



Study at ACG in New Zealand

International Prospectus

Why study in New Zealand?

Everything you hear about New Zealand is true.

Our beautiful country boasts some of the world's most spectacular scenery and fascinating life forms (including hobbits!), and our cities are widely recognised as emerging knowledge centres of the Asia-Pacific region.

International students who study in New Zealand access a rewarding and highly-regarded study experience at the same time as enjoying our unbeatable Kiwi lifestyle.

New Zealand ranks highly on safety, security and transparent public sectors



#1

in the world
for corruption
transparency



#2

in the world for open
government



In top 20

safe and secure
countries

New Zealand has quality education and business opportunities



Top 3%

in the world for tertiary education



#3

in Worldwide Educating for the Future Index 2021[~]



In top 10

in 2021 Index of Economic Freedom[^]



Top country

#2 in the world for ease of starting a business



In top 20

most educated countries in the world

New Zealand is a great place to live!



In top 10

happiness countries in the world^{^^}



Quality of living

New Zealand ranked 12th out of 167 countries in the 2021 Global Prosperity Index, a survey that judges the education, worldwide safety and security, personal freedom and natural environment



In top 10

most peaceful country in the world 2021^{**}

[~]The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

^{*}Corruption Perceptions Index 2021, Transparency International

[^]The Heritage Foundation

^{^^}World Happiness Report 2021

^{**}Global Peace Index 2021, Institute for Economics & Peace

Auckland

New Zealand's largest city

About Auckland

As New Zealand's largest city, Auckland is rich in diverse cultures, friendly people and a huge range of things to see and do. With its rapidly growing population, economy and key industry sectors all offering great career opportunities, Auckland combines the energy and excitement of city life with a laid-back lifestyle.

Aucklanders believe in hard work but know that life outside is important too. Whether that's spending time at the beach with family and friends, joining a social sports team or making the most of the superb dining, shopping, entertainment, nightlife and outdoor activities at your fingertips.

A young city means innovative companies and start-ups are stepping onto the global stage. Auckland is New Zealand's economic powerhouse, with easy access to key international markets, particularly Asia Pacific. Additionally, it provides a safe, stable environment with excellent healthcare and a world-class education system.



Tauranga

Hub of the Bay of Plenty

About the Bay of Plenty

The perfect place to live and study, the Bay of Plenty is a picturesque region of New Zealand's North Island that really lives up to its name. It's famed for its lifestyle opportunities and a climate conducive to year-round outdoor activities, while a convenient public transport system allows students to move around quickly and easily.

One of New Zealand's fastest-growing regions and a favourite holiday destination for Kiwis and overseas visitors alike, the area is steeped in culture and history. It is renowned for its surf beaches, sunshine, fertile land and friendly people.

Although its main city, Tauranga, is experiencing considerable growth, it is still smaller than New Zealand's major centres. As a result, Tauranga families enjoy the tight-knit community feeling and relaxed atmosphere of a smaller city, with all the shopping, eating, schooling, and amenities of a larger one. It's truly the best of both worlds.

An **inspired** school

ACG schools are proud to be Inspired schools. Inspired is a leading global premium schools group operating across Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Currently educating over 70,000 students, its international network of more than 80 outstanding schools delivers proven best practice to ensure world-class learning.

What this means for you

As a co-educational, independent group, Inspired and ACG Schools aim to help students achieve their maximum potential in a well-balanced and nurturing academic environment.

Promoting a holistic educational experience, we believe in empowering students with the knowledge, attitudes and beliefs they require to embrace the challenges of their future. We focus on identifying and developing the individuality and talents of all students, building their confidence and equipping them to take on the world with the skills and self-assurance to ensure success.

We believe that the overall educational experience instils the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and values that students will carry with them for life. Our dynamic, relevant and powerful educational model sets a new standard in premium private education with handpicked teachers and a dedication to excellence that permeates every aspect of each school.

Integrating innovative, challenging and enriching academic, performing and creative arts and sports programmes, our students leave with outstanding results, a love of learning, confidence and a firm value system that prepares them for tomorrow's world.

Additionally, for ACG Schools, Inspired's global reach allows us to offer considerable benefits to both our students and staff. This includes the opportunity to enjoy international exchanges and summer programmes in many Inspired schools.

