



International Prospectus



**Burnside
High School**



Greetings and a very warm welcome to Burnside High School.

Burnside High School is a very successful and highly regarded school. We work hard to place you at the centre of everything we do, offering a wealth of opportunities in all aspects of your learning.

We provide a world-class education with a huge range of subject choices and opportunities that come from being one of New Zealand’s largest schools, yet our unique divisional structure offers you the warmth and encouragement of a smaller peer group.

Each year Burnside High School students achieve among the top NCEA results in New Zealand. They regularly win scholarships, as well as local, regional, national and international competitions. Our staff have high standards for themselves and high expectations of the students in their care.

At Burnside we strive to develop well-rounded, confident young adults who are equipped for our modern and changing world. Our school has a culture where we won’t rest until every student in our care is engaged and achieving. We believe that every student, every day, in every class deserves our very best effort and we strive to make sure that we live up to this expectation.

Burnside High School is a vibrant and lively school. We know that success can take many forms and all of these are valuable. Some of you will shine in the classroom, some on the sports field and some in the arts. Our emphasis



on delivering a broad and balanced education ensures that you can discover and follow your passion to experience success in any field.

While providing outstanding academic education is our core business, our strong focus on values-based education develops strong citizens who will flourish in both the local community and on the world stage. As a graduate of Burnside High School you will have a sense of community and service, and the ability to relate to and work with others, including those socially and culturally diverse.

We are proud that parents both locally and from around the world entrust us with the care and education of over 2600 young people every day. We know that a strong relationship between home and school significantly contributes to your success as a student, and we look forward to partnering with your family to make Burnside High School the place where you find your path.

Scott Haines
Tumuaki | Principal

Find Your Path Kitea tō ara

Embark on your journey at Burnside High School, where opportunities, connection, and excellence converge. Discover your place to belong, nurture your talents, and explore the endless possibilities that await. Find your path at Burnside.

Our students and staff are guided by the wairua (spirit) of the Tī Kōuka that stand on our grounds. Historically used as a guiding landmark by Māori and early European Travellers, the Tī Kōuka now symbolises the guiding of our students on their unique paths.

At Burnside, we believe in the power of potential. Our dedicated faculty and staff are committed to ensuring that every student finds their place, providing support, encouragement and the tools needed for success. Whether your passion lies in the sciences, the arts, technology, sports or community service, Burnside offers a diverse array of programmes to explore and excel in.

Discover your place among peers who share the same aspirations and enthusiasm for learning and achievement — this is a community where you truly belong, are valued and can thrive. At Burnside, we cultivate a welcoming inclusive school environment of mutual respect, inclusivity, and collaboration, enabling students to connect, grow, and learn from each other. Our vibrant community encourages students to embrace their individuality while fostering a sense of belonging and togetherness.

Find your path at Burnside, where your journey to excellence begins.



BHS values

We are led by our values

Bring respect
Manaakitanga



Have pride
Mana



Seek excellence
Rangatiratanga



Why Christchurch?



\$

Christchurch has a lower cost of living than Hamilton, Auckland, Wellington, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Newcastle.



Activities

For everyone — ski and snowboard, bungee jump, rock climb, mountain bike, river raft, kayak, surf, swim at safe beaches, golf, whale watch, swim with dolphins, visit gardens and enjoy the vibrant arts and culture scene.



2nd

Biggest city in New Zealand.



8,722

New residents in Christchurch in the last 12 months.



1000+

City parks — $\frac{3}{4}$ of which are in suburban neighbourhoods in greater Christchurch.



5 min

Drive between International Airport and Burnside High School.



1 in 5

People in Greater Christchurch were born overseas.



14

Ski Areas — nine ski and snowboard areas within two hours drive; 14 within three.



2413

Annual sunshine hours higher than Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin and Queenstown.



