



**MOUNT MAUNGANUI COLLEGE**  
**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT**  
**PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION**

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL - Alastair Sinton

Nau mai haere mai ki Mount Maunganui College.

The world is changing. However, with change there are some things that will always remain true. Hard work, strong values and great education will guarantee success no matter what the future holds.

At Mount Maunganui College we value the diversity that international students bring to our school. We always learn as much from you as you do from us.

Our broad curriculum, legacy of academic excellence and focus on high quality teaching and learning complements our extensive co-curricular programme and makes certain there is a place for all young people at Mount Maunganui College.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school whānau.

**Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa**



## IN THIS BOOKLET

We want you to feel as comfortable and prepared as you can before you depart for New Zealand (NZ).

Within this document, we aim to give you helpful information to navigate your new life in New Zealand. We have carefully considered information that we know will help you to get the most out of your experience. Please take time between now and your departure to read through this information so you are well informed about what lies ahead.

We look forward to welcoming you to our college and wish you a safe journey to New Zealand.



## THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT STAFF



**Mr Alastair Sinton**

**Principal**

Mr Sinton is a passionate educational leader who proudly oversees one of the top-performing public schools in New Zealand. He believes in the power of diversity and firmly believes in developing global networks to strengthen understanding and tolerance.

Alongside spending time with his young family, Mr Sinton is an avid surfer and spends as much time in the ocean as his busy schedule allows.



**Mrs Maz Roberts**

**Director of International Students**

Mrs Roberts has a passion for international education and is always striving to deliver a first-class educational experience. She is dedicated to ensuring students have an enriching, memorable and safe time while studying with Mount Maunganui College.

Mrs Roberts has three sons. She is an avid hiker, skier and traveller.



**Mr Hayden Burns**

**Head of Department International Students - Academic / ESOL**

Mr Burns is a history teacher who has taught at both Mount Maunganui College and schools in the United Kingdom. In addition to teaching history and ESOL, Mr Burns is dedicated to guiding our international students in a pathway that aligns with their academic goals and aspirations. He has two teenage children and is very interested in both participating and watching a variety of sports, but particularly rugby (in the winter) and cricket (in the summer).



**Mr Lance Talstra**

**ESOL Teacher**

Mr Talstra is a compassionate ESOL and English teacher who works extra hard to enable his students to achieve. He carries a wealth of knowledge and always has fun ways for students to learn. He has walked the length of New Zealand and has many great stories and 'Dad jokes' to share.



**Mrs Kristine Petitpas**

**International Assistant (incl. Homestay)**

Kriss is the first face you will see when you visit the International Department. She loves working with our students and has a bubbly personality. Kriss and her family live locally, have two dogs and they love all that living in our beautiful region has to offer.



## MOUNT MAUNGANUI

You have chosen Mount Maunganui for your own personal reasons. You will have already done a lot of research about this place you are coming to and we hope you will be very happy with your choice when you get here.

When you arrive you will be greeted by one of New Zealand's top beaches and the view of Mauao (Mount Maunganui). Mauao is the sacred mountain at the entrance to Tauranga Harbour. Its name, meaning '**caught in the light of the day**', comes from the Māori legend in which Mauao was once a nameless mountain, spurned in love by the beautiful mountain Pūwhenua.



Even if you are not a regular walker, the 30-minute walk to the top is a 'must do' while you are here. Choose a beautiful day, gather your host family / family or some friends, and make your way up. The view over Mount Maunganui, Pāpāmoa and Tauranga is not to be missed. Sunrises are spectacular!

We are lucky enough to have access, only a short distance away, to beautiful waterfalls, bush walks, lakes, activities and attractions. Most host families love showing the area to their student and so you are welcome to make suggestions to them of things you may like to see and do (you may need to pay for some of your own activities).



## CLIMATE

Mount Maunganui / Tauranga is a sub-tropical climate zone with warm humid summers and mild winters. A typical summer daytime ranges from 22°C to 26°C however it can exceed 30°C. Winter daytime maximum temperatures are around 12°C to 17°C, but cooler mornings are normal (as low as 0-2°C). You can find yourself putting warm layers on in the morning, which are then too hot by lunchtime.

Tauranga sees much sunnier days than many other parts of New Zealand and sea breezes often occur on warm summer days. June to August are the most unsettled, rainy months of the year.

New Zealand has four distinct seasons: a hot, dry summer peaking in February, a cooler autumn, a clear and crisp winter and then a milder, moist spring. New Zealand homes have fires, heaters, and electric blankets to make winter a pleasant time. However, our homes are generally not as well heated as your own country's may be so expect to wear an extra layer of warm clothing indoors.



The sun is very strong in New Zealand and you will need to use sunscreen to protect your skin, particularly during Summer and Spring (December to May). For more information around the New Zealand climate, click [HERE](#).

## TRAVEL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

All international students are required under the New Zealand Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 to have full and comprehensive insurance from the date of departure from their domicile country until the date of return to their domicile country. Comprehensive insurance is also a requirement of a Student Visa.

The insurance requirements can be viewed on page 23 [HERE](#).

Please note that if you are bringing anything valuable (i.e. camera, phone, laptop etc.), you MUST have copies of the purchase price (i.e. proof of purchase or receipt) as you may not be able to claim for insurance if you don't have these.

If you have a current medical condition, we MUST know about this condition, not only for insurance purposes but so we can assist you if you become unexpectedly ill and to also ensure your host family (where applicable) knows.

Mount Maunganui College currently holds a master plan with Uni-Care Insurance. Uni-Care Student Insurance – Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Please ask your Organisation to contact us if you would like Mount Maunganui College to arrange insurance for you.

If you source your own insurance, you will be required to provide a copy of the policy (in English) before or during school orientation.

