

“
I realised at
St Paul's I could
become anything
I wanted to be.
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St Paul's
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

We prepare students for life beyond high school.



St Paul's Collegiate School has a reputation for getting the best from its students and for consistently achieving some of New Zealand's highest academic results.

We make no apologies for setting high expectations. We want each and every one of our students to achieve personal bests in all areas of their school life. More than often, these expectations are set much higher than other secondary schools – and our students deliver.

While our strongest focus is ensuring our students are achieving their potential in their academic studies, so too is our focus on developing good character in every young man and woman. Through our Character Education programme, 'Over the Fence' community service initiative, chapel programme and our promotion of an understanding of the importance of emotional intelligence, we are striving to prepare St Paul's students to be resilient, agile and contributing members of society.

In a school with just under 750 students, boys are welcomed from Years 9-13, as day or boarding students. The senior years at St Paul's offer co-ed learning while the junior school, Years 9 and 10, remain a single-sex boys' school.

Through teachers who are enthusiastic and passionate about teaching; a pastoral care system that recognises the highs, lows, strengths and weaknesses of each student; and peer support that forms a sense of belonging only a small educational environment can provide, we believe girls thrive at St Paul's.

Changing schools midway through high school was not something many of us considered 20 years ago, but today more and more teenagers and their parents are choosing to make this change for a variety of reasons. Almost all with pleasing results.

Young people are incredibly resilient and most adapt very easily to the move from one secondary school to another.

The great thing about St Paul's is each year we have new senior girls, starting at all year levels, who are very much in the same situation, all looking to make new friendships. The smaller numbers of girls at St Paul's makes them a tight knit cohort and close in the friendships they develop.

Girls are often attracted to St Paul's because they want to be academically challenged

and are drawn by the strength of our science, commerce, agribusiness and mathematics programmes. They often excel in these subjects when they graduate.

St Paul's girls are capable and confident young ladies who want to achieve and participate in all forms of school life. And there are so many opportunities for them to do so. They are respected by the boys for the healthy competition they provide in the classroom and for their willingness to give everything a go.

But it's not really about what I have to say ... take a read of this booklet to understand what our girls think about changing schools and their transition to St Paul's.

GRANT LANDER
Headmaster

“St Paul's girls are capable and confident young ladies.”





“There’s so much support from my teachers to succeed.”



LAUREN RING
Year 13, boarder

ACHIEVING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

“Mum made the decision to move me to St Paul’s because I wasn’t realising my true potential.

I wanted to get into engineering, so after many discussions with Mr Wilson, the school’s careers advisor and Mr Hampton, head of academics, I’m now studying the right subjects and getting the credits I need to get into university to achieve my goal.

I have really great teachers who have a true knowledge of their subject area. And they are always available to help. Homework gets checked and there are consequences if it’s not complete.

The small class sizes help too. There are only 15 students in my class so it’s easy to ask questions. When I am really struggling with a subject I can go to

tutorials with my teachers during lunchtime and school holidays.

It’s encouraged to be a high achiever at St Paul’s and there is so much support from my peers and teachers to succeed.”

2017 GIRLS’ RESULTS				2017 OVERALL RESULTS	
Qualification	St Paul’s	National	Decile 8-10	NZ Scholarship (passes)	28
University Entrance	95%	55%	75%	NZ Scholarship (outstanding)	3
NCEA Level 1	90%	79%	86%	Cambridge (Year 11)	93%
NCEA Level 2	100%	81%	86%	Cambridge (Year 12)	100%
NCEA Level 3	95%	70%	84%		

At St Paul’s, each student is given the opportunity to achieve their very best in the classroom with one-on-one support from the teachers, average class sizes of 18 students and extra tuition before and after school. This personalised approach to education is a proven formula for success. St Paul’s students achieve some of the best University Entrance, NCEA, Cambridge International and NZ Scholarship examination results in the country year-on-year and rank well above the national average.