World-class education in New Zealand

We offer a world-class education at our four independent, co-educational schools. Whichever school you choose, your child will receive the highest level of education from excellent teachers, covering an internationally recognised curriculum.

Our schools

Each school, while different in style and approach, shares a single goal – to help students achieve their potential.



ACG Parnell

Early Learning–Year 13 | Parnell



ACG Strathallan

Early Learning–Year 13 | Karaka



ACG Sunderland

Early Learning–Year 13 | Henderson



ACG Tauranga

Early Learning–Year 13 | Tauranga





Study with ACG Schools

Building brighter futures

Excellence in academic achievement is the central focus at our schools, supported by a culture of inclusivity and care. Each school, while different in style and approach, shares a common goal: to help every student achieve their potential.

Whichever ACG school you choose, your child will receive the highest level of education from specialist teachers who are leaders in their fields, delivering an internationally recognised curriculum and qualifications which are respected by universities and employers worldwide.

A well-rounded education provides much more than reading, writing and arithmetic skills – it empowers young students to grow personally, socially and emotionally,

encouraging them to maximise their potential both in the classroom and beyond the school door.

Our student-centred approach to education means that we believe student wellbeing and personal development are of equal importance to academic progress. Our sports, arts and technology programmes provide a balance to academic life and ensure students develop as well-rounded, confident individuals with a wide range of abilities.

Our commitment to building bright futures has driven our successful growth from a single school in 1995 to become the largest independent school group in New Zealand. Each ACG school has a strong

track record in delivering outstanding education alongside a quintessential 'Kiwi' school experience. Students are given every opportunity to 'future-proof' themselves for the modern world with internationally recognised qualifications and essential skills for success.



We care about our students

We understand that for students to achieve their best they must be happy, comfortable and well supported. The wellbeing of children in their formative years is our top priority as educators, and we place great importance on the nurture and care of each student.

We make sure that everything we do at ACG Schools is in strict accordance with the New Zealand government's Pastoral Care of International Students Code of Practice.

ACG Schools provides:

- Orientation programmes for new students
- English Language Learner support
- Low student–teacher ratios
- A personalised tutor system, to help students set goals and evaluate their achievement
- A community website portal - MyACG, to help parents connect with their child's education
- Opportunities for younger students to mix with older students to foster inter-level connections
- Deans and support staff dedicated to international student wellbeing
- Homestay accommodation (with close checking of students under 18)
- Cultural activities



Academic qualifications

All ACG schools offer the Cambridge International Curriculum to students from Primary level to College, culminating in the internationally recognised and respected A-Level qualification.

Cambridge International Curriculum

Widely regarded as setting a global standard for education, the Cambridge International Curriculum is a learner-centred, enquiry-based syllabus that provides structure and transparency to ensure students are engaged and focused.

Accordingly, Cambridge International is the educational curriculum of choice for more than 10,000 schools in over 160 countries. Not only is it a gateway to top global universities, but it prepares learners for success both in New Zealand and internationally.

By offering the Cambridge Curriculum, ACG Schools provides an education of the highest calibre, delivered by passionate teachers who are specialists in their subject fields. High-achieving students are extended through accelerated learning, while academic and extracurricular programmes provide all students with enriching experiences and extraordinary opportunities.

Beginning in Primary school, students follow a 'pathway' through to College where they study the flexible, challenging and inspiring Cambridge IGCSE, AS and A-Level programme.

These Cambridge qualifications are highly valued internationally as evidence of academic ability. The qualifications equip students with the deep subject knowledge required to succeed at university and beyond, as well as the independent researching and critical thinking skills so valuable to students' future outcomes.

Progression through school

Early Learning 3 months–5 years



- Adapting to a structured environment
- School readiness programme
- Self-expression
- Socialisation
- Language development
- Problem-solving
- Low student–teacher ratios
- Individualised support

Middle School Years 7–10



- Specialist teaching in all subjects
- Accelerated learning programmes
- Regular homework
- Comprehensive reports twice a year
- Subject-specific classroom facilities
- Extracurricular opportunities in sports and the arts
- Leadership opportunities

Primary School Years 1–6



- Focus on literacy and numeracy
- Cambridge Primary programme
- Specialised subjects: Music, Art, PE, Science
- Sports and arts extracurricular activities
- Small classes
- Safe, welcoming environment

Senior School Years 11–13



- Focus on academic success and future pathways
- Cambridge IGCSE and A Level programmes
- Variety of subject options
- Specialist teaching in all subjects
- Support and mentorship
- Leadership opportunities
- University application support
- Career support
- 24/7 pastoral support for all students



Early Learning-Year 13

Academic excellence, inner-city campus

ACG Parnell sets the highest standards, delivering outstanding education in a vibrant urban learning setting.