## VISAS

It is compulsory for ALL international students to have a visa whilst studying at a secondary school in New Zealand. Students studying in NZ for less than 12 weeks may study on a Visitor Visa, otherwise a Student Visa is required. On the Student Visa, it must state Mount Maunganui College. All visa information is available on the following website: <http://www.immigration.govt.nz>. You may also be required to advance purchase an NZeTA. [CLICK HERE](#).

Please ensure you or your organisation make your visa available to us prior to arrival.

## NAUMAI NZ

The New Zealand Government has set up a user-friendly website to help international students navigate their experience in New Zealand. NauMai is your place for information on life as an international student in New Zealand, with information and suggestions to help you find your way and to connect with and explore your new home. Before you arrive in New Zealand take some time to have a look at the website [HERE](#).



NauMai NZ is the official government site providing trusted information and help for international students studying or about to study in New Zealand.

## WHEN TO ARRIVE IN NEW ZEALAND

If you are living in a host family, they will be available to welcome you up to 5 days before orientation. Orientation is compulsory for all students.

## PASSPORTS AND PASSENGER ARRIVAL CARDS

When you arrive in New Zealand, you will need to be carrying a passport that is valid for at least six months beyond your intended departure date.

On arrival, you will need to complete a passenger arrival card before passing through Passport Control / Customs. An arrival card will usually be given to you during your flight. If not, cards are available in the Passport Control area. There is also an app to complete a digital arrival card. Download NZTD (New Zealand Traveller Declaration) from the app store and complete the customs information 24 hours prior to arrival. Click [HERE](#) to find the appropriate links.

Passenger arrival cards provide information about what you can and cannot bring into New Zealand. Because New Zealand is an island, it is **very** strict on what is brought into the country to protect its plants, animals & agriculture. It is important to be familiar with this form. Take time to have a look at a sample [HERE](#) to familiarise yourself with this form. Ensure that you ask the cabin crew if you have any questions. If in doubt, ask customs and declare any food, animal or plant products.

After you have cleared Passport Control, you should collect your baggage and then present your arrival card to the Customs Officer. Follow their instructions. You may be asked to put your luggage through x-ray screening. You will often see dogs on patrol. They are trained to detect if you are carrying food, currency, or illegal imports. If in doubt, declare it! Do not bring any food into NZ (unless you declare it) or you will be charged a fine on arrival.

Other information about arriving in New Zealand from the New Zealand Customs Service can be found at [HERE](#).

## ARRIVAL IN AUCKLAND

Make sure you send your flight details to us as soon as you have booked your tickets. Look closely at your tickets as your arrival is often an entire day ahead, as NZ is the first place to see each new day!

**You made it! Your adventure in New Zealand begins.** Auckland airport is very small in comparison to some other international airports around the world, so you shouldn't get lost but if you do – don't panic. Ask an official in uniform inside the terminal for their assistance.



### Flying to Mount Maunganui / Tauranga Airport

If you have more than one hour from when you clear NZ Customs until your domestic flight departs, there is a bag drop area in the Air New Zealand section of the international terminal where you can do 'bag drop' for your domestic flight. You then just have to make your way with your carryon luggage to the domestic terminal. There is a free bus transfer, or you can follow the 'green line' painted on the footpath outside that reads "Domestic Terminal".



Once you make your way to the domestic terminal you need to go to the regional gates, which are at the far left of the terminal (opposite end to McDonalds). All of the flights to Tauranga go from the regional area.

When you arrive at Tauranga airport you will be met by a member of the International Department team and your host family.



## CULTURE SHOCK – ARRIVING

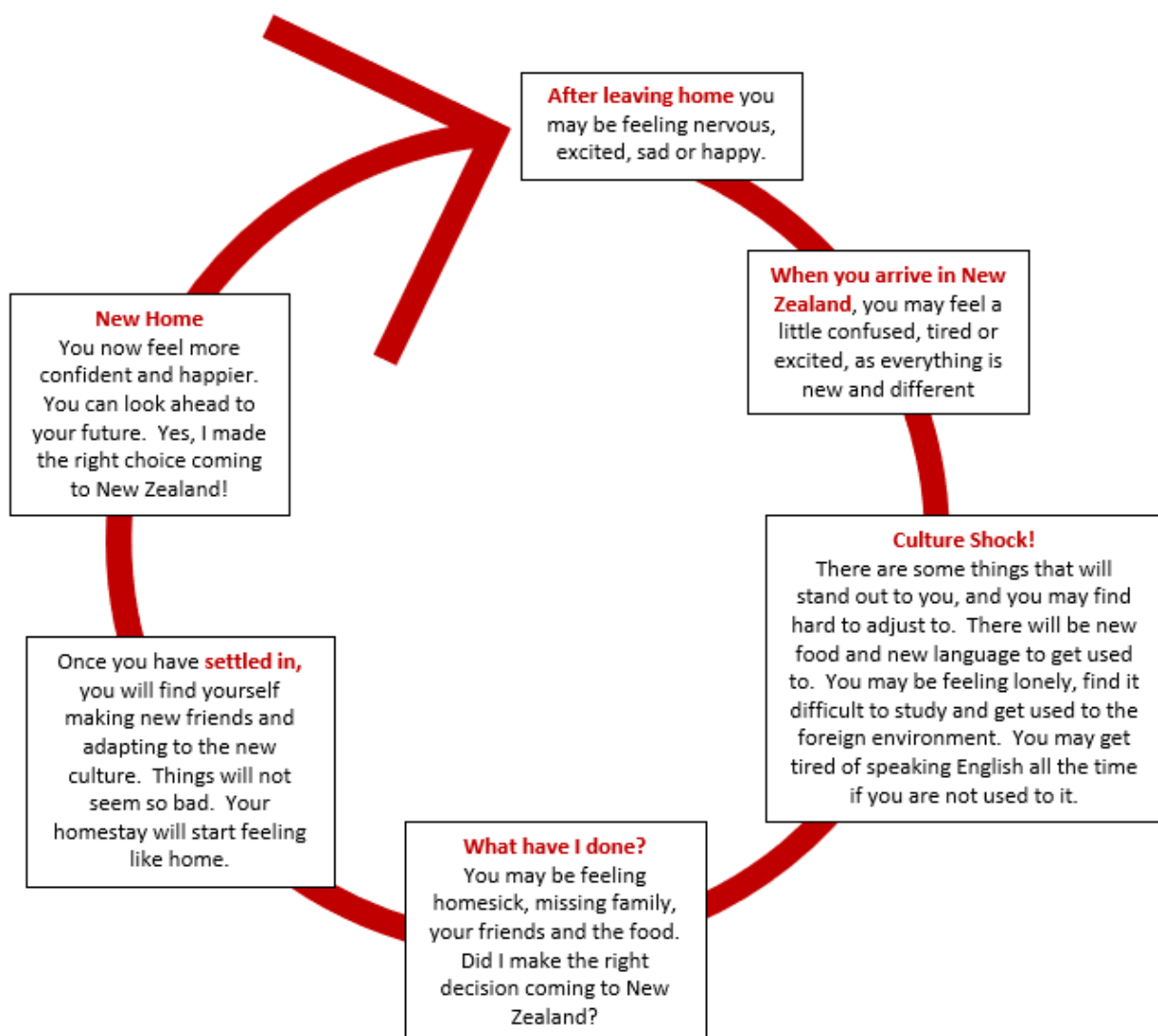
Some good ways to successfully minimise and overcome culture shock are to read about the place where you will be staying and the things you will be doing. Also, if possible, speak with someone already living in the new environment. Your host family is a great place to start.