Our neighbourhood



1 Christchurch Airport

2 Russley Golf Course

3 Burnside High School

4 Jellie Park Recreation & Sport Centre

5 Cobham Intermediate School

6 University of Canterbury

A carefully designed pathway

In New Zealand, you take your place on a carefully designed education pathway proven to produce graduates with the skills to compete and succeed anywhere in the world.

Early childhood education is available from the age of three. You begin formal education at the age of 5 when you enter primary school.

From here, New Zealand's education system progresses through 13 'year' levels. Years 1 to 8 (ages 5 to 12) are spent at primary school, although some children spend years 7 and 8 in intermediate schools.

Secondary school, also known as high school or college, is where you spend years 9 to 13 (ages 13 to 18).

After secondary school, students have the option to go on to universities, institutes of technology and polytechnics, private training establishments or wānanga (Māori-based institutions).

Primary schools build a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy and introduce a broad and balanced curriculum.

Secondary schools focus on subject-based learning, with growing opportunities to specialise as you progress in your learning. At both primary and secondary schools, child-focused learning and independent thinking are encouraged.

Use this chart below to see how you fit into the New Zealand education system based on your age.

Approximate age		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Local school system	Year level	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	School type	Primary						Intermediate		Secondary				
	New Zealand qualifications	New Zealand curriculum, National Standards Testing										NCEA Level 1	NCEA Level 2	NCEA Level 3



Pathways to university

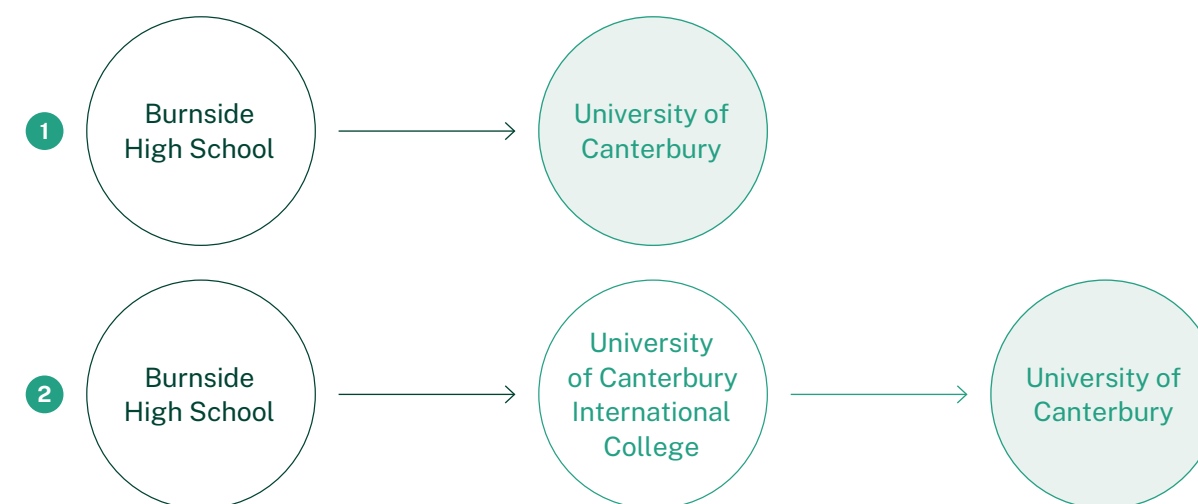
University of Canterbury International College (UCIC) gives international students an alternative pathway into the University of Canterbury's Bachelor of Engineering (Hons), Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Commerce degrees.

For students wishing to continue studying at tertiary level, University Entrance (UE) must be obtained during the final year of study at High School. **1**

For those high school students who are unable to obtain UE, an alternative option exists. **2**

Burnside High School is situated only 2km from the University of Canterbury (UC) making the transition to tertiary a more comfortable and familiar one.

