



Hillmorton High School
Te Kura Tuarua o Horomaka

International Department: Pre-Departure Information

To assist you with your move to New Zealand, and studying at Hillmorton High School, we have prepared some information on:

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Arrival in New Zealand

You will usually be met at the airport by your host family and Mrs Cayford, our International Student Assistant. We will provide full details to you / your agent closer to your arrival.

New Zealand has very strict laws regarding what can be brought into New Zealand. Many food items cannot be brought into the country. The [NZ Customs](#) website has full detail.

Video bio-security arrival information is available with: [Chinese sub-titles](#); [French sub-titles](#); [German sub-titles](#); [Japanese sub-titles](#); [Korean sub-titles](#); [Mandarin sub-titles](#) [Spanish sub-titles](#); [Thai sub-titles](#)

Cell Phones

All international students at Hillmorton are required to have a New Zealand capable cell phone. You may choose to bring your phone from your home country and get a New Zealand SIM Card, or buy a phone here.

Complaints and Problems

We want you to be happy while you are with us at Hillmorton High School. If you have any complaints or problems, we encourage you to talk to the International Department staff, Ms Hunt, Mrs Cayford, Mrs Bennett, Mrs O'Byrne.

If they can't help you, you should talk with / email the Principal, Ms Brokenshire.

If Ms Brokenshire cannot help you, you should contact the Board of Trustees.

If the dispute is a very serious one and you are not happy with Hillmorton's solutions, you can contact:

- New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) for concerns and complaints about Hillmorton breaching the Code, or
- iStudent Complaints (for concerns and complaints about money or contracts).

NZQA is a government organisation and is responsible for administering the Code. They can provide and independent assessment of your complaint and will either investigate your concerns or advise you what you can do next.

For information on how to make a complaint, see the NZQA website, www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/make-a-complaint/make-a-complaint-about-a-provider/, or you can email them on qadrisk@nzqa.govt.nz, or call them on 0800-697-296.

iStudent Complaints is an independent service provided by the NZ government that can help you resolve concerns and complaints that are about money or contracts with an education provider. The service is free. The iStudent Complaints website is www.istudent.org.nz, their email is complaints@istudent.org.nz, and phone number is 0800-006-675.

Computers

Hillmorton is Wi-Fi throughout the school and you will use devices regularly as part of your study.

Students in Years 07 – 10 are required to bring their own chromebook.

Students in Years 11 – 13 do not need to bring their own device but are welcome to bring one if they want to. These can be connected to the school Wi-Fi. Devices will be provided as required.

Students' cell phones may not be connected to the school Wi-Fi

Departure / Flight Information

Please advise us, or get your agent to advise us, of your departure dates / flight information from your home country.

Disciplinary Policy

This was included in your Application Form and Contract of Enrolment. A copy is included in your Pre-Departure Pack for your reference.

Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice – the Code

Hillmorton High School is a certificated signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016.

Information about the Code is available on the [New Zealand Qualifications Authority \(NZQA\)](https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications/education/pastoral-care-of-international-students/) website.

A summary of the Code is included in your Pre-Departure Pack.

Electricity and Plugs

New Zealand's electricity is 230 / 240 volts, with international plug type I. You can buy adaptors here or bring them with you.

Getting Around

You can use [buses](#) to get around Christchurch. You can also walk many places, or you may choose to buy and ride a bicycle.

Homestays

You will be staying with a homestay arranged by the school. We will send homestay details and photographs to you once they are arranged. All our homestays are in our community.

Important Dates

A copy of important dates is included in your Pre-Departure Pack.

Insurance

You are required to have travel and medical insurance for your travel to and from, and time in New Zealand. We can arrange this for you through [Uni-Care](#). If you are providing your own insurance, please send us an English version of your certificate / policy no later than 01 December 2019.

International Student Code of Conduct

This was included in your Application Form and Contract of Enrolment. A copy is included in your Pre-Departure Pack for your reference.