ACG Parnell's reputation as one of New Zealand's top academic schools is well-known, but there is much more to us than just academics. We provide a dynamic, welcoming environment where children receive a high level of individual care and attention and encourage our students to explore a variety of subjects and activities to help them maximise their potential.

A word from the principal ...

"Offering a seamless learning journey, ACG Parnell welcomes international students looking to study at one of New Zealand's premier academic schools. Our academic focus and outstanding English support programmes ensure our students achieve entry into the finest universities both nationally and around the world."

– Damian Watson, Principal



Find out more:

parnellcollege.acgedu.com facebook/acgparnellcollege [@acg.parnell](https://twitter.com/acg.parnell)



What makes us so special?

Academic success



Known for outstanding academic success, we elevate students of all ability levels to perform at their best.

Extracurricular opportunities



Our students participate in multiple extracurricular activities, from sports to cultural exchanges and interest clubs.

Exceptional values



Building strong core values, we inspire and empower our students to make a positive difference in the world.

Student story

ACG Parnell alumnus Sidhaarth Kumar is flourishing in the Master of Physics (MPhys) programme at the University of Oxford. Described by his tutors as "extremely focused, talented and motivated", the undergrad is making his mark at the renowned Balliol College with outstanding academic results, an active social calendar and a wide group of friends.

"My teachers at ACG Parnell presented me with many chances to enrich my education," he confirms. "These opportunities helped me develop the ability to study independently - an invaluable tool as a university student.

"Additionally, doing Cambridge exams was particularly useful for transitioning to university study in the UK. The interview process was well suited to students with a solid foundation in the relevant A-Levels, and I felt that I was on a level playing field with local students."



– Sidhaarth Kumar

Early Learning-Year 13

Top-level academic schooling in a welcoming community

ACG Strathallan offers a wide variety of sports and extracurricular activities supported by a strong focus on academic achievement.

Recognised as one of Auckland's top-performing schools, ACG Strathallan delivers a world-class, holistic education across all year levels. We encourage our students to strive towards personal and academic success in a nurturing, inclusive and respectful setting.

A word from the principal ...

"It is my pleasure to introduce ACG Strathallan, the perfect environment for learning. We know it can be difficult being so far away from home, so we ensure our international students have the additional support that they need to be happy and successful."

- Danny O'Connor, Executive Principal



Find out more :

strathallan.acgedu.com facebook/acgstrathallan [@acg.strathallan](https://twitter.com/acg.strathallan)



What makes us so special?

Stunning location



Our expansive campus is situated in a semirural location with highly resourced classrooms and beautiful outdoor areas.

Exceptional pastoral care



Our expert teaching team nurture, support and encourage students to perform to the best of their abilities.

Well-rounded students



Focusing on overall development, we offer a wide range of extracurricular activities to enhance school life.

Student story

Stephen Hawking's book 'A Brief History of Time' was a life-changing read for ACG Strathallan alumnus Jeonghyeok Park. Not only did it inspire Park to follow his passion for physics, but it was also the driving force behind his dream to study at one of the world's most prestigious universities.

"Studying at Cambridge University has been an astonishing experience. I was expecting a large workload, and the university exceeded my expectations, but many of the skills and lessons I had learned at ACG Strathallan helped me to manage it.

"The university offers so much learning, and you meet so many brilliant people with inspiring stories. I've formed friendships with undergrads from diverse social and academic backgrounds. I've also attended a few activities organised by the Korean Ethnic Society in Cambridge, which helped me adapt to university life."



– Jeonghyeok Park



Early Learning-Year 13

A high-achieving and close-knit school community

ACG Sunderland has a reputation for developing a strong sense of belonging across all year levels and offering personalised support to students underpinned by excellent pastoral care.

Our dynamic academic programme is supported by a diverse range of sporting, cultural and extracurricular activities with an inclusive culture, authentic family values and a keen sense of pride in our traditions.

A word from the principal ...

