

Kia Ora

Thank you for choosing our school, we're excited that you're coming and are sure you are going to have a really wonderful experience in New Zealand. Starting at a new school and in a new country can be a pretty daunting experience, so we have included some information here to help make the start a little easier.

Flight Details

If you haven't already, ***please send us your flight details***. We need this to arrange airport collection if you're staying with a homestay family. When booking a return (round trip) flight, we recommend booking a flexible return date ticket, you never know if things might change!



We suggest that you book a flight that arrives either

1. Tuesday 21st - Thursday the 23rd of January
or
2. Tuesday 28th – Wednesday the 29th of January

Option two is the best option. Arriving a week earlier without knowing anyone can feel a bit...disappointing!

Auckland has a public holiday on Monday the 27th, lots of our host families will take advantage of this to have a long weekend from Friday the 24th – Mon 27th so **avoiding** arriving on these four days would be really appreciated!

Homestay placement

Homestay placements are incredibly important, and we want to get them right. Placements will be released when we have received your fee payment, flight details and when enrolments have, "settled down".

Our process is to make provisional placements as applications are accepted. Then, as we develop a clear picture of the entire cohort, we make final adjustments to arrange the best placements possible. Placement will be with you shortly.

Homestay contact

When you receive your host family's information, please contact them (we also ask them to contact you). Our families are lovely and contacting them is an important step in getting to know each other, talk about airport collection and confirm phone numbers etc.



Stay in touch

Stay in touch with your parents and homestay family (or representative) **during** your travel.

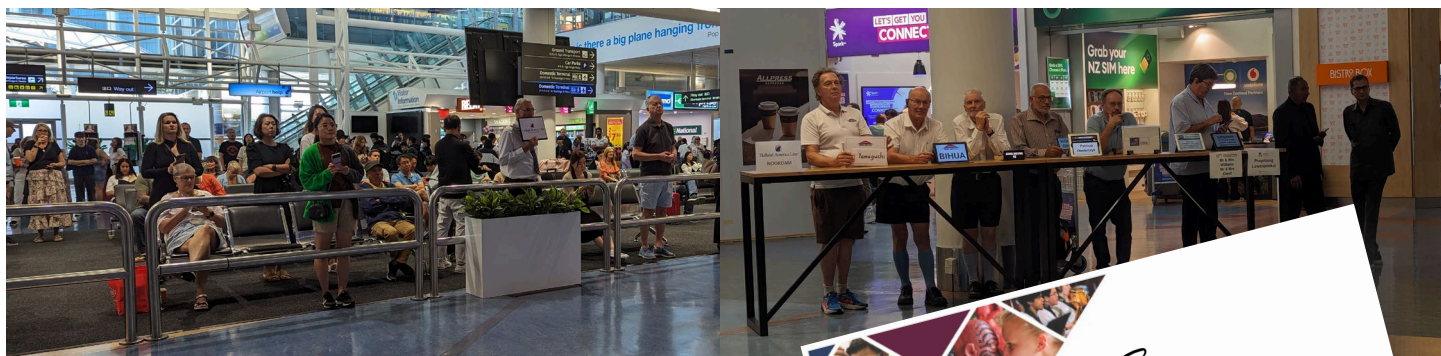
- If you miss a flight, are arriving early or arriving late let everyone know.
- Contact everyone as you **collect your bags** to let them know you have arrived
 - Processing times at Auckland Airport are notoriously long. Processing and Bio-security may take hours.
- Host families live about thirty minutes from the airport so may not leave home until you contact them.

If there are any problems connecting with your caregiver call our Emergency Number: +64 21 140 0454



At the airport

Your host family will be ready to collect you in the Arrivals area either directly opposite where you exit or to the left. They



will have a BDSC Welcome sign with your name on it.

Uniform

For a uniform price list and more information, visit the college website at www.bdsc.school.nz.

Our Uniform Shop, located to the right of the college reception block uses an online booking system. The shop will be open for 20-minute appointments from Monday, 20 January 2025, to Saturday, 1 February 2025.

You can access the booking system starting Monday, 25 November 2024, from 9 am. The system will close on Friday, 31 January 2025, at 4 pm. Visit www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and use the code: 4d2f2 to book your appointment. After booking, you will receive an email confirmation. Please bring this confirmation with you to the appointment.

See you soon!

