



CROMWELL COLLEGE SCHOOL CHARTER

2011

OUR VISION

“On a journey to be the best rural secondary school in New Zealand”

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SCHOOL PROFILE

Cromwell College began in 1978 with the change from Cromwell District High School into a Year 7 – 13 College. The College has been at the current site since 1984. The College is a decile 8 state co-educational school with no enrolment scheme. Students from Cromwell and the surrounding areas including Bannockburn, Lowburn, Tarras and Ripponvale attend the school. The school provides education for 405 students. Approximately 10% of the school's population identify themselves as Maori or Pacifica students. In recent years students from other nationalities have moved into the Cromwell area and the school has a small but growing multicultural population made up of immigrants from Fiji, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Scotland, England and other countries.

In 1995 the College instituted a specialist academy and lifestyle programme known as the Outdoor Pursuits Programme. This programme has a capacity for 30 Year 12 and 13 students each year who live at the Cromwell College Apartments. These additional students have been instrumental in allowing the school to maintain viable numbers at the senior end of the curriculum.

The College also maintains a small international fee-paying students' programme with a proposed upper limit of 5% of the school's roll. Currently we have students from Germany, Brazil and Sweden enjoying being educated at our school.

The College is sited on eight hectares in the centre of Cromwell. The school is spacious with well-maintained grounds. In addition to our teaching facilities the College also has an excellent gymnasium and a 400-seat auditorium. Adjacent to the College, and available for student use, are the town's playing fields, hockey turf and swimming pool. The College also maintains an Aquatic Centre on the shores of Lake Dunstan. This unique facility is home to a wide variety of watercraft. Students from Cromwell College and from other schools around the South Island make extensive use of this resource.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The town of Cromwell is well-sited in the heart of Central Otago. Queenstown, Alexandra and Wanaka are all within easy reach. The town has approximately 4000 residents and in recent years there has been significant development in viticulture, horticulture, tourism and associated support industries. The town is in a growth phase as a result of this business investment. There is a strong community spirit with many clubs and organizations which contribute positively to the town's maintenance and development.



MISSION STATEMENT

“Cromwell College will encourage all students to accept responsibilities and achieve to their maximum potential in a safe, supportive and caring environment.”

The main aim of the College is to provide students with the opportunity to maximise their potential by the provision of courses, programmes and activities which promote the development and enrichment of their academic, physical, social and cultural skills. Our mission ties in with our resurrected school motto *“Deserve Success”* and whakatauki – *“Whaia te taumata”* that urges us all to pursue the highest peaks and “realise our full potential”.

AIMS, EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

We expect members of our school community to pursue their full potential, *Whaia te taumata*, to pursue the highest peaks, and *Deserve Success*. We want them to be proud of themselves, their achievements and this place.

Our aim is to provide an environment where mutual respect and honesty underpin all dealings. We endeavour to develop young people of character and integrity - people who are compassionate, respect diversity and aspire to contribute positively to the school and wider community. We seek to instil the ability to think critically, accept responsibility and know what is right.

We value the pursuit of excellence and high expectations and we encourage persistence in the face of challenges. Our aim is to produce well rounded individuals who are able to actively participate and contribute in a wide variety of academic, sporting and cultural endeavour. We also value self discipline, initiative, creativity and the courage to take responsible risks and give things a go.

There are 5 fundamentals that we expect all in the school community to value:

- Mutual respect, honesty, goodwill and courtesy in all dealings and at all times.
- All members of the College community thinking, acting and behaving responsibly.
- Honest effort, self discipline, courage, persistence and success that is deserved.
- Being ready to learn – being prepared and on time, looking our best, with the right gear and the right attitude.
- High expectations of ourselves and others and the pursuit of excellence.

We are on a learning journey to fulfilling our potential so that we may become the best that we can be and *Deserve Success*.

Our core values have been identified through input from staff and students and reinforce our Aims and Expectations. They form our Cromwell College Kawa:

- Personal Excellence
- Respect
- Courage
- Persistence
- Trust
- Responsibility
- Honesty
- Learning for Life

The College recognises that success in secondary education is a partnership between

- 1 the school and its staff
- 2 the parents and the wider community
- 3 the students
- 4 the Ministry of Education

Each partner has a role to play if students are to realise their full potential.

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Trustees of Cromwell College acknowledges its obligations to fulfill the requirements of the National Educational Goals (NEGs) and the National Administration Guidelines (NAGs). The Board of Trustees also has a commitment to ensure the delivery of the New Zealand Curriculum through the eight essential learning areas which emphasise key competencies, attitudes and values. The Board of Trustees adheres to the requirements of the principles of learning and assessing student achievement against national achievement objectives.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND THE MAORI DIMENSION

Cromwell College reflects New Zealand's cultural diversity by acknowledging all cultures within our community:

- We have an environment that accepts and celebrates cultural difference
- We ensure that children from other cultures have equal opportunities to succeed
- We will actively engage with parents and communities of other cultures to ensure best outcomes for students.