For information on the various pathways to UC, please contact the International Department at Burnside High School: international@burnside.school.nz



UC
INTERNATIONAL
COLLEGE
TŪTE AO. CHRISTCHURCH. NEW ZEALAND

UC
UNIVERSITY OF
CANTERBURY
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

Current subjects



Year 9

Compulsory Subjects

English or ESOL
Mathematics
Physical Education & Health
Science
Social Studies

Optional Subjects

Arts

Visual Art
Dance
Drama
Music

Integrated Technology

Digital Technology plus 1 from:
Electronics Technology
Food Technology
Textiles Technology

Languages – ½ year or 1 year

Chinese
French
German
Japanese
Spanish
Te Reo Māori

Year 10

Compulsory Subjects

English or ESOL
Mathematics
Physical Education & Health
Science
Social Studies

Optional Subjects

Three for the year from:

Arts

Visual Art
Dance
Drama
Music

Technology

Digital Technologies
Electronics Technology
DVC (Graphics)
Multi Materials Technology
Textiles Technology
Food Technology

Languages

Chinese
French
German
Japanese
Spanish
Te Reo Māori

Or

BEA (Business, Economics & ACC)
Environmental Science

Year 11

Compulsory Subjects

English or ESOL
Mathematics
Science

Plus choose 3 options

Art – Digital
Art – Visual
Chinese
Classical Studies
Commerce
Construction (Building)
Dance
DT – Electronics, Mechatronics & Robotics
DT – Interactive Game Design
DT – Product & Digital Design
DT – Software Eng & Computer Science
Practical Computing
Drama
DVC (Graphics)
Employment Skills
Engineering
Food and Nutrition
French
Geography
German
Health Education
History
Horticulture
Hospitality – Food Technology
Hospitality – Food Studies
Hospitality – NZ Certificate Year 1
Japanese
Music or Contemporary Music
Music – Cambridge
Physical Education
Spanish
Te Reo Māori
Textiles Technology
Travel & Tourism

Year 12

Compulsory Subjects

English or ESOL

Plus choose 5 options

Accounting	French
Art – Design	Geography
Art – History	German
Art – Painting	Health Education
Art – Photography	History
Art – Printmaking / Sculpture	Hospitality – Food Technology
Biology	Hospitality – Food Studies
Business Studies	Hospitality – NZ Certificate Year 2
Chemistry	Japanese
Chinese	Legal Studies
Classical Studies	Mathematics
Construction (Building)	Media Studies
Dance	Music – Performance
DT – Electronics, Mechatronics & Robotics	Music – Contemporary
DT – Interactive Game Design	Music – Technology
DT – Product & Digital Design	Music – Cambridge
DT – Software Engineering & Computer Science	Outdoor Pursuits
Practical Computing	Physical Education
Drama	Physics
DVC (Graphics)	Science General
Early Childhood Studies	Spanish
Employment Skills	Sport Leadership & Performance
Engineering	Study
Economics	Te Reo Māori
Food & Nutrition	Textiles Technology
	Tourism
	Travel & Tourism Year 2

Year 13

Compulsory Subjects

Study

Plus choose 5 options

Accounting*	German*
Art – Design*	Health Education*
Art – History*	History*
Art – Painting*	Hospitality – Culinary Design & Food Technology*
Art – Photography*	Hospitality – Cuisine & Coffee
Art – Printmaking*	Hospitality – Food Studies
Art – Sculpture*	Japanese*
Biology*	Legal Studies
Business Studies*	History*
Construction (Building)	Maths – Calculus*
Chemistry*	Maths – Statistics*
Chinese*	Maths – Cambridge*
DT – Electronics, Mechatronics & Robotics*	Media Studies*
DT – Interactive Game Design*	Multi Materials Technology – Extension*
DT – Product & Digital Design*	Music – Performance*
DT – Software Engineering & Computer Science*	Music – Conducting*
Practical Computing	Music – Technology*
Classical Studies*	Outdoor Pursuits
Dance*	Physical Education*
Drama*	Physics*
DVC (Graphics)*	Science General*
Early Childhood Studies	Spanish*
Economics*	Sport Leadership & Performance
Employment Skills	Te Reo Māori*
Engineering*	Textiles Technology*
English – Visual*	Tourism
English – Extension*	
English – Contemporary*	
ESOL	
Food & Nutrition*	
French*	
Geography*	

*Means University Entrance approved subjects. Year 13 students intending to study at University should choose 4 approved subjects.

