



THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

We are committed to developing students who are self-managing critical thinkers and are committed to providing flexible learning environments. We are about to undertake a wide scale building programme that will allow for modern, adaptable spaces and expected roll growth. A new Middle School building is due to open in 2020.

We seek to ensure that our learning programmes are relevant and engaging for our 21st century learners. The eight essential learning areas are integrated in exciting and meaningful ways where possible. There is strong focus on collaborative learning and teaching and 'mahi tahi/working together within the school and with outside partners.

Student voice is valued as part of the planning process. There is a focus on inquiry learning and the development of the key competencies thinking skills. We seek to provide learning programmes that are responsive to need, passions and interests.

Students today are digital natives. It is imperative that the digital classroom is part of their digital lives. We are committed to eLearning and developing responsible digital citizenship.

There is an expectation that all students will have their own device for use in the classroom. The preferred device in Years 7-10 is a Chromebook.

GETTING INVOLVED

A wide range of co-curricular activities is on offer at Hillmorton. We encourage students to get involved in the wider life of the school.

Students in Years 7 and 8 have the opportunity to experience a wide range of co-curricular activities. These include sport and cultural.

Students are able to be involved in cultural activities such as theatresports, ensembles, choir, dance and Showquest.

Students as part of their programme are involved in a variety of learning experiences outside the classroom.

Students participate in intermediate sport at Hagley or in school-based sports programmes. Leadership opportunities abound in this environment such as Middle School Council and the opportunity to serve in roles, eg. Librarians, Open Night guides and Technical Crew.





THE KEY BENEFITS OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS 7-10

- Fewer transitions provides stability in the crucial middle years.
- There is an emphasis on developing a strong community.
- A personalised learning journey is developed with all staff as your child grows through Years 7 to 13.
- In this stable and caring environment, students develop the skills and disposition needed for success in later qualifications.
- We offer an inclusive smaller learning environment where students are known and taught as individuals.
- Experienced specialist Year 7 and 8 teachers.
- Subject specialists in Science, The Arts, Technology, Physical Education and Languages.
- Access to secondary specialist facilities – fully equipped Science laboratories.
- Students are provided with abundant opportunities for personal development and passions.
- There is the opportunity to learn from senior students in a safe environment where senior students are role models.

THE SCHOOL HAS

- A teaching staff committed to being a professional learning community.
- A commitment to the pursuit of excellence and the highest of pedagogical practices ensures that all students will learn.
- A culture of collaboration and a focus on results means that every student is assured of an education that is second to none.
- A wide range of subject choice.
- A mid-size school, where students are able to be known by name and supported in small tutor groups and in 'Base Camp'.
- A unique Year 7 and 8 programme.

UNDERPINNING THE PROGRAMME OF LEARNING IN YEARS 7 & 8

- Literacy and Numeracy
- Tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori
- NZ Sign Language
- Digital citizenship
- Thinking skills and strategies

INSPIRING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, LEADERSHIP AND A LOVE OF LEARNING

Ensuring that each student is making sufficient progress and achieving to their "Personal Best - Nothing Less" is the primary focus at Hillmorton High School.

All students are encouraged to believe in their own ability. Developing this potential so that our students achieve to the best of their ability, is the driving force at the school.

A culture of continuous school improvement exists, where achievement in broad terms - academic and social is emphasised.

Our curriculum is broad, designed to meet the diverse needs of our school community. A full range of subjects across all the essential learning areas is available.

KEY FEATURES OF YEAR 7 & 8

BASE CAMP

Students belong to a base camp group and teacher and this is the basis of our pastoral care and learning at this level. Students spend 17 hours in Base Camp each week.

EXPLORE

Students work with specialists to explore their interests.

PASTORAL CARE

Each student in Year 7 and 8 is also a member of a Middle School tutor group, Years 7-10 that meets regularly each week. All students will also belong to a Whānau house.

Students in Years 7 and 8 are supported by Year 7 and 8 staff, a Dean and the Team Leader of Year 7 and 8.