Once you arrive, keep in mind that people and customs may be very different from what you are used to. Having realistic expectations and realising that difficulties and misunderstandings may occur will help you manage situations more effectively when they do. Keeping an open mind will allow you to find solutions to those problems that may arise. Where possible, interact with the local population. Do not succumb to the temptation to isolate yourself, even if it is within a group of compatriots. Join a club or group as a great way to get involved and keep you occupied.

Locals will generally be pleased to introduce you to their culture and willing to answer questions. Don't be afraid of making mistakes. When you are eager to learn, people are usually more than willing to meet you half-way and learn from you in return.

Find ways to keep in touch with family and friends at home. Sometimes you just need to talk with someone who fully understands who you are and your culture. Keeping in touch also makes the homecoming process much easier, particularly with your friends.

“It's not necessarily better or worse, it's just different”.



## HOMESTAY FAMILIES

We carefully match you and your host family. We get applications from host families from our local community. If we think they are suitable, we then visit the home and interview the family. If we are happy with them, we then get everyone over 18 years old in that house Police Vetted by the NZ Police Department to make sure they are suitable to host.

Every host family is different. There are single parents, older or younger couples, families with or without children and same sex couples. Sometimes families also host other international students. Most of our host parents work (both mother and father). You will always have your own room. It is common for the children / students in the house to share a bathroom.

When you arrive, talk to your host family about what to do with your dirty clothes so they get washed. Most families have a washing basket and you will just need to put your dirty clothes in the basket so they get cleaned. Students may be expected to help with some household duties which is very normal for New Zealand families. There will also be house rules to follow, for example, there may be limits on length of time in the shower or watching television / being on devices. These house rules will vary between families.

We hope that you will have made some contact with your host family prior to your arrival in New Zealand. This contact is a very good way to build a connection with them prior to your arrival and makes the settling in process easier. If you are unsure of your homestay placement when you first arrive, we will ask you to get to know them and try to work things out. Most often, any small problems can be sorted out with a simple conversation and is often just a misunderstanding between two cultures. It is very normal to feel overwhelmed and we are here to help you. If this approach still doesn't work, we will do our best to move you to another suitable family. There are sometimes personality clashes, which we understand. We want you to feel as happy as you can in New Zealand, and a good relationship with your host family is a major part of your experience. Except for particular circumstances, you are required to stay in your homestay for four weeks before requesting a change in order to give it a good chance of working.

If you damage any property in your homestay, please be honest and tell your host parents so you can work out a way to fix the problem.

It is expected that you keep your room clean and tidy and dispose of all rubbish, especially when you move out.



## A TYPICAL DAY

The day in New Zealand generally starts at about 7am when most people get out of bed. The weekend is Saturday and Sunday, and often people will wake up later on these days. It is usual to have a shower first thing in the morning and then have breakfast. Breakfast may consist of toast, porridge, cereal or eggs.

During the weekdays, work and school start at about 8:30am and end at about 5pm (school for children ends at about 3pm). Lunch is usually half an hour to an hour, taken some time between 12pm and 2pm. People generally come home in the late afternoon or early evening (about 5pm to 6pm) and families are likely to have dinner together sometime between 6pm and 8pm. It is common for New Zealanders to spend time together in the evening, talking or watching TV. Usually, people go to bed sometime between 9pm and 11pm.



In the weekends many people go out to visit friends, cafés, movies, activities or restaurants. It is usually only on weekends that people stay up late.

## FOOD

Your host family will provide your meals 7 days per week (3 meals per day and a weekly allotment of snacks). In NZ we tend to eat sandwiches for lunch and a hot cooked meal in the evenings. You might find this hard to get used to if you normally have a cooked meal in the middle of the day. You should make your own lunch as New Zealand students predominantly bring a packed lunch to school on weekdays. You will need to ask your homestay / caregiver what is available for lunches. Try to avoid eating too many unhealthy snacks and takeaways during the day and remember that you will be having a cooked meal in the evening. Most families eat a hot dinner at around 6pm. 'Luxury' food items or additional snacks and food will likely need to be purchased by you.