Yr 11,12 & 13 – DT is Digital Technologies.

All student courses are subject to the approval of the Principal.

Course counselling is available to all students.

This list was correct at the time of printing, however some courses are subject to change.

See relevant year level courses online for further details on all subjects listed:
burnside.schoolpoint.co.nz/courses/learning_areas

Leaders in learning

Burnside High School is a centre for academic excellence.

Reflected in its strong expectations of students and staff, emphasis on high quality teaching practices and in the outstanding achievements of many of the students.

The large school roll of around 2,600 students enables it to provide an extensive, diverse and specialised curriculum.



Mathematics

The Maths Department at Burnside High School uses both NCEA and Cambridge systems.

Talented senior students have the added option of taking Cambridge Maths (IGCSE).

BYOD

Burnside High School requires all students to have access to a laptop. Laptops are used on a daily basis for classwork and homework. Submission of most classroom work is also done electronically so having a device is vital.

ESOL

Junior Intensive Programme

This is for students aged 13-15 years. The weekly timetable consists of core subjects in the same class group for:

English — 8 hours
Mathematics — 3.5 hours
Science — 3.5 hours
PE — 2.5 hours

Senior Intensive Programme

This is for students who are aged 16 or 17. As these students are older, the focus is on academic coursework to prepare them for the national examinations.

English — 13 hours
Science — 4 hours
Mathematics — 4 hours

Students also study in mainstream Mathematics classes with New Zealand students, plus one option class of choice.



Music programmes

The International Music Programme (IMP) at the no. 1 Performance Music School in New Zealand

Be part of a full symphony orchestra with an international reputation.

National Champions in:

- Chamber Music
- Choral
- Jazz

Students receive:

- Individual tuition from a specialist teacher
- Subject specialisation — Academic, Performance
- Contemporary, Conducting and Music Technology
- Trips, tours, competitions and camps
- Many performance opportunities

Graduates have received full scholarships to:

- Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Singapore
- Berklee College of Music, USA
- Royal College of Music, London
- Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Australia
- New Zealand School of Music, New Zealand

Specialist Music Programme (SMP)

The SMP is designed to cater for students with considerable experience and talent as musicians. These students will maintain music as a focus throughout their time at secondary school. This programme is unique within New Zealand. Entry to the course is by audition and is open to all instruments and voice.



Music

Aurora Voices (Yr 9 & 10)
 Bel Canto (Yr 11-13)
 Big Band
 Chamber Music
 Chamber Music Ensembles
 Funk Band
 Jazz Combos
 Jnr. Concert Band
 Jnr. Contemporary Band
 Jnr. Guitar group
 Jnr. Jazz Band
 Jnr. Percussion Ensemble
 Jnr. Performance Choir
 Jnr. Rock Band
 Jnr. String Orchestra
 Magna Voce Choir (Yr 11-13)
 Orchestra
 Snr. Contemporary Band
 Symphonic Band



The Creative Arts

The Creative Arts are more than just extracurricular activities — they're an integral part of our curriculum, fostering innovation, critical thinking, and collaboration.

Visual Arts

Burnside High School Visual Arts department is known as one of the leading schools in New Zealand for Visual Arts education. High levels of success are well established with many students each year gaining Scholarship Awards along with Top Scholar Awards.

The Visual Arts department is large and vibrant, allowing for specialist classes in each of the five practical disciplines: Sculpture, Photography, Printmaking, Painting, and Design along with Art History. Each area is taught by specialists who are leaders in art education in New Zealand. Guest artists frequently visit to share their knowledge with students. Students are offered the opportunity to take part in overseas Art trips which visit the Art Capitals of the world; Melbourne, Paris, Florence, Venice and Rome.

