



**NELSON COLLEGE**  
New Zealand  
*pietas probitas et sapientia*  
Te Kura Tamatāne O Whakatū

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL



### *Our Goal:*

Our goal is to make a difference to every individual and prepare boys for a smooth transition into college. We have high expectations of our students in their academic, cultural, sporting and personal developments.

### *Our Values:*

**HONESTY, LOYALTY AND WISDOM**

# The Prep Way

## PURPOSEFUL

Understanding the reasons for my actions and choices

## RESPECTFUL

Valuing others and my environment

## ENGAGED

Being actively interested and involved in my learning

## PREPARED

Being organised and ready to act

# Who we are, why we care

## PHILOSOPHY

To provide a balanced learning environment that encourages and challenges boys to pursue excellence in academic, physical and personal endeavours.

## TRADITION BLENDED WITH INNOVATION

Nelson College Preparatory School is a unique learning environment. It is the only independent boys' school attached to a secondary state school in New Zealand. Nelson College, founded in 1856, is recognised throughout NZ as a leader in boys' education both in and out of the classroom.

## Facilities and Staffing

Prep has access to a large number of facilities on site at Nelson College and combines the best practices of primary and secondary schooling for its Year 7 and Year 8 students. The greatest resource the Preparatory School has is its passionate, experienced and dedicated staff. We use many innovative and modern teaching approaches in delivering the curriculum and have a good balance between 'self-directed' learning and 'explicit' teaching of material that is critical for academic advancement.

## Curriculum

For many years we have been integrating thinking and questioning strategies into our curriculum.

Students are taught core subjects by their form teacher which gives them stability and the opportunity to develop strong relationships with their teacher and peers. Students benefit enormously from being taught by specialist college teachers in technology, languages, music, drama and future problem solving.

## Environment

We offer your son an exciting opportunity to learn in a progressive and stimulating learning environment. We pride ourselves in providing a wide range of opportunities for our students that will prepare them for a bright future and allow them to 'take their place in the world.'

# What's unique

We understand boys and we understand the importance of dedicated preparation for the transition from Primary to Secondary Education. Nelson Preparatory School is purpose designed to optimise this transition.

We have identified our 'points of difference' which we believe are central to our uniqueness in educating and preparing boys for their future:

- Educators with knowledge and experience in teaching boys
- High interest units of study designed for boys
- Teaching of creative thinking skills and philosophy
- We know how boys think and how they like to learn
- Wide range of literacy programmes to suit all abilities
- Opportunities to develop leadership skills
- A clear and fair discipline system with consistent boundaries
- Boys are celebrated for being boys

## ENCOUNTERS PROGRAMME

### Active learning for boys

Every week boys participate in the Encounters Programme which supports developing boys through outdoor education. It takes into account differing learning styles and has an emphasis on real life experiences and hands-on learning. Encounters events include environmental education, cultural awareness, outdoor pursuits and involvement with the local community.





## The Academic

The Prep timetable reflects how reading, writing and maths dominate the daily programme.

### ENGLISH

Core literacy skills are taught daily with a range of literacy programmes of high interest to boys. Students will develop skills in creative writing, public speaking (through speeches and debates) and strong listening and comprehension skills.

### MATHEMATICS

Core maths skills are taught daily with a strong problem-solving component. Classes are streamed based on student's abilities. We use effective tracking of student's performance via national-based testing.

### FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING & PHILOSOPHY

These programmes develop and strengthen a student's ability to develop creative thinking skills and engage in real-life problem solving. It also helps to develop team work skills and improve oral and written communication.

### SCIENCE

We use a 'hands-on' approach to the teaching of science topics which will stimulate the interest of boys and teach them how scientific principles relate to the world around us. This gives the students an awareness of scientific concepts which helps to prepare them for Year 9 science at college.

**The academic programme also includes technology, languages, music, drama and physical education.**

## The Physical

We know that for boys to stay focused and enjoy school, they must be physically active and challenged on a regular basis. We have a strong sporting programme which features a range of individual, team, inter-house and interschool sporting events. We encourage the enjoyment of sport for its own sake.

We stress the importance of sport in the all-round development of healthy, young men, by providing the opportunity for regular physical education and weekly house sports events. We promote leadership skills through sporting events and encourage boys to participate at the top level of sport for their age-group.

### OUTDOOR EDUCATION

We aim to provide our students with:

- Outdoor experiences in all areas of the curriculum
- An appreciation for the natural environment and conservation management
- The opportunity to develop self-confidence and independence

### FIELD TRIPS

Our programmes include class camps to Nydia Bay in the Marlborough Sounds, the Abel Tasman tramp, West Coast bike trail adventure and many local trips. Year 8 students can also participate in the William Pike Adventure challenge.

## Sporting Activities

ATHLETICS
BASKETBALL
CRICKET
CROSS-COUNTRY
TOUCH RUGBY
MOUNTAIN BIKING
SOFTBALL
SKIING
SNOWBOARDING
VOLLEYBALL





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**PREPARING YOUNG MEN TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN THE WORLD**