It is also a nice idea to help around the house at dinner time – perhaps ask if you can help by setting the table, helping to cook dinner every now and then and / or doing the dishes. Why don't you bring a recipe from home and cook it for your new family? Mealtimes are a great way to practise your English. Your family can teach you a lot about New Zealand so ask lots of questions. Just remember, food in New Zealand may be different to what you are used to – it might be good to try it first, then if you decide you don't like it, politely let your host family know.

## SPENDING MONEY AND GENERAL LIVING COSTS

Spending money is a personal decision to make. We suggest for an international student, anywhere from NZD\$80 – NZD\$100 per week is a good estimate. Ubers, buses, and taxis may be more expensive than you are probably used to.

Mount Maunganui College has charged you a contingency fee. This amount will vary depending on the length of your stay (up to NZD\$2000). The Contingency Fee is available for your course costs, school uniform, school excursions, sports etc. Anything above the amount charged will need to be paid for separately.



## CURFEWS IN HOST FAMILIES

New Zealanders go to bed quite early by international standards and there is not a vibrant nightlife for those under 18. Discussion and communication are the key to curfews working well with you and your host family. The most important thing is to ask permission from your host parents. This communication is common courtesy and for your own safety.

Compared to many countries New Zealand is very safe, however, things can still go wrong. To ensure we are providing you with a happy and safe experience, Mount Maunganui College sets maximum curfew times for our international students. These vary and may change at any time however you will be given notice of these when you arrive. Remember that, just like at home, every family is different, and your host family is no exception. Your host has the authority to set a curfew earlier than the maximum school curfew time, to suit their home and your proposed activity. We expect that, after seeking their permission to go out, you will keep your host family informed on what you are doing, where you are going and who you will be with, so that they know when to expect you home and know where to find you should they need to.

Students who socialise on a Friday or Saturday evening (we don't expect that you will be out both nights, every weekend) need to ensure they have permission from their hosts, along with a safe plan for getting home. Our preferred option is that a host parent picks you up, but other options are taxis and Ubers. Travel home together whenever possible as this helps you to spend less on transport and keeps you safer.

## CAN I HAVE FRIENDS TO MY HOMESTAY?

Your host family will treat you like a family member, so you may ask if friends are able to visit. Make sure you ask your host parents before you have your friends over. When they leave, please ensure you have not made a mess and if so, get your friends to help clean up. "Many hands make light work".

If you wish to have friends (MMC international students) stay the night, it is entirely up to your host parents. If they say no, please respect their decision. It is always polite to thank the host family when you leave a friend's house.



## INTERNET AND TELEPHONE USE

Most of you will have cell phones, as will your homestay families. Make sure you exchange numbers with all members in your homestay family so you can phone or text (message) them when necessary. Please ask your host family about the internet rules for the home before using the internet. They may have a limit on their high speed internet usage.

Try not to spend all your time on your device when you are at home with your host family. Take the time to be a part of their lives and allow them to be a part of yours.

## GETTING PLACES

In NZ you will not have a driver to drive you places. You will need to be very independent in getting yourself to and from events, sports practices, shops etc. We expect your host parents to treat you just the same as their own family. Sometimes you will get picked up and other times you may need to catch a bus, walk or bike (bike helmets are compulsory by law in NZ).

Your host family will make sure you can get to school on your first day.

At orientation you will receive the local bus card (BeeCard). You will need this card to access the local bus system and school buses. Keep it in a safe place as you will need to pay for a replacement (NZD\$5) if you lose it.



The school bus is free to students between certain hours. However, as it is a swipe on swipe off system you will need your BeeCard to enter the bus. All other times the bus can be used using the BeeCard. You will need to keep your BeeCard 'topped up' to use it and this can be done with cash on the bus.

## BUS SCHEDULES

The local public and school bus information is found on the following website. You may wish to have a look [HERE](#) before you arrive to familiarise yourself with the services. The TRANSIT app is also a very good way to locate bus times. You can download this from your app store.



## BANK ACCOUNTS

Students who are in New Zealand for one year or more may be able to open a New Zealand bank account. If you would like more information, please see the International Department once you have arrived and are settled into school.

## WORKING IN NEW ZEALAND

If you are in Year 12 or 13, have a Student Visa, are here long term and have attended Mount Maunganui College for one year or more, you may be able to work part-time, up to 20 hours per week, and full-time during scheduled holidays. If you are interested in this possibility, please read more about it [HERE](#).

## CAN I DRIVE IN NEW ZEALAND?

International students cannot drive or own any motor vehicles, cars or scooters. New Zealand has a graduated driver licensing system. So, if your 'Kiwi' friends offer you a ride, it is your responsibility to ensure that their licence is a 'full' (green) licence which allows them to carry passengers. Generally, a person will need to be a minimum of 18 years to have a full licence.



## SMOKING, VAPING, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS IN NEW ZEALAND

Our primary focus during your stay in New Zealand is your safety. It is also a requirement that you adhere to all New Zealand laws.

As an international student you have agreed to the Code of Conduct and Accommodation Requirements with regards to complying with New Zealand law and safe behaviour. Any breach of these conditions will be treated seriously, and the disciplinary policy will be applied.



Serious and / or repeat breaches may result in the early termination of your enrolment.

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Once you arrive in New Zealand, we have a 24-hour, seven day a week, international student telephone contact for EMERGENCIES ONLY: 027 3255 204. Please program this number into your phone once you arrive.



In New Zealand, the number for ALL emergency services, Fire, Police, Ambulance, is **111**.