Students wishing to take photography must bring their own DSLR camera and a high capacity external hard drive. Those taking design will need to have an appropriate quality laptop. The majority of students seem to prefer Macs but PCs are also used.



Dance

When you take the subject of Dance you will experience movement, explore your creativity and expression and have opportunities to perform.

Many different styles of Dance are offered: Contemporary, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Musical Theatre and Cultural to name a few. This is a physically active subject. A typical lesson involves a warm up and stretching, learning choreography, group work and rehearsal time with music.

Dance is a collaborative subject which means working with others in duets, trios or larger groups. You will also learn about the history and features of different styles, choreographers and dance companies along with how to choreograph and structure dances and effective rehearsal and performance techniques.



Senior Drama Production

Burnside High School students are extremely fortunate to have their own 650 seat, professionally fitted Performing Arts Auditorium. Each year our local community is privileged to experience exceptional student talent.

“Whatever your interests, passions, and curiosity, there is no restriction on your creativity at Burnside High School”

Linh Nguyen, Year 13



Sports and clubs



Burnside High School does exceptionally well, not only academically but also in the areas of sports and co-curricular activities. Each year dozens of students are selected to represent New Zealand in their chosen field. New Zealand representatives are selected for such sports as: volleyball, beach volleyball, gymnastics, diving, track cycling, fencing, golf, basketball, ice hockey, archery and sailing.

Sports

Summer

Athletics
Canoe Polo
Cricket — Club
Floorball
Futsal
Indoor Netball
Ki-o-rahi
Korfball
Lawn bowls
Mountain Biking
Rowing
Softball
Surfing
Swimming
Tennis
Touch
Volleyball
Water Polo

Winter

Badminton
Basketball
Cross country

Cycling

Gym sports
(gymnastics/
trampolining one-off
competition)
Fencing
Football
Hockey
Netball
Road race
Rugby
Snow sports
Squash
Table tennis

Year Long

Archery
Equestrian
Golf
Orienteering
Pistol shooting
Waka ama

Clubs

Amnesty
International
Art Film Club
BHS Robotics
Book Club
Chess
Climbing Club
Computer Hardware
Club
Debating Club
Duke of Edinburgh's
International Award
Environment Group
Evolocity
Dungeons and
Dragons
Future Problem
Solving
Fashion Show
Film Club
Feminist Group
Homework Club
League of Legends
LGBT+ Club

Literature Insight
Club
Overwatch Club
Philosophy Club
Slam Poetry
Speak Up
Anti-bullying
Spirit of Adventure
Tech Crew
World Vision
40 Hour Famine
Whānau Club



Recreational facilities

Climbing gymnasiums

Our two gymnasiums have recently been refurbished and the climbing wall has been extended. The school has an indoor climbing group which practises at school and also at the local climbing facilities.

Students that are 16 years and over are able to become members of the local University of Canterbury Recreation Centre. Registration enables students to join the University Climbing Club. Members climb at the facility each week.