Enda McKenna & Andrea Donovan

2024, from 9 am. The www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and

Orientation

Friday 31st of January

- Bring:
- Morning tea, visa, pen, laptop and insurance policy (if you booked your own)

- 8.45am – arrive at school, go to the international office
- English testing
- timetabling
- Orientation
- Log into school network

1.30pm: Students released for the day

Monday 3rd of February

- Bring:
- Morning Tea , pen, laptop

- 8.30am: – arrive at school, go to the international office
- Powhiri for all new students
- Continue orientation
- Meet buddies
- Timetabling
- 1:30pm – Orientation finishes

Year 9 students will attend orientation with their year 9 classmates and will be allocated into their classes after the Powhiri

Tuesday 4th of February

Year 9 and 10 - Bring: Pen, laptop

arrive at school:

8.45am year 9 to go to tutor class to continue in class orientation

Year 10: Orientation with year 10 classmates

10.00am: Years 11 – 13 arrive at school to complete orientation

11.30am: ALL new international students will go to Maraetai Beach for Fish and Chips lunch

*Buddies are students who have volunteered to help you have a great start at school

Parent Portal

Your reports, academic summaries and attendance are always available on our [website](#). Your caregivers will be sent login information for the website once you have completed your first day.

Choosing subjects

International students studying from year 10 and above will be able to choose some of their subjects alongside our compulsory subjects: Please find the link to below to assist you with your choice.

Yr 10: 3 options https://www.bdsc.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/Year-10-Option-Booklet-2024-for-2025_FINAL.pdf

Yr 11: 3 options: https://www.bdsc.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/Year-11-Option-Booklet-2024-for-2025_FINAL.pdf

Yr 12: 5 options: https://www.bdsc.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/Year-12-Option-Booklet-2024-for-2025_FINAL.pdf

Yr 13: 5 options: https://www.bdsc.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/Year-13-Option-Booklet-2024-for-2025_FINAL.pdf

A timetable will be created for you prior to your arrival but there will be opportunities to make changes in the orientation programme.

Uniform

The approximate cost of a new school uniform will be NZD\$400. Please make sure you have enough cash or a credit/debit card available to purchase your uniform. Caregivers are often able to help you get to school to purchase your uniform.

Our uniform rules are strict, this is an important method of maintaining high expectations in school. It can be disappointing to discover that (in particular) your shoes may not be allowed, because of this, we recommend that school shoes are purchased onshore.



The following types of shoes are the approved styles for girls:

			
Amy Number One Shoes	Young Original Senior Mary The Warehouse	Clarks Elise Mary Jane Hannahs	Clarks Pearl Hannahs

The following types of shoes are the approved styles for boys:

			
Stefano Number One Shoes	Young Original Roman Sandal The Warehouse	H&H Ruble The Warehouse	Rufus Hannahs



Unfortunately, items of clothing that do not meet uniform expectations will need to be corrected at your expense.

Travel

We encourage you to travel during your stay on supervised trips, we can advise and help you to book. We only recommend reputable companies, all these trips are accompanied by supervising adults and specifically cater for teenage international students with appropriate supervision, activities and accommodation. Their websites are here, book early to avoid disappointment as these trips can book out quickly!

<https://www.kiwianatours.com/>

<https://www.nzet.com/>

To ensure your safety, trips with any other companies must be obtained from the school **before booking**.

School trips

We have school-led trips in Term 1 to the Bay of Islands and in Term 3 to Rotorua. These are exclusively for International students and our staff accompany the trips. They provide a great opportunity to make new friends and experience New Zealand.

Travel Outside of Auckland

Any travel outside of Auckland should be requested via the international office one week before any bookings are made. Permission will not be given for travel that is not adult-supervised, even if you are over eighteen. The school will not be responsible for the loss of any funds if travel is booked that is ultimately not permitted. We have travel outside Auckland forms, which need to be filled in at least a week prior to the trip, available in the international student department office.



Sleepovers

To ensure your safety students are only permitted to a sleepover with families who are current homestay families of our school. Students are not permitted to stay overnight with families/students from other schools without pre-approval. This is also true for International students at other schools, they will not be granted permission to stay overnight with BDSC families without pre-approval.

Dates

		START	END
SEMESTER ONE	Term 1	31/01/2024	11/04/2025
	Term 2	28/04/2025	27/06/2025
SEMESTER TWO	Term 3	14/07/2025	19/09/2025
	Term 4	06/10/2025	19/12/2025* *
			** To be confirmed

Stationery

All students are **required to bring a laptop**, this will be your primary means of working.

You should bring your own pens, pencils, eraser, calculator **and laptop**. Textbooks will be provided by subject areas as required. Some subjects require a workbook. These will be an additional cost and are ordered online from <https://www.myschool.co.nz/>.

Medical Insurance

If medical insurance has been arranged through us and you need to see a Doctor, you should:

- pay the doctor directly
- request the receipt and doctor notes
- collect an insurance claim form from the International Office
- we will help you to complete the form and submit the claim.

Policy details are available on request

If you have booked your own medical insurance, please ensure that we receive a full transcript of the policy **immediately**.

No international student can be enrolled until we have reviewed their insurance policy.

Opening a bank account

We strongly encourage our international students to open a local bank account if they are studying with us long term: one year or more. We supply a letter to the bank from the school which is required in order to open an account. We have a number of banks they can choose from which are located at Botany Town Centre. Please ask our administrator for this letter during orientation.