The New Zealand emergency services are very professional and are here to help. Please do not hesitate to call them if you find yourself in a situation where you require their help.

## BEACH SAFETY

We are incredibly lucky to be located alongside a stunning surf beach on the Pacific Ocean.

It is very important to remember that, as beautiful as our beaches in New Zealand are, they are part of an ocean and can therefore be unpredictable.

New Zealand has far too many drownings each year because people underestimate the power of the ocean or take unnecessary risks.

New Zealand has a surf lifesaving service which operates during the warmer months. The lifeguards are there to assist and are happy for you to approach them to get beach information for the day. It is important to always take note of any advice they offer around the part of the beach you are on as things can change quickly.

The patrols place flags at safe swimming spots when they are on duty. If there are no flags it is either not safe to swim, you are at a part of the beach that is not patrolled, or they are off duty and therefore not watching the water.

Some of the main hazards on our beaches are:

**RIPS** - Rips are strong currents of water flowing away from shore through the surf zone. Rips are one of the major hazards on New Zealand beaches and can be deadly.

**TIDES** - Changes in the tide can affect the conditions in the water in a number of ways. They can change the wave action or cause rips and other currents to form.

**WAVES** - It's important to be able to recognise different types of waves, as some are suitable for swimming, and some can be very dangerous.

**HOLES** - A hole is exactly as its name suggests - a deeper area of the shore bed, which can take unsuspecting swimmers by surprise.



Some important key messages are:

- Swim between the flags
- Never swim or surf alone
- Always tell someone where you are
- If in doubt, stay out
- Know your limits
- Wear sunscreen

To get more in-depth information about staying safe in the water, please take time to visit the New Zealand Surf Life Saving website [HERE](#).



## ROAD SAFETY

Mount Maunganui is flat so it is easy to use a bicycle. New Zealand law requires all cyclists to wear a cycle helmet, securely fastened on their head. This law is for your own safety, so please observe this law at all times. If you intend to bring a bike to school, please bring a lock to secure the bike in the college bike lockup area.

We drive on the left side of the road, and this may be different to what you are used to, so you need to be very careful when crossing the road – make sure you look both ways. Remember to look right first, then left, then right again, then cross the road. Each year in NZ there are accidents with international students who are knocked over on the roads by cars. This is potentially the most dangerous thing you will do whilst in NZ. Please be VERY careful.

## TRAVELLING AROUND NEW ZEALAND

Our international student programme offers the opportunity for students to participate in some well thought out trips around the local and surrounding areas. These trips will be at your own cost and you will receive notification of them prior, so that you can discuss it with your parents as to whether or not the trip is suitable for you. From visiting Hobbiton movie set, to bubbling mud pools, to ziplining and more, there is plenty for everyone. Our office will let you know if you have contingency funds available for use to attend the trip.

You can also travel around New Zealand during the April and September school holidays if you are with an approved tour company. We approve NZET as an international student tour operator. You can view the tours on offer, and book, here:

- New Zealand Educational Tours: <https://www.nzet.com/>



All travel without an MMC host family **must** be approved in advance, so please make sure you get used to talking to us before you go anywhere outside of the Tauranga area. We want you to see as much as you can in New Zealand however, your safety is our paramount consideration.

Discuss your plan with one of the staff in the International Department. **Do not make any non-refundable bookings before you have approval from the school.** Travel without your MMC host family will not be approved during the **first four weeks of a semester, nor in the last four weeks of a semester**, except in exceptional circumstances.



Please note that time off school for travel without an MMC host family will not be granted, due to the requirements of your student visa and the school attendance policy, unless you are travelling with your natural parents or relatives.

The enrolment contract does not require Mount Maunganui College to facilitate travel without an MMC host family or an approved tour operator. Approval is at the discretion of the Director of International Students and is on a case-by-case basis.

You are automatically permitted to travel with an MMC host family.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Students are expected to attend all their timetabled classes, on time and ready to participate, as part of your enrolment contract requirements.

If you can't be at school, your caregiver / host parent must call the school to advise. If you arrive late or become unwell, you need to report to either the International Department or the Student Reception.

Students are **not** permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day, even at break times.



## YOUR FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL

On the first day of school, you will be greeted by the International Department team. You will join other new students for orientation. Your host family will know what time and location for your arrival on the first day.










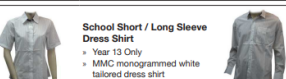









You should ensure you bring with you lunch and snacks (your host family will provide you with these), a drink bottle (water), a pen and paper to take notes if you wish. You will also need to bring your device (i.e. laptop), passport, insurance, and visa.

## UNIFORM

All international students, regardless of their length of stay, must always wear approved, correct school uniform. This includes regulation shoes and our school jacket (in cooler weather). Alternative items of clothing are not permitted.

Our uniform is smart, simple and affordable. We want all international students to feel good about wearing it correctly.

Being in class on time and in correct uniform shows respect, creates a good impression and means your teacher can get on with teaching you without distraction.