Cromwell College will reflect the unique position of the Maori culture by:

- Acknowledging the place of Maori in New Zealand society through the acceptance of the use of Maori and respect for tikanga as part of our daily school life.
- Ensure that te reo and tikanga are well spoken and accurately represented in our school. Knowledge of our whakatauki – *Whaia te taumata*. Use of Maori greetings and language in newsletters, assemblies and classrooms. This is supported through professional development.
- Through the daily life of the school our actions will reflect respect as part of the schools Kawa.
- Staff commitment to realising Maori potential.

What reasonable steps will the school take to incorporate tikanga Maori (Maori culture/protocol) and te reo into the curriculum?

We will:

Deliver Maori language and tikanga to all students in Year 7 and 8 and provide an option for this in Year 9.

- Establish and maintain a Kapa Haka group, encouraging all children to participate. Attending Kapa Haka festivals.
- Continue to incorporate the study of Maori history, customs and legends into the curriculum programme where appropriate. Eg the korero pūrākau of Kaiamio and Koopuwai, Treaty of Waitangi
- Organise occasional wānaga with surrounding schools.
- Take an active part in the Mana Pounamu Awards with tautoko for our winners.
- Use of Mihi whakatau, and our school waiata and haka at appropriate events.
- Run a student careers hui.

We will actively engage with our Maori community on a regular basis to and encourage families to build upon the children's knowledge and experience of their own culture within the home environment as well as at school.

What steps will be taken to keep informed of the views and goals of the schools Maori and Pacifica community?

On-going review of Maori and Pacifica student achievement data and the implementation of strategies in, consultation with whanau, to reduce barriers and improve outcomes.

Requests for Te Reo and Tikanga

At the request of a parent, the school would undertake to provide further learning opportunities in Tikanga Maori and Te Reo Maori, subject to available resources.

Such a request would be referred to the resource teacher of Maori for advice and assistance referred to Correspondence School for available resources.

STRATEGIC AND ANNUAL PLANNING

The Board has recently reviewed its 3 year strategic plan and this is detailed below. As part of its overall strategic planning, the Board of Trustees approves an annual plan developed by jointly by the Board, Senior Leadership Team and staff of the College. The annual plan is an outcome of a range of self review and consultation undertaken by the Board of Trustees and Senior Leadership Team.

The annual plan sets outcomes and indicators for raising student achievement. These targets and indicators will relate to the school's cornerstone goals, the national educational priorities and the learning needs of the students. These targets will be evaluated to help inform future goals and targets. The Board will make an annual report to the Ministry of Education on progress towards the identified outcomes.

CODES OF CONDUCT

Effective governance and management is a successful blend of community involvement and professional competence.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees agrees to adhere to the following code of conduct.

- 1 Ensure that the needs of the children and their learning are given full consideration when planning, developing, resourcing and implementing the school's curriculum,
- 2 Ensure that all students are provided with an education which respects their dignity, individuality and which challenges them to reach the highest standards of personal achievement.
- 3 Serve their school and their community to the best of their ability and be honest, fair, reliable, trustworthy and loyal.
- 4 Respect the integrity of staff, the principal, parents and students.
- 5 Maintain the confidentiality and trust vested in them.
- 6 Ensure strict confidentiality of papers and information related to the Board's position as employer.
- 7 Ensure that individual trustees do not act independently of the Board and its decisions.

THE PRINCIPAL

In carrying out his or her duties, the principal will:

- 1 Ensure that the needs of the children and their learning are given full consideration when planning, developing, resourcing and implementing the school's curriculum.
- 2 Show a commitment to the belief that each student is of equal value and is entitled to an education which respects their dignity, individuality and which challenges them to reach the highest standards of personal achievement.
- 3 Be loyal to the charter and fully committed to achieving its purpose, aims and objectives.
- 4 Respect the integrity of staff, members of the Board of Trustees, parents and students, and show a commitment to the continuing development of the staff's professional skills.
- 5 Work cooperatively with school staff, but take final responsibility for decisions within the principal's authority as delegated by the Board.
- 6 Provide all information on a student to any person with legal rights to the information who requests it, and respect confidentiality by keeping information on students from people who have no right to it.
- 7 Not vote in Board of Trustees decisions in relation to the Principal's employment.

CHARTER UNDERTAKING

In accordance with Section 64 of the Education Act, the Cromwell College Board of Trustees will take all reasonable steps to achieve the purpose, aims and objectives in this charter which have been approved by the Board following consultation with the community in terms of Sections 61 and 63 of the Education Act, and to take full account of the National Education Guidelines and all statutory obligations.

The Board of Trustees accepted this charter as its undertaking to the Minister of Education on: 12 May 2011.

This charter was submitted to the Ministry of Education for the Minister's approval on: 16 May 2011.

Chairperson, Cromwell College Board of Trustees

Date

For the Minister of Education

Date