For a full list of senior subjects on offer at St Paul’s go to stpauls.school.nz/academic

"I was happier within the first week of being here.

Mum wanted me to move to St Paul's because I wasn't happy.

At my previous school I was failing NCEA, I didn't have many friends and I hated boarding. I would go home every weekend. I didn't want to be involved in anything.

Within the first week of me being here mum said she could see how much happier I was.

One of the house tutors helped me so much – I am well on the road to passing NCEA. She teaches science and comes to visit me in the boarding house to see what I need help with.

The boarding girls have been really welcoming. When I first started, they came into my

room to see if I was ok and invited me to their rooms to hang out.

I now stay in on the weekends so I can hang out with my friends. I've tried a whole range of sports this year – rowing, lacrosse, all of the house competitions and I am going to try hockey next year."

"There is a big difference in the way TJ holds herself. She is much more confident and she has a greater sense of belonging here. When I first saw her she was very shy, her shoulders were slumped over and she didn't smile. Now, the girl I see in my boarding house is completely different. She is always smiling and gives everything a go."

KATIE LILLEY, Boarding Housemaster

I now stay in on the weekends so I can hang out with my friends.



TJ BALME
Year 11, boarder





“I now have a best friend.”



KACEY DIGGELMANN

Year 13, boarder

“I wasn’t keen to come to St Paul’s. I didn’t like the idea of boarding.

I remember the first time I walked into the boarding house and saw the girls sitting in the living room. I just stood there and thought ‘I don’t want to know them, I don’t want to be here.’

I sat alone in my room for an hour on the first night not wanting to make an effort. I just wanted to go home. That didn’t work. My housemaster, Mrs Lilley, wasn’t having it. She knew the right things to say to get me to see some positives about being here.

Mrs Lilley and Mrs Lock are like our house mums. I can speak to them about anything. The senior girls are great to talk to too because they know exactly what you’re going through.

I found myself making friends once I gave up the “don’t talk to me” attitude. I now have a best friend ... I didn’t have one at my old school.

It’s easier to study and complete homework when boarding compared to being at home. I have Maths, English and Science teachers in my boarding house who I can ask for help and the senior girls are happy to help too.

My grades have definitely improved. I found it easy once I put in the effort.

If I was still at my old school, I wouldn’t have made it to Year 13. I wouldn’t be considering university. I wouldn’t be preparing for NZ Scholarship exams. I wouldn’t be trying to get NCEA with an excellence endorsement.

But here at St Paul’s, my teachers want me to do my best, they push and encourage me. When I get a personal best in the classroom I get praised not only by my teachers, but by my peers too and that makes me want to aim higher and higher.”

There are around 50 female boarding students at St Paul’s. This small, close-knit environment fosters the growth of lifelong friendships. In Year 13, all female boarding students take part in a flatting programme, HULA House, which prepares them for life beyond St Paul’s - they become responsible for budgeting, cleaning and cooking their own meals.

“St Paul’s has actually been a nest for me. This school appreciates Māori culture and what it stands for and that’s made me really comfortable to express myself here.

I am the Kaiārataki Wahine which is the female Māori leader of our school and I feel privileged to have this role. At the start of the year I teach the haka to new girls and perform the karanga on behalf of the school at pōwhiri services.

It’s a huge honour but challenging at the same time. I wasn’t particularly confident

speaking in front of a lot of people, but now I am confident to speak in both Māori and English to large audiences.

Being part of the Kapa Haka group has helped build my confidence. We perform in front of the whole school and at competitions. We learn karakia (prayer), waiata (song), Māori protocol and pronunciation and also do haka (Māori war dance).

Te Reo is a tough subject, but I’ve really enjoyed it and get a lot out of it.”

“I’ve felt really comfortable expressing my Māori culture here.”