MOUNT MAUNGANUI COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVED UNIFORM		
 <p><b>School Jacket</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed black / grey / red waterproof jacket.</li> <li>NO puffer jackets.</li> <li>On wet days a black waterproof jacket may be worn outside classrooms.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Skirt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC labelled black regulation skirt with two front pleats</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Socks Worn with Shorts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC black with double red bands only</li> <li>Must be worn with school shorts</li> </ul>
 <p><b>School Jersey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed red woolen jersey</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Trousers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC labelled black regulation dress trousers from NZ Uniforms</li> <li>Shoes to be worn with trousers</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Ankle Socks Worn with Skirts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>Black or white ankle socks (no stripes)</li> <li>Pantyhose – black (no knee high)</li> <li>Ankle socks must be worn with school skirt</li> </ul>
 <p><b>School Polo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, and 12</li> <li>MMC monogrammed white polo</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School PE Top</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9 and 10</li> <li>MMC monogrammed regulation PE top</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Scarf (Optional)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed scarf</li> </ul>
 <p><b>School Short / Long Sleeve Dress Shirt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 13 Only</li> <li>MMC monogrammed white tailored dress shirt</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School PE Shorts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9 and 10</li> <li>MMC monogrammed regulation PE shorts</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Tie (Optional)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed tie</li> </ul>
 <p><b>School Lavalava</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All year levels can wear at all times</li> <li>Plain black</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Bucket Hat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed bucket hat</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Blazer (Optional)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed blazer</li> </ul>
 <p><b>School Shorts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC labelled black regulation shorts</li> <li>Worn above the knee</li> </ul>	 <p><b>School Cap</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13</li> <li>MMC monogrammed cap</li> <li>Sunglasses may be worn outdoors only</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Footwear</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plain LEATHER polishable black shoes with black soles (no colour labels on shoes, no boots, no high tops, scuffs, suede or canvas shoes). Shoes must have a back below the ankle and have laces.</li> <li>Plain black ROMAN sandals without socks.</li> <li>Plain black BIRKENSTOCK sandals with a back strap.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Jewellery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jewellery worn must be discreet and unobtrusive.</li> <li>All jewellery worn to school is at the students' own risk and responsibility.</li> <li>Students are required to conform to the Health and Safety requirements for individual departments, such as Technology, and this may require the removal of jewellery items.</li> <li>One small unobtrusive nose stud is permitted, no other facial piercing is permitted.</li> <li>NO stretchers, nose rings or nose septum piercings are permitted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Appearance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hair must be clean and worn in a neat and tidy fashion.</li> <li>No extreme hairstyles are permitted, eg mohawk.</li> <li>Hair must be a natural hair colour.</li> <li>A high standard of personal hygiene is expected.</li> <li>Males must be clean-shaven.</li> <li>Makeup, if worn, must be unobtrusive.</li> <li>Uniform is to be worn unmodified.</li> <li>No long sleeve shirts to be worn under school polo.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Uniform Supplier:</b></p> <p>NZ Uniforms 94 Elizabeth Street Tauranga Phone: (07) 985 6213</p> 



Staff want to have positive interactions with students and having to address incorrect uniform issues creates a negative interaction.

You will have funds available from your contingency account to pay for your uniform. Your host family will take you to the uniform shop to purchase the items you require. We recommend purchasing your shoes elsewhere, or bringing them with you from your home country, as they can be very expensive at the uniform shop.

## GETTING INVOLVED

The best way to make friends and enjoy yourself is to join in some extra-curricular or community activities.

From sports like rugby, netball, water polo and volleyball, to community clubs like surf lifesaving, tennis, dance groups and martial arts, through to school cultural activities such as the Climate Committee, Kapa Haka group, itinerant music or our Malo Uma Pasifika group and many, many more. There is something for everyone.



Think about the things you may wish to continue to do, or something you would like to try for the first time, while in New Zealand. We encourage students to try and get involved in at least one sports team and one cultural activity to enhance their experience.

There are many clubs and activities to join at Mount Maunganui College. The more you get involved, the more friends you will make.

Mount Maunganui College has the “Daily Notices” which are available every day on your device and at tutor time (Raukura class). These notices inform all the students what is on in and around school – i.e. where to sign up for sports teams, music groups etc. Make sure you read them every day.

Many sports are seasonal (summer and winter sports) so it is essential to check if the one you are interested in is in fact on while you are here.

Make sure you let us know if you are interested in any specific activities, so we can help you to meet the teacher in charge of that sport or activity. Please be aware that there may be additional costs if you join a sports team.

It is important to note that some sports / teams commence their trainings and team selections earlier in the year and this *may* impact on your ability to join certain sports / teams, depending on the time of year you arrive.



Sports include:

Term 1 and Term 4 have summer sports activities including: Volleyball, Cricket, Futsal. Students can also join local sports clubs to do: Athletics, Cycling, Mountain Biking, Archery, Badminton, Squash, Bowls, Boxing, Climbing, Dance Sport, Golf, Swimming, Tennis.

Terms 2 and 3 have winter sports, including: Netball, Basketball, Hockey, Rugby, Football (Soccer).

Students can also join local clubs for sports such as: Bowls, Boxing, Climbing, Dance, Golf.

If you are not interested in sports, you have the possibility to join several cultural groups, e.g. Band, Vocal Group, Dance, Debating, Jazz Band, Kapa Haka, Malo Uma Pasifika etc.



New Zealand/Kiwi students can be quite reserved, so you will need to be bold and make the effort to make friends. The international students that get involved in the different sports and cultural groups make the most ‘kiwi’ friends and have a better experience in New Zealand.

## SCHOOL FORMAL BALL

Each year, Mount Maunganui College holds a formal school ball (normally in May). This opportunity is only available to 13 students (Year 12 students by invitation from a Year 13 student ONLY), and no exceptions are made. This is a privileged event, and you must gain permission from the school senior management and International Department to attend.



## FOOD AT SCHOOL

Your host family will be expected to provide you with morning tea and lunch for school or provide you with food to make your own lunch. It is important to note that there are no food heating facilities available at school for student use.

The school canteen sells a wide range of hot food, healthy choices, drinks and snacks at very reasonable prices. You will need cash or credit/debit cards. You cannot use Apple Pay on your phone so you will need the physical card.

There are several filtered water filling stations located around the school for student use. It is important to ensure you stay hydrated, especially during our warmer months. Students are not permitted to leave the school to get food.

