasifika groups are very active, taking part in Polyfest and regularly performing at school and community events.

Korean Night and Chinese Night have become extremely popular events on our annual calendar and during the year we enjoy cultural performances and activities in assembly and during Culture Week and Languages Week.

There are many other extra-curricular groups you can get involved in, from debating to film-making, performance poetry to chess, community service projects to environmental groups. Try something new; you might discover a new passion!

**WE LOOK FORWARD  
TO YOU SHARING  
YOUR CULTURE  
AND HERITAGE  
WITH US.**





# ACADEMIC SUCCESS



## NEW ZEALAND STATISTICS

- Ranks as one of the top countries in the OECD Pisa Index for Mathematics, Science and English.
- One of the highest ranked countries in the world for living conditions and quality of life in the OECD Better Life Index.
- One of the safest countries in the world, ranked by the Global Peace Index.
- Population 5 million.
- Auckland is the largest city, with a population of 1.6 million.



## ACADEMIC SUCCESS AT WESTLAKE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Westlake Boys High School has a very strong focus on academic success. We are proud that, as a result of hard work and excellent teaching, every year our boys achieve academic results that are among the highest in the country. Please see the enclosed insert for the school's latest academic results.



## GRADUATE DESTINATIONS

The majority of students who leave Westlake Boys each year continue their studies at university, either in New Zealand or other parts of the world. In recent years we have had students who have gone on to attend some of the most prestigious universities in the world, including:

- Harvard University, USA
- Columbia University, USA
- Brown University, USA
- Princeton University, USA
- Cambridge University, UK
- Oxford University, UK
- University College London (UCL), UK
- Imperial College London (IC), UK
- King's College London (KCL), UK
- University of Toronto, Canada
- University of Sydney, Australia
- University of Melbourne, Australia