PIANIKA TAYLOR
Year 13, day student

Māori culture is an integral part of St Paul’s and every student is encouraged to learn about its tradition and protocol through the House Haka competition, Kapa Haka group, pōwhiri services and NCEA levels 1-3 Te Reo. The school haka competition is a moving and anticipated annual event on the school’s calendar. Students participate in their school houses and compete against each other for the title of ‘Best House Haka’. Karakia and waiata is incorporated into assemblies and chapel services.





“I had no idea I could sing until I started at St Paul’s.”



EMILY DELA RUE
Year 11, day student

“I only started singing with Mr Campbell and the choir once I started in Year 11.

I never tried to get involved in the arts at my other school. There were just so many talented girls and I didn’t think I measured up. But at St Paul’s, we are encouraged to be involved in things we are passionate about, so I gave singing a go.

I have since competed with the school choir at the Big Sing choral festival for secondary schools, Waikato Hospital’s Hear and Care fundraising concert and the school’s music showcase.

This year I thought I would audition for a part in the school production. I was cast in two lead roles! I had never played a

lead before, I couldn’t believe it! I was so happy!

Singing and being involved in the school production has definitely helped with my confidence. I never liked reading out loud in class or public speaking but I feel confident doing this now.

There are so many opportunities at this school and I have learned to take up as many as I can.”

“She has really blossomed at St Paul’s. Her teachers have really encouraged her to be herself and to try new things. One of the many things I love about this school is that everyone believes it is cool to be involved in the arts.”

ANDREA DELA RUE, parent

At St Paul’s, we help our students discover talents they never knew existed by encouraging them out of their comfort zones to try new things. For those students who are passionate about the arts, St Paul’s offers a cultural playground of music, drama, Kapa Haka, visual art, public speaking, debating, Trinity College music exams, annual productions and music showcases, 48-hour film challenges, choir, bands, and much more. Students who participate in cultural activities at St Paul’s get the experience of performing in front of their peers and to public audiences through ticketed events.

To find out more about culture at St Paul’s visit stpauls.school.nz/section/culture

"I've been a guest speaker at the Agri Investment Week with the Minister for Primary Industries Nathan Guy and I went to the Rabobank Agri Leadership Programme. I wouldn't have had a chance to do any of this if I wasn't at St Paul's learning Agribusiness.

I moved to St Paul's in Year 12 because I wanted to study ag. I come from an agricultural background - my parents work within the industry and my grandad was one of the founding organisers of the National Agricultural Fieldays - so it's in my blood.

The course teaches me about food science, soil science, microbiology, the primary production process and finance and economics

but what I have gained most, is the opportunity to network and meet people in the sector.

My grades have definitely improved since moving to St Paul's and it's because of the small classes. It's easier here to ask the teacher questions and to have one-on-one time with them."

"I'm in my first year studying ag commerce at Lincoln University. What I'm learning in the commerce papers is exactly what we were taught in Agribusiness at St Paul's. I feel I've got a major head-start on others in my class."

HANNAH LOCKWOOD-GECK,
Collegian (2012-2014)



There is much more to agribusiness than I had known.

GREER BALDWIN
Year 13, day student

At St Paul's, students can study NCEA Level 2 and 3 Agribusiness. The course was pioneered by St Paul's in collaboration with Dairy NZ, Beef + Lamb NZ and a number of key industry leaders. It is currently being rolled out progressively to schools throughout the country. It provides students, who excel in science and/or commerce, with the opportunity to learn more about the primary industries. This will give them a competitive edge when entering New Zealand's agribusiness sector, which has a skills shortage. Agribusiness students learn agri-science, agri-marketing, agri-innovation and agri-management and finance.

To find out more about agribusiness at St Paul's visit stpauls.school.nz/agribusiness





“

I never thought I could be a leader but my peers told me to go for it.

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SERENA LIM-STRUTT

Year 13, day student

“There was never anybody saying “don’t do it.” It felt like everyone had my back, particularly my friends.