Where and when can't I eat?

- During lessons in class
- In the college Library
- When you are meeting with any staff

It is unpleasant to watch students chewing gum and it can be a source of litter therefore we ask that you please do not chew gum at school.



## COMPUTER DEVICES

Mount Maunganui College's curriculum delivery is computer-based. It is compulsory that you bring a device with you for your learning.

A PC, laptop or Chromebook are suitable devices. An iPad is not a suitable device for classroom work (unless it has a keyboard attachment).

## CELL PHONE USE AT SCHOOL

The New Zealand Government has legislated that students may not use cellphones at school. You must not have your phone out of your bag or turned on during the school day for any reason. In the event that you have your phone confiscated, the school cell phone confiscation policy applies.

You are allowed to use your phone before the first bell rings and after the final school bell. In the event that you feel you need to contact your parents at home during the school day, please come to the International Department.



## NCEA

NCEA (National Certificate of Education Achievement) is New Zealand's national assessment system run by NZQA (New Zealand Qualification's Authority).

The system has internal (in the classroom) and external (end of year examination) assessment and is very flexible, allowing students lots of choice of subjects and choice of how they present their work.

You can find out more about the system [HERE](#).

All international students complete all internal assessments and school exams during their enrolment.

## NZQA FEES

At Mount Maunganui College our international senior students (that is Year 11, 12 and 13) undertake internal assessments and external examinations that are delivered through the New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

The cost is \$385.00 for all enrolled students irrespective of the length of enrolment.

## TIMETABLE

You will have several different teachers, usually one for each subject.

Staff at Mount Maunganui College are identified by their code on the timetable. They are addressed using their surname, or 'Sir' or 'Miss'.

For example, Mr Talstra is TI on the timetable and would be addressed as Mr Talstra or 'Sir'.

You will be in a Raukura (tutor) class, which is known by the year group and the form teacher's code, and be allocated a House Group, i.e. Kotuku. For example, 12TIK would be a Year 12 form class with Mr Talstra in Kotuku house.

Classes are shown on the timetable by level, subject, room and teacher. For example, ENL TI S1 refers to an ESOL class. S1 is the room (you can refer to the map to find your room location). TI (Mr Talstra) is the teacher of that class.

You will receive a printed copy of your personal timetable once your classes have been finalised. This happens in the first few days of orientation. You can access your timetable via the student portal on your device.



Below is an image of what a typical timetable will look like.

22374		Year 12		12TLK		Kotuku					
Term	Week	Mon, 7 Mar		Tue, 8 Mar		Wed, 9 Mar		Thu, 10 Mar		Fri, 11 Mar	
1	6										
Period 0											
Period 1		9:00 <b>201DES</b>	Br Art	8:45 <b>201PHY</b>	Be C9	9:00 <b>201MAC</b>	Sl A3	8:45 <b>201BUS</b>	Yg H4	9:00 <b>201COS</b>	Bh B3
Roll Check				9:40 <b>12TIK</b>	Tl Sl			9:40 <b>12TIK</b>	Tl Sl		
Period 2		10:00 <b>201COS</b>	Bh B3	10:10 <b>201DES</b>	Br Art	10:00 <b>201PHY</b>	Be C9	10:10 <b>ENL</b>	Tl Sl	10:00 <b>201BUS</b>	Yg H4
Interval		11:00		11:05		11:00		11:05		11:00	
Period 3		11:30 <b>201BUS</b>	Yg H4	11:30 <b>201COS</b>	Bh B3	11:30 <b>201DES</b>	Br Art	11:30 <b>201MAC</b>	Sl A3	11:30 <b>ENL</b>	Tl Sl
Period 4		12:30 <b>ENL</b>	Tl Sl	12:30 <b>201BUS</b>	Yg H4	12:30 <b>201COS</b>	Bh B3	12:30 <b>201PHY</b>	Be C9	12:30 <b>201MAC</b>	Sl A3
Lunch		1:25		1:25		1:25		1:25		1:25	
Period 5		2:15 <b>201MAC</b>	Sl A3	2:15 <b>ENL</b>	Tl Sl	2:15		2:15 <b>201DES</b>	Br Art	2:15 <b>201PHY</b>	Be C9
Tutor Mr L Talstra				Dean / Year Level Mr H Burns				Management Mr H Burns			

An example of the subject codes, as shown above, are:

- 201DES      Level 2 Design
- 201COS      Level 2 Computer Science
- 201BUS      Level 2 Business Studies
- 201MAC      Level Mathematics with Calculus
- 201PHY      Level 2 Physics
- ENL          English for Speakers of Other Languages



# HOUSE GROUP INFORMATION

Name	Colour	Meeting Location
Ruru	Green	Technology Courts
Huia	Blue	Gym

Name	Colour	Meeting Location
Takahe	Yellow	Whare
Kotuku	White	Hall



**TAKAHE**



**KOTUKU**



**RURU**



**HUIA**

Your House name is printed on your timetable

Mount Maunganui College has four school house groups. You will be assigned one upon enrolment. School houses are a feature of the New Zealand education system to foster community, engagement and belonging. There are several school activities where you will participate as a member of your particular house.



## UBJECT CHOICES

Depending on your year level, you will have different subject options. We will work hard to provide you with the subjects that you request but please be aware you might not get all your preferred options as classes may clash with another option. We recommend having eight subject preferences.

We offer an Outdoor Education programme specifically designed for international students.

Please read the subject requirements below for your year level.

### Year 9 and 10

All students study a compulsory programme of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science and Physical Education/Health. Literacy and Numeracy support is provided in both English and Mathematics.

In addition, each Year 9 student chooses four option subjects. Each option will run for two terms, with the exception of Te Reo Māori which is a full year.