Life in Christchurch / New Zealand

To find out more about life in:

- Christchurch go to, [ChristchurchNZ](#)
- Christchurch as an international student go to, [ChristchurchEducated](#)
- New Zealand as an international student go to, [NaumaiNZ](#)

Orientation

You will be involved in a four-day orientation programme, Monday 27 January – Thursday 30 January. It will cover things such as:

- ❖ getting to know other international students and staff
- ❖ an introduction to life at Hillmorton, in Christchurch and in New Zealand
- ❖ English testing
- ❖ academic counselling and subject selection
- ❖ timetable information
- ❖ stationery information
- ❖ uniform information and purchase.

Orientation Booklet

A copy of your orientation booklet is included in your Pre-Departure Pack. You will receive a hard copy on your arrival.

The orientation booklet includes information on studying at Hillmorton, and life in Christchurch and New Zealand.

Parent Portal

To assist in our communication with homes and families we have a portal access for parents / caregivers.

Via the portal parents / caregivers can check for general things such as the school's daily notices and school calendar, along with their child's details including, timetable, attendance, academic progress and school reports.

To access the portal the parents / caregivers will need to go to hillmorton.school.kiwi. They will be provided with their child's username and password once the student has commenced their enrolment.

Passport

Please bring your passport and your visa on your first day at school.

Reports

Reports are issued:

- End of Term One (early April): Progress Report Years 7 – 13
- End of Term Two (early July): Mid-year full Academic Report Years 7 – 13
- End of Term Three (late September): End-of-year full Academic Report Years 11 – 13

➤ End of term Four (early-mid December): End-of-year full Academic Report Years 7 – 10. You will get a copy given to you. They are also uploaded to the parent portal.

Refund Policy

This was included in your Application Form and Contract of Enrolment. A copy is included in your Pre-Departure Pack for your reference.

School Formal

Hillmorton's school formal in Term Three is for Year 12 and 13 students, and international students in Years 11 – 13. It's a dance party and students wear formal clothes. You may want to bring formal clothes (dress or suit) to wear.

Snow Programme

We are introducing a snow programme in 2020. Details are not confirmed yet, but students who are interested will have the opportunity to ski / snowboard up to six times during Term Three (July – September). If you are interested and have these items, it is a good idea to bring: jacket; ski pants; hat; gloves; goggles.

Stationery

You will be given a stationery list once you have completed your subject selection. You may like to bring some basic stationery items such as pens / pencils with you. Stationery can be bought from a range of shops such as: [Paper Plus](#); [Warehouse Stationery](#); [The Warehouse](#); [Whitcoulls](#). The shops all have big sales in January / February and stationery is very cheap then.

Subject Costs and Materials

Your international tuition fees cover most course costs. However, some resource-rich courses such as Outdoor Education, Technology Hard Materials and Food Technology have additional costs to cover materials.

If you are studying **Outdoor Education**, please bring: hiking boots / sturdy walking shoes; a water-proof jacket; thermal / merino underwear; warm clothing appropriate for outdoor activities; warm sleeping bag.

If you are studying **Photography**, please bring a camera. It does not need to be an SLR, but a phone camera is not suitable.

Uniform

Students in Years 7 – 12 wear uniform. Students in Year 13 wear mufti with a dress code.

A list of uniform items is included in the Pre-Departure Pack. We will help you organise your uniform.

We have some second-hand uniforms available for sale for short-term (10 weeks or less) students.

New uniforms can be purchased from [Mainland Uniforms](#) or [NZ Uniforms](#).

Many items are regulation Hillmorton uniform and must be bought here. However, there are some uniform items you may like to bring with you from your own country. Some suggestions are:

- shoes (plain, black leather)
- socks (over the ankle, white with the summer skirt; knee-length navy blue or black with the kilt; calf or knee length black with the trousers.)
- shirt or blouse (polo or white business style)
- trousers (plain black business style)
- navy blue scarf, gloves, beanie
- plain white tops (short or long sleeve) to wear under your blouse or shirt

We buy uniform from you when you are leaving if it is in good condition and you want to sell it.

Visas / NZeTA

Information on visas can be found on the [Immigration New Zealand](#) website.

You can study for up to three months on a visitor visa.

If you are studying for more than three months, you will require a student visa.

If you are planning to stay for three months or less, and you are from a [visa waiver](#) country, you do not need to obtain a visa before you arrive. However, you will need to obtain an [NZeTA](#).

Please bring your visa and your passport to school on your first day.