My friend, a year above me, was deputy head girl and she was always willing to help me and other students in her final year. She earned so much respect from all of the students and truly demonstrated the qualities of a great leader. I wanted to be just like her. So, I applied to become a prefect.

I never imagined I would be selected but the staff were really supportive and encouraged me to take on the role.

As a prefect, I had the opportunity to lead a core group of senior students in the organisation of the school’s gala, a carnival event, for primary and secondary school children and their families. This event was solely organised and run by St Paul’s prefects and students.

We wanted to hold it to welcome our local community into the school grounds. So we held a monster garage sale, put on a talent quest and sold fresh baking and hot homemade food. Seeing our local community excited by their purchases and leaving our school with huge smiles on their faces was awesome.

I came away understanding the huge responsibility and leadership skills required to pull off an event like this. I have a real sense of pride for what we were able to achieve!”

“The quality of relationships and the maturity of St Paul’s students is well beyond what you would expect. It’s very healthy and extremely comforting, especially putting a daughter into that environment.”

MICHAEL ANDA, past parent

At St Paul’s, students are given every opportunity to become a respected leader of their peers. Each student will address the whole student body at least once at a chapel service. Every student has the opportunity to become a House or full school prefect, mentor group leader or sports captain. They can also attend leadership training programmes including St Paul’s leadership camp for Year 12s or the World Vision and Anglican leadership conferences.

"I look back on the netball season, the progress our netball team has made and how far we have come... it's just awesome. As a team, we have improved so much. If we did a beep test now compared to the start of the season the girls would blow their results out of the water.

We have a strength and conditioning coach who takes us three times a week for agility sessions and nutrition and we have skills and team training sessions twice a week too.

It's intense but it has definitely helped me improve. I'm so much fitter now. I don't think I would have made the UNISS tournament week A team or the New Zealand secondary schools team if I wasn't at St Paul's.

The Waikato region has good netball coaches and a reputation for producing great netballers. That's why I moved here. I want to develop my netball career so I can play for Magic and the Silver Ferns.

Academics are really important at St Paul's. As a boarder, I have supervised prep every night which helps me keep on top of my homework. But as soon as the school sees my grades slipping, I have to reduce my training sessions and put my school work first. Mum and I think this is really important.

The move to St Paul's was way better than I thought it was going to be. I couldn't be happier."

"Sport was important to Grace, but I also know that one injury can end her netball career and so a backup plan is important too. St Paul's gets that. They help her grow as an athlete but not at the expense of her academics."

LYNETTE WATSON, parent



I can't help but smile when I see the progress our netball team has made.

GRACE WATSON

Year 11, boarder

Sport is an essential part of student development at St Paul's, with participation in both summer and winter sport a compulsory part of school life. St Paul's sports programme caters to students of all abilities – from those less sporty to those who are hopeful of pursuing sport as a career through St Paul's High Performance Sports Programme. Participation in sport allows students to experience individual success, to develop a better understanding of their own and others emotions, recognise the power of teamwork, personal discipline and how to cope in a healthy competitive environment.

To find out more about sport at St Paul's visit stpauls.school.nz/sport





“It’s about serving others and being in touch with those less fortunate.”

SARAH JACKSON
Year 11, boarder

SPECIAL CHARACTER

“At assembly, the Student Mission Council asked if students wanted to be involved in Shave for a Cure, a fundraising event for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand. I was given the opportunity and thought “I might as well do it and I might as well shave all my hair off - if the boys can do it then why can’t I?”

I was really surprised at how many people showed up to watch and support me. That’s the bit that got me... It was really overwhelming.

I don’t know anyone who suffers from leukaemia but my grandpa had cancer and there is a little girl down the road who has cancer. I raised \$2800 for the cause.

There are lots of opportunities to be involved in community work, volunteering and fundraising for special causes like this at St Paul’s. There is a Year 11 service programme where we are required to volunteer a set number of hours throughout the year and I’m involved in that.