Each Year 10 student chooses two option subjects. Each option will run for a full year course.

### Senior School – Years 11, 12 and 13

All senior students must undertake a full course of study made up of six subjects, except those Year 13 students undertaking a full Level 3 NCEA course (five subjects) who will have study time allocated to them. Senior students require a graphics calculator for mathematics, therefore, please bring one with you if you have one otherwise you will need to purchase one / hire one while you are here. English / ESOL is compulsory.



# SCHOOL MAP



## COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

### What to do first

If you have a problem, we want to help you. Let us help fix your small problems before they become big problems! For problems with subjects or classes, talk to your teachers in class or after class, or ask Mr Burns in the International Department for help.

For problems with your host family please contact Kriss at the International Department in the first instance.

If you are not confident that your English is good enough, you can bring along a friend or buddy who has better English. We have 'on call' interpreters who can help you explain your problem, if necessary.

The Code of Practice requires that all education providers have fair and equitable internal complaint procedures for students. Mount Maunganui College has an internal complaint process that you will need to go through before you can take your complaint further.

### How to make a complaint to 'Study Complaints'

Study Complaints is an independent body established to deal with complaints from international students about their education provider or the provider's agent. Study Complaints enforces the standards of the Code of Practice. It is administered through the New Zealand Qualification Authority. If your concerns have not been resolved by Mount Maunganui College's internal complaint process, you can make your complaints through:

Website: <https://www.studycomplaints.org.nz>

Phone: 0800 00 66 75

Email: [help@studycomplaints.org.nz](mailto:help@studycomplaints.org.nz)

## MMC ENROLMENT POLICIES

School and international student related policies can all be accessed via the school website - [www.mmc.school.nz](http://www.mmc.school.nz)





## NEW ZEALAND'S QUALITY STANDARDS

All international students enrolled with a New Zealand education provider are covered by the New Zealand Government's Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021.

This is legislation that outlines the level of care that education providers must provide to international students while they live and study in New Zealand.

The Code clearly sets out the requirements that education providers must meet for the wellbeing and safety of their learners.

The education system is regulated with strong quality assurance systems in all curriculum areas.

In general, as an international student, you can expect that:

- the quality of teaching and learning you receive will meet high educational standards.
- the marketing and promotion information you receive before you enrol is clear, complete, and accurate so you can make a well-informed decision about whether an education provider is the right choice for you.
- education providers' agents give you reliable information and act with integrity and professionalism.
- you will receive enough information and support to help you with your enrolment, including understanding legal obligations you have, and that you will receive all the proper documentation.
- you are welcomed and have enough information, guidance, and support to help you settle into your new life in New Zealand
- your welfare and academic progress is monitored throughout your enrolment period.

## EDUCATION (PASTORAL CARE OF TERTIARY AND INTERNATIONAL LEARNERS) CODE OF PRACTICE 2021

The [Education \(Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners\) Code of Practice 2021](#) (the Code) supports the wellbeing of tertiary and international learners enrolled with New Zealand education providers.



## ENDING ENROLMENT

When it is nearing the conclusion of your time with Mount Maunganui College, we will complete our end of enrolment process with you.

As part of this process, some of the following events may occur:

### **Exit Survey and Interview**

You may be requested to complete an exit survey prior to the end of your enrolment with Mount Maunganui College. This survey gives you an opportunity to let us know how your overall experience has been.

### **Farewells**

International students are farewelled at Mount Maunganui College. This process usually involves a lunch or morning tea or similar.

### **Leaving documentation**

We are familiar with the specific requirements for your home country regarding what documentation you will require when you leave. We will prepare these documents and present them to you at our leavers ceremony.

If you have particular documents that your school has requested of you, please request this documentation at orientation.

## A FINAL WORD

In a community school environment, you are likely to see students attempting to break the rules regarding uniform, cell phone use, leaving the school grounds etc. International students do not have greater expectations on them than the domestic students with regards to the school rules, but they are expected to comply with all school rules. If unsure, please ask a member of the International Department staff.



## YOUR OPPORTUNITY

You have an amazing opportunity ahead of you. Make the most of it. You will meet lifelong friends on this journey, and you also have the opportunity to teach another part of the world about the place you come from, and your culture.

We are genuinely excited to meet you and can't wait to watch you get involved in New Zealand life, make new friends, become a 'kiwi kid' for a while, and perhaps even gain a bit of a New Zealand accent. We will have you saying "Sweet As" in no time! Enjoy your time before you arrive, and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

In the meantime, here are some common phrases, colloquialisms, and casual sayings to get you started:

- Cheers – Thanks, e.g. "You played really well in the game today" – "Cheers".
- Chocka – Full, e.g. "I ate too much cake and now I am chocka".
- Choice – Excellent, great; expressing something as positive, e.g. "That movie was choice".
- Good on ya – Well done, congratulations, e.g. "You came first? Good on ya!"
- Sweet As – no problem, awesome, cool, e.g. "Can I please play basketball with you at lunchtime?"- "yeah, sweet as!"
- Stoked – pretty happy and pleased about something, e.g. "Our team won. I'm stoked".
- Bro – An endearment for a close friend, usually a male, e.g. "Hey bro. Good to see you".
- Togs – swimming wear
- Jandals – flip flops / thongs. A bit like going barefoot, which kiwis love!
- Hard case – funny, e.g. "That Sam, he is such a hard case".
- Ta – Thank you, shortened.

Some Commonly Used Māori Words:

- Kia ora – Te Reo Māori word for a warm and welcoming greeting, e.g. "Kia ora, how are you today?"
- Aroha – Love
- Mana – Spiritual power
- Mōrena – Good morning
- Ngā mihi – Thank you

Click [HERE](#) to view a previous student's short film of his time here.

