



NELSON
COLLEGE

MATAKI LODGE

'Meet the challenge'

Respecting ourselves, others and the environment



Location

Matakitaki Valley
Murchison
Nelson Lakes National Park

Phone 03 523 9357



Year 10 Class Visits - Information for Parents

(This information is important - please read it carefully and in its entirety)

Background

Your son's class will be going to the Nelson College Lodge in the Matakaitaki Valley for one week. All Year 10 students make one class visit per year as part of their outdoor education programme and personal development. The Year 10 visit is a personal development programme that is run in an outdoor context. This is a fantastic opportunity and it is hoped that all boys attend the Mataki Lodge as part of their experience at Nelson College.

The Mataki Lodge was built in 1967 and the programme has run in various forms since this time. It is a unique component of the curriculum at Nelson College and is seen as an important element in the development of life skills and an appreciation of our natural heritage. It has been well received over the years and is fondly remembered by many past pupils.

Activities

Your son will be participating in an expedition style tramp that involves paced walking for significant periods (up to 6 hrs) with equipment. Students will be walking in bush and possibly above the bush line on tracks and routes. Their trip may involve crossing rivers and waterways. Students will be sleeping out for up to 4 nights under tent flies or in tents. Due to the nature of the trip it is important students follow the gear list and ensure they have appropriate clothing and equipment.

Safety

The programme is delivered by trained and experienced staff and instructors. The school is committed in providing a programme that is both safe and enjoyable. Your son's safety is of paramount importance and the Mataki programme operates a contemporary risk management system to ensure the highest possible safety. Despite these measures it is impossible to reduce all risks to zero and this is a factor that needs to be considered before sending your son. The school believes that risks associated with this type of activity are far outweighed by the opportunities that exist.

Behavioural Expectations

School rules apply at all times during the camp. Students are expected to show a high level of respect, responsibility, co-operation, personal hygiene, trust and common sense. It is important that students play their part in risk management. Students and parents are jointly liable for all repairs or replacement costs of lodge equipment or facilities caused by your son through deliberate or wilful damage (e.g. Graffiti) and/or any carelessness.

Any student whose actions that fall outside acceptable standards would result in their parents/caregivers being contacted and their being sent home without refund.

PROGRAMME AIMS

The main aims of the Year 10 programme are to develop:

The 4 T's of Mataki

- 1. Take Care of and Respect** one's self
- 2. Take Care of and Respect** others
- 3. Take Care of and Respect** the environment
- 4. Take these values home with you**

Students will have opportunities to develop:

- An awareness and understanding of themselves and others
- Increased sense of self responsibility
- Trust in themselves and others
- Enhanced confidence and self esteem
- Initiative and problem solving ability
- Leadership skills
- The ability to work as an effective team member
- An appreciation of our natural heritage
- Bush craft and camp craft skills
- Tramping and navigation skills
- The ability to set and achieve goals

Costs

The cost of the week is \$195.00 (\$165 for boarding students)

The cost of the camp is subsidised by the school including teacher relief costs.

This is your contribution to the overall costs of:

- (a) Transport to and from the Lodge
- (b) Food for the week
- (c) Running costs of the Lodge
- (d) Specialist staffing

If the cost is a concern for you, please discuss this with Grant Billcliff, Head of Department for Mataki. Nelson College aims to have all boys attend camp regardless of financial circumstance. We will do all that we can to assist all students to attend.

General

- (a) Please ensure that any dental and/or medical appointments are transferred to another week. Similarly, alternative arrangements need to be made if your son has a job after school. Inform any sports coaches that your son will be away for the week.
- (b) Please advise the Homeroom Teacher **immediately** if for any reason your son is unable to go.
- (c) Please ensure that payment is made to the Finance Office, by the Monday before the trip or by internet banking as follows:

Bank Account Name	Nelson College
Bank Account Number	03-0703-0365073-03

Please ensure payments are referenced to Mataki with your son's name and core class noted

- (d) Boys travel to Mataki by separate bus on Monday at 8.30 am and are due to arrive at the College at approximately 1:30 pm on Friday.
- (e) Each boy needs a packed lunch for Monday and snack/track food (chocolate, biscuits etc) to get him through the week. All other meals are provided.
- (f) Notify the Homeroom Teacher of any medical conditions or physical disabilities that your son has on the consent form.
- (g) Please ensure that your son has all items on the attached gear list. Essential items must be taken for the safety of your son and the group. Please discuss borrowing school equipment with HOD of Mataki if you have difficulty obtaining these items.

As part of being a Nelson College Student it is expected that all boys attend the Mataki Lodge camp. If you choose not to send your son on this camp please advise the school of your decision in writing or alternatively contact Grant Billcliff, HOD Mataki at least 2 weeks before the trip.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact:

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