I’m also involved in the Over the Fence Ministry. This is another community service programme where a number of St Paul’s students go to decile one primary schools each week to help out the young students through coaching sport, playing games at lunchtime or reading with them in their classes.

It certainly puts life into perspective. It has been a real character building experience.”

As an Anglican school, faith plays a big role in life at St Paul’s. Chapel services are held twice weekly for the whole school and on Sunday evenings boarding students attend a service of night prayer. The strong presence of faith teaches students to accept responsibility, serve others and be aware of the spiritual and moral dimensions of life.

All students are encouraged to take part in a number of activities as part of the school’s three-tiered service programme to give back and help those less fortunate. More than 300 students have chosen to volunteer for the ‘Over the Fence Ministry’, one of the service tiers that involves students giving up their spare time on a regular basis to help out in local low decile primary schools. The other two tiers involve working with local charitable organisations and international service trips.

“Changing high schools to make the move to St Paul’s as a Year 11 student was a daunting thought. But there are many other girls making the same transition so you all have something in common.

Before the start of each year, all the girls from Year 11-13 go on a five day camp at Tihoi Venture School. It is the most wonderful experience. We did lots of team building activities to get to know each other. By the end of camp, I had made lots of friends and school hadn’t even started.

At school I was paired with a Year 13 girl as part of the big-sister-little-sister

programme. She guided me through the first two terms. It was really surprising how welcoming the older girls were.

It wasn’t all perfect though - there were definitely some awkward moments. I had moved from a large all girls’ school to St Paul’s, where the boys outnumber the girls 5 to 1. This took some adjustment.

I remember attending my first class and noticing I was the only girl. I panicked because I wasn’t sure how to act. But being at a co-ed school in my senior years has made me learn how to interact with the boys in a positive way.

The boys made us feel welcome and part of the team when we joined them for house competitions. They are really competitive so they encourage and get behind us to participate.”

“One thing that really stood out to me, as a parent and an observer, is the quality of the relationships the guys and girls in the school form. They were at a much higher level of maturity than I ever believed it would be. They form a very close bond and a very even bond. It’s very comforting.”

MICHAEL ANDA, past parent

The boys
are like
brothers.



AASHIMA KANSAL

Year 13, day student



Where are they now?



Zoe Lapwood ◀

Zoe was head girl of St Paul's in 2015. She graduated with a \$50,000 University of Waikato Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship and a \$70,000 KPMG scholarship. She was selected as a recipient for these prestigious scholarships because of her well-rounded nature – a determined academic, dedicated sportswoman and talented musician who won numerous national song writing competitions and performed with the likes of Split Enz band member Mike Chunn in Rolling Stones and Beatles tribute concerts.



Jessica Chanwai ▼

Jessica was head girl of St Paul's in 2014. She was an outstanding scholar and talented electric and acoustic violinist who dedicated every moment of her spare time to serving others through St Paul's service programmes. She was a natural and memorable leader who has carried her skills onto university life where she is a mentor for first-year medical students. Her well-rounded ability secured her a \$50,000 University of Auckland medical scholarship upon her graduation from St Paul's.

Jessica Riley ▲

Jessica was head girl of St Paul's in 2013. She was an earnest student who set extremely high academic goals for herself and strived determinedly to achieve them. Jessica achieved 66 excellence credits towards her NCEA Level 3 and 109 excellence credits towards her NCEA Level 2. On top of her dedication to study, she was a lead surf life saver for Raglan Surf Lifesaving Club. She graduated from St Paul's with a \$50,000 scholarship to study medicine at the University of Auckland.



Close to 20% of St Paul's students receive tertiary scholarships upon graduation each year.

MORE INFORMATION

stpauls.school.nz

Enrolments – stpauls.school.nz/enrol

Scholarships – stpauls.school.nz/scholarships

Fees – stpauls.school.nz/fees

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