



Dunstan High School Hostel

A Proud Tradition of Boarding

Thank you for enquiring about boarding at Dunstan High School. Our boarding programme was established in 1975 to give Central Otago families the opportunity for their children to receive a quality education without having to travel out of the region. Over the last three decades generations of families have found that Dunstan High School has not only prepared students well for learning and life, but has also provided a unique kind of care and support in the boarding hostel.

A New Tradition in Boarding

Today boarding at Dunstan High School exists for much the same reason it did thirty years ago - although the reasons that people may choose a hostel like ours now vary greatly. We also recognise that the needs of students have changed significantly over the years. Students still need access to a broad curriculum, delivered effectively in a learning environment that produces results. They need to be encouraged to pursue their sporting and cultural interests - outside the classroom. They should be able to try new things, have role models to look up to and be supported to perform.



The facilities we provide for after school care, however, have had to modernise to meet current expectations. Dunstan High School Hostel is at the end of its building modernisation programme. The creation of more individual living space and increasing our ability to accommodate senior students' desire for more independence have driven this major investment in our hostel buildings. As a result we now also attract students from a wide range of geographic locations.



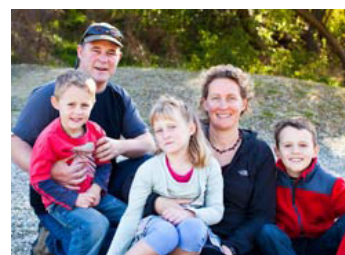
Size Matters

There are some things we do in our approach to boarding that reflect the small size of our boarding hostel. At the moment we have one adult living on-site for every five students. Our hostel runs more like a large family than a boarding institution. We are firm and fair in our expectations of students - but we can balance this with a more personal and more flexible approach to meeting each student's needs. Our students interact well across the age and gender boundaries. Juniors are well supported by senior students - and there is a genuine lack of the hierarchical structures which help order life in other boarding models. Our smaller size does not equate to lack of opportunity. Quite the opposite in fact. Students at Dunstan enjoy access to a very wide range of sporting and cultural activities. Dunstan focuses on providing this wide co-curriculum access to all students - this investment in turn allows us to achieve outstanding results at the high performance end of the spectrum across an enviable range of activities - from the Performing Arts to Kayaking or Curling.



Family Matters

Mark Templeton manages the hostel and lives on site with his wife and their three young children. Both Mark and Jo have a teaching backgrounds and a long association with Dunstan High School. Beverly Fitzgerald is the Assistant Manager with her own grown up family and a 15 year history in boarding schools. They lead a team of other adults who play key roles in the lives of our students. The biggest investment we make in our boarding students is in making sure that we have the right people to role model, encourage, and support students to make the most of the opportunities that learning and life present at Dunstan.



“Our hostel exists to provide a safe, *family-like* living environment...



where what we do
**supports
student
learning**

...

and the *wellbeing*
of every child is at
the centre of our
actions.”