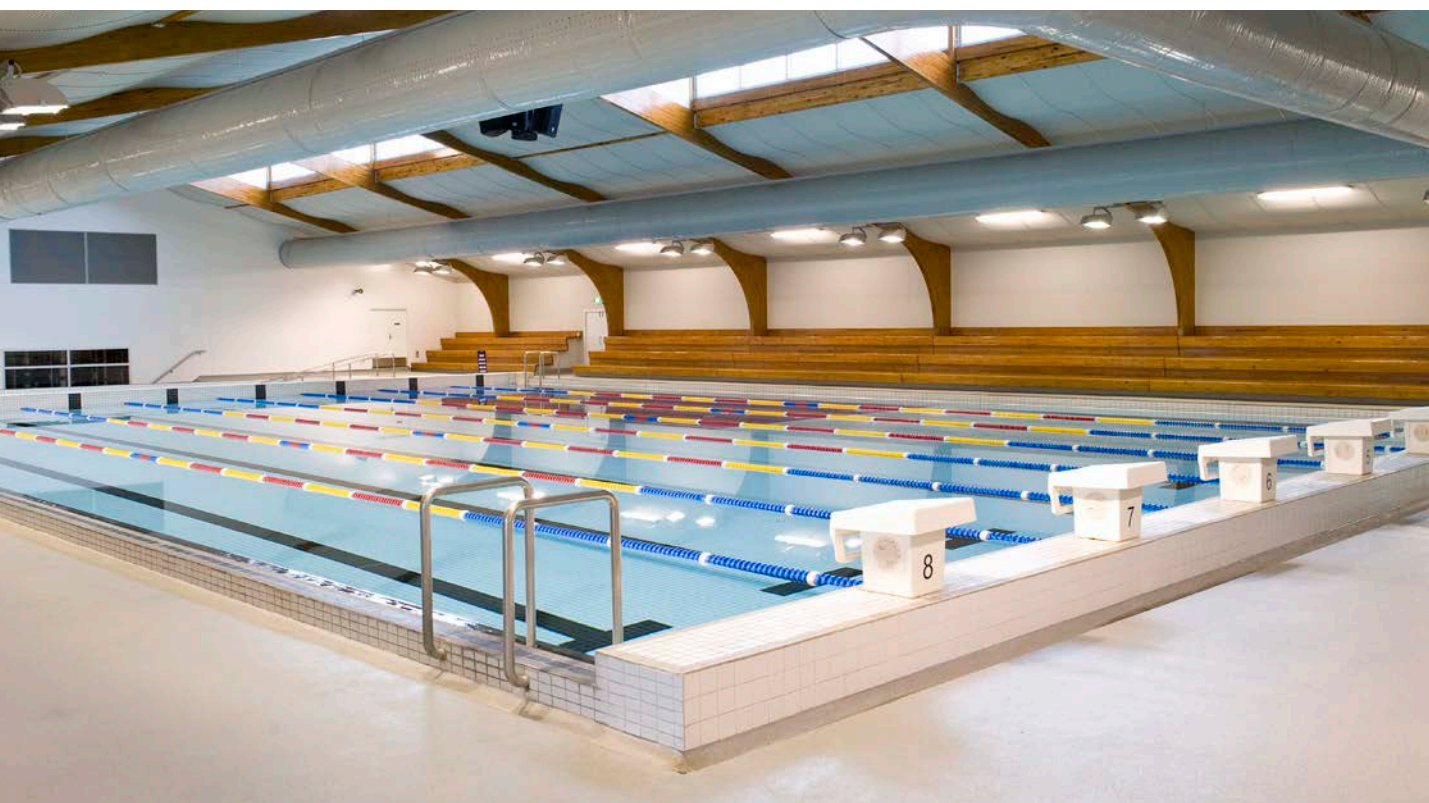
An additional option is to become a member at one of the climbing facilities in the city.

Swimming pool

Approximately 500 metres from our school campus is Jellie Park Recreation and Sport Centre. It is a city managed facility that is open to all of our students. Membership fees are minimal. Competitive swimmers are able to join squads if their skill level and length of study match the club's requirements.

Please visit both of the following sites for more information on fitness and swimming.

<https://www.ccc.govt.nz/rec-and-sport/rec-and-sport-centres/jelliepark> or
<https://jasi.swimming.org.nz>