"At ACG Sunderland we have dedicated staff ready to assist international students with their transition to study in New Zealand. Students are all mainstreamed into academic classes with integrated ESOL classes. Many of our international students have had wonderful successes at ACG Sunderland and I personally welcome your application."

- Nathan Villars, Principal
Chairman of the Association of Cambridge Schools in New Zealand (ACSNZ)



Find out more:

sunderland.acgedu.com facebook/acgsunderland [@acg.sunderland](https://twitter.com/acg.sunderland)



What makes us so special?

Traditional values



Showcasing our school motto of 'aspire, succeed, respect', our educational philosophy centres around a strong values system.

Supportive community



A shared objective connects our dedicated community: to ensure all students are committed to achieving at the highest of their abilities.

Academic success



With the guidance of our expert team of specialist educators, students of all abilities continue to excel on the academic stage.

Student story

Recognised as the Top Cambridge A-Level student in New Zealand in 2020, Junheng (David) Li has left a legacy of excellence across ACG Sunderland's Senior school.

The recipient of the 2020 ACG Founders' Scholarship (valued at up to \$75,000 over three years), the top scholar and talented musician, is currently attending the University of New South Wales. Studying a Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine (BMed/MD), David plans to pursue a career in medical research specialising in pathology and immunology.

"When I heard that I had been awarded the ACG Founders' Scholarship, apart from feeling elation and a good deal of surprise, the greatest feeling was gratitude. I would like to thank ACG Sunderland for creating an environment that allowed me to succeed and, across the cumulative years, allowed me to reach the position I am in now."



- Junheng (David) Li



Early Learning-Year 13

Excellent education in regional New Zealand

Away from city stress, ACG Tauranga offers families the unbeatable combination of the best in education in a beautiful and relaxed part of the country.

ACG Tauranga provides exciting educational pathways for families seeking the best for their children. Academically focused and values-driven, our dynamic, nurturing environment recognises every student as unique, championing individual growth and promoting a lifelong love of learning.

A word from the principal ...

"At ACG Tauranga we provide a world-class education in one of the most beautiful and progressive cities in New Zealand. A truly inspiring and culturally authentic experience awaits you."

- Thea Kilian, Principal



Find out more:

tauranga.acgedu.com facebook/acgtauranga [@acg.tauranga](https://twitter.com/acg.tauranga)



What makes us so special?

Well-rounded students



We combine a holistic education with exceptional pastoral care to nurture, support and empower our students to succeed.

Vibrant location



Our expansive campus in a semirural location is the ideal home for our growing sports programme.

Inclusive environment



Our warm, welcoming and caring community emphasises respect and diversity to ensure our students thrive.

Student story

Alumna Chelsea Good certainly made the most of her time at ACG Tauranga. One of the school's top scholars, she was also a star athlete, talented musician and active student leader. Yet, she credits the support and guidance she received from the school as a significant contributing factor to her success.

"I cannot stress how much I appreciated the teacher support I received at ACG. Every single teacher went out of their way to ensure we felt comfortable with the content we were learning, safe in the school environment, and on top of our health and wellbeing."

Furthermore, the ACG community itself has positively impacted Chelsea to ensure school life was so enjoyable.

"I loved the tight-knit community we had at ACG Tauranga. I was with my class for years, and we formed a solid bond that makes the school environment unlike any other."



– Chelsea Good

Accommodation

International students may choose to live with their parent(s) or a residential caregiver. However, to get the most out of experiencing New Zealand life, we encourage students to live with a family in homestay accommodation.

Homestay

Homestay accommodation involves lodging with a local family who will help international students settle into daily life in New Zealand. It offers students a safe and secure environment and immerses them in an authentic Kiwi experience.

The programme includes a comfortable, fully furnished bedroom with a desk and internet access. Meals are provided for breakfast and dinner Monday to Friday, and breakfast, lunch and dinner on weekends, public holidays and school holidays. Laundry is also included.

Homestay Plus families accommodate up to two international students at a time. A separate bathroom is available for the student(s).

- All accommodation arrangements are thoroughly checked – each homestay family is interviewed, and the home is inspected to our satisfaction before we arrange a student placement.
- All homestay providers sign a contract agreeing to specific rules and standards and undergo a vetting procedure by the New Zealand Police.
- All students under 18 years of age are visited in their accommodation a minimum of three times per year by homestay staff.
- All payments are made to the homestay provider by ACG Schools.
- A homestay is an excellent way for students to get to know some friendly New Zealanders, develop their English skills and get a close-up look at our Kiwi culture and way of life.

Homestay accommodation and holidays

Students under 18 years are expected to return home to their parents or legal guardians for the duration of the New Zealand summer school holidays (December to January) and holiday periods greater than two weeks.

Student apartments

Student apartments are available in Central Auckland for students aged 18 years and older who seek independent living with a full range of facilities. All apartments are self-catering.

Details are available on request.

For current homestay fees and charges, please visit the International Students page on our website at acgedu.com/international-students/accommodation/homestays





Future outcomes

University pathways

At ACG Schools, we firmly believe in preparing our students for success, happiness and fulfilment in their lives beyond our classrooms. Many ACG graduates choose to continue their education at a tertiary level and have been accepted to top universities in New Zealand and around the globe.

To help our students navigate the constantly changing tertiary landscape, senior cohorts at ACG schools enjoy the benefits of specialist university guidance services, which provide a wide array of customised advice and support. Our dedicated staff ensure students are kept up to date with the entry requirements to the best universities worldwide and assist them in applying for scholarships and completing application forms.

Regular meetings are scheduled with students to discuss university pathway options, and our schools also hold parent evenings during the year to explain the university application process. Plus, parents are welcome to contact us directly with additional questions or concerns.

Accordingly, our students can access a wealth of knowledge and expertise through a combination of university guidance and career information available in school. Furthermore, we liaise with national and international universities and arrange for their representatives to visit our schools, and we encourage our students to participate in organised university visits.

The following universities are just some of the institutions where ACG Schools graduates have been accepted:



Entry requirements

English language

Students who speak English as a second language will need to demonstrate their proficiency.

ACG Parnell | ACG Strathallan | ACG Sunderland | ACG Tauranga

Years 1–6 Preferably some prior exposure to English

Years 7–13 Exposure to English is a requirement. Students may be asked to sit an online English test to highlight any gaps in their prior learning before an Offer of Place is sent. Students will also be tested on arrival at the school and placed in a programme of study that matches their English level and academic ability. Please note that students are not required to present an IELTS score.

Start dates

Students are welcome to apply for entry into ACG school programmes throughout the year. Please visit your preferred ACG school's website for current term dates.

Student fees

To learn about our current student fee schedule for your preferred ACG school, please visit the International Students page on our website at acgedu.com/international-students/fees/acg-school-fees

Scholarships

We welcome scholarship applications from students with a strong academic background in their current school, who are eager to make a positive contribution to their ACG school. Scholarships of up to 20 percent of tuition fees are available. Students are selected following the submission of their application, a personal letter of support and an interview with our ACG International team.

Please contact our ACG Schools International team for more information and detail on how to apply.

Code of Practice

ACG Schools is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 (the Code). Published by the New Zealand Ministry of Education and administered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), the Code is designed to ensure international students are well informed, safe and properly cared for. Read more about the Code, and ACG School's obligations, at nzqa.govt.nz/the-code

How to apply



Step 1 — Application

Student submits:

- completed application form (which can be downloaded at acgedu.com/international-students/application-process/how-to-apply)
- copy of most recent school report, or other qualification(s)
- colour copy of passport
- documentation confirming English language proficiency

ACG Admissions:

- Receive and review application
- Email Offer(s) of Place and Schedule of Fees



Step 2 — Enrolment

Student:

- Pays all fees
- Sends completed Enrolment Acceptance form and Acknowledgment form
- Sends subject requests (if applicable)

ACG Admissions:

- Issue receipt and confirmation letter
- Issue Code of Practice-compliant accommodation confirmation (for students under 18 for student visa application)



Step 3 — Completion

Student:

- Applies for student visa
- Informs ACG of flight details

ACG Admissions:

- Arrange accommodation (if requested)
- Organise airport greeting and transfer (if requested)

Find out more

Contact us: admissions@acgedu.com

You may also find the following websites helpful:

acgedu.com

enz.govt.nz





All enquiries and application to:
ACG Schools

PO Box 6199, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142, New Zealand
T +64-9-306-0440 | E admissions@acgedu.com | W acgedu.com

Every effort was made to present accurate information in this publication at the time of printing (January 2023). ACG Schools reserves the right to change information without notice where this is considered necessary or desirable.

An **inspired** school