Outdoor opportunities

Outdoor pursuits

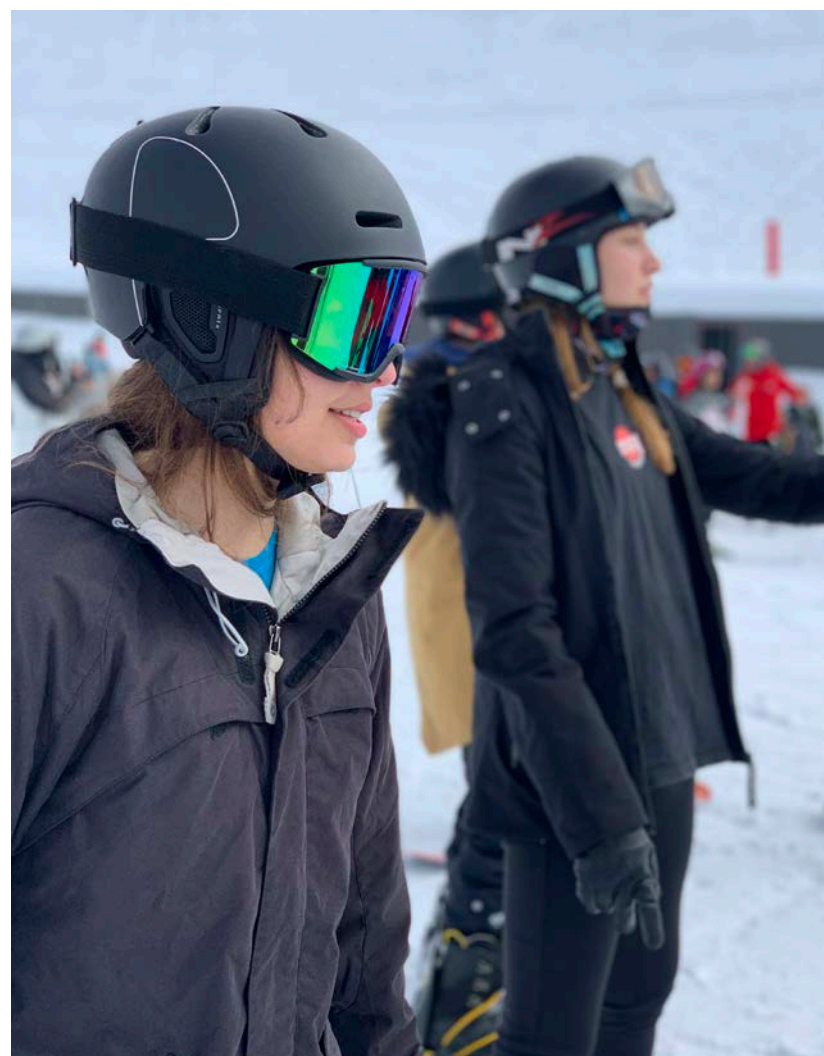
A very popular subject choice with International and Kiwi students. This course covers the following activities:

- White-water kayaking
- Mountain biking
- Tramping
- Orienteering
- First aid
- Rock climbing

The school pool is used in the initial stages of kayak training. Professional instructors are employed for all the outdoor activities. *Additional costs apply.*

International student Ski and Snowboard club

International students that are in New Zealand for language and cultural reasons, rather than focusing upon University Entrance (UE) may wish to be a part of the Ski and Snowboard Club. Members of the club travel to a local Canterbury ski field as often as once a week during Term Three if weather and student demand is ideal. Midweek skiing and riding offers open terrain and uncrowded slopes. Weekend ski trips and the opportunity to enter the school's competitive ski team are also options.



November programme

Nearly all senior students take the external NCEA exams starting in November each year. For those students who are not officially taking NCEA, Burnside High School offers an alternative programme. The itinerary can change but most years it includes such activities as:

- A one week trip to parts of the South Island
- A second and third week consisting of day trips

The following activities are usually included in these weeks:

- High-wire course
- Paint ball
- Surf school
- Cooking day

Transport, accommodation and entry fees are all met by the school (no charge to students).



Homestay families

The majority of students are accommodated by local homestay families. The International Department's Homestay Manager endeavours to place students in families that best match each student. Students normally walk, bike or bus to school. Homestay fees are paid directly to the school and the school, in turn, forwards the funds to homestay providers weekly.

Homestay families will provide a student with a fully furnished room of their own and three meals a day.

The hope is that students become part of the family they are living with and are treated as such.





Burnside High School

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