



**Is Signatory to the Code of Practice for the
Pastoral Care of International Students**



Enjoy Success at One of New Zealand's Premier High Schools

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Why Study In New Zealand?

New Zealand enjoys one of the highest standards of living in the world. The countryside and natural heritage are some of the most beautiful anywhere.

New Zealand offers a world class English language education system and we welcome students from other countries. There is a great cultural diversity and a significant degree of social stability.

New Zealand provides the ideal environment for those wishing to gain fluency in English and continue to further education.

New Zealand provides an education system that is internationally recognised and respected.



Why Wanaka?

Wanaka is a small town set on a beautiful lake in the Southern Alps of New Zealand. It is a safe, peaceful and unpolluted location. The town has excellent services and facilities and as well being the gateway to Mount Aspiring National Park, a World Heritage Area.

The town has a multi-cultural population which is reflected in the variety of restaurants, cafes and tourist facilities that cater for every need. Although equipped with everything, the town centre itself is small, with all the shops in walking distance.

Wanaka now has its own thriving airport for internal flights and is only an hour's drive from Queenstown International Airport. Numerous national transport operators frequent Wanaka as it is famous for its natural beauty and outdoor activities.





Why Mount Aspiring College?

Mount Aspiring College was built as a new College in 1986. The facilities rank amongst the best in the country. The College is a state co-educational school which caters for the academic and social needs of all its students.

The College has a current role of approximately 550, plus 32 overseas students and around 20 Polytechnic students. The College is experiencing a positive growth pattern. The small size of the College is seen as one of its major strengths, with a supportive family atmosphere in which all individuals are recognised.

The College has achieved excellent academic results over the years and utilises the local environment in its comprehensive Outdoor Education Programme. A wide range of subjects are offered at all levels and class sizes are small.

Mount Aspiring College's facilities are modern, new and comfortable. The buildings include: general classrooms, three laboratories and new greenhouse facilities, art room, food technology room, three computer suites, music suite, library, technology suite, outdoor pursuits centre, dance studio and administration block. The buildings are sited on seven hectares of playing fields and gardens. A twenty-five metre indoor heated community pool is adjacent to the College grounds and is open seven months of the year.

The College is equipped with a network of PCs with Internet access. There are also several Macintosh computers.

The International Language Centre is situated on the school grounds. It has two classrooms, a large community lounge, kitchen and bathroom facilities. The Language Centre provides ESOL classes for adults, casual students, visiting groups and International College students. The building is modern, warm and comfortable. International students can use it for study after school and at lunch time.



International Student Services

International Students are under the care of the Board of Trustees, Management of Mount Aspiring College and the International Language Centre staff. All enrolments, matters of pastoral care and enquiries should be directed to the staff at the International Language Centre.

Deans

There is a Dean in charge of each year level. The Dean places students in classes and subjects and is responsible for discipline and welfare of the students at his / her level. The Dean works closely with the International Student Management and International Language Centre staff.

School Rules

All students are expected to behave in a responsible and courteous manner at school. Students are expected to follow all school regulations as well as the rules in the tuition contract and the homestay contract which are particular to International Students.

Attendance

Frequent or unexplained attendances must be reported to the New Zealand Immigration Service and may result in cancellation of the student visa. If the student is absent from school, a note must be brought from the caregiver; however, if the student is absent for more than three days, a note may be required from the student's doctor.

Employment

College students are permitted to work up to 20 hours per week, but this is only available to students studying in Year 12 and 13. Approval from the parents and the school are required as a condition along with a Variation of Conditions to be noted on their student visa.

Homestay

Special rules apply to students in homestays. Please read your homestay guidelines, rules and contract very carefully when you receive them.

Flating / Vehicles

Students are not permitted to go flatting, and must board or homestay in a school approved home.

International students are not permitted to own a vehicle.

Holidays

Students must start and finish school on the set dates. Students will not be allowed to leave school before the start of the holidays unless there are very special reasons for this. Therefore, it is important that students book flights home as soon as possible.

Student Support

Assessment

All students' verbal and written English ability is tested on arrival and students are placed in a class to suit their English learning needs.



Pastoral Care and Homestay

Homestay accommodation is organised by the Homestay Coordinator. All prospective homestays are inspected, host families interviewed and references checked. The students are met by the host family on arrival in Wanaka. Every effort is made to meet students at Queenstown airport, however during work hours and during busy times, this may not be possible. In this case, alternative transport will be arranged for the student.

The International Student Management team meets with all the students regularly, and when any student wishes to discuss any matters in an emergency. The Homestay coordinator also keeps regular contact with the host family to ensure that students are settled and as happy as possible.

The student's homestay placement is a service provided by the school. The homestay fees, paid by the students, are \$230 per week. The fee is paid to the host family fortnightly in advance through the school office.

Students studying at the College must use the homestay service provided by the College. Wanaka is a small town and homestay placement can take some time. Students must give at least two weeks notice of arrival to ensure a homestay placement. If students need to change their homestay during the year a fee for replacement will be charged. Moves are usually conducted during the school holidays or on long weekends.

For their homestay fees, students will receive a fully furnished room, complete with study table and lamp, all their meals, linen and laundry. Students are encouraged to join in with host family activities. Please refer to the homestay brochure.

Students may not make national or international phone calls unless they have prior permission from the host family, or reverse the charges to their parents. Local calls from private phones are free.

Parents who wish to discuss questions or concerns about their child's homestay may contact the ILC office during school hours. (Ph 0064 3 443 9920 or Fax 0064 3 443 9921).

Pastoral care and counselling services with the International Management Team, Guidance Counsellor and the year Deans are also available for students if the need arises.

Out Of School Pastoral Care

The International department will monitor the following:

- Following of school rules
- Communication with parents or agents
- Student's homestay behaviour
- Student's international travel, medical insurance / care, banking facilities and general welfare.





Enrolment Procedures and Student Visas

You can apply for a place at Mount Aspiring College through an educational agent or you can apply directly to the College yourself.

You may fax to us your enrolment form or send it via the mail. We will ask you to supply documentation to us and on receipt of this we will send you a letter advising if there is a place available for you.

You are then required to inform the school whether you wish to accept the place, and pay your school fees, either by Registered Post or Courier. Electronic banking is a popular method of payment. Telegraphic transfers are accepted but will often take longer to receive due to delays in the banking system (up to 2 weeks). On receipt of payment into the school account we will send you a receipt for your fees. Your enrolment is now confirmed. You or your agent will then be required to apply for your Student Visa, for which you need the receipt and "Offer of Place" form which we send you.

If you are applying without an Agent, you can then apply at the embassy in your country and get a visa.

When fees are paid, and a homestay form filled out and returned we will then find a suitable homestay for you.

When your travel arrangements are finalized please forward them to us so we can organize the host family to meet you in Wanaka. There is an airport in Wanaka, and another airport one hour away in Queenstown. If you are arriving for the first time, someone will try to meet you at the airport. If you are flying into Christchurch we can help organize your transport to Wanaka.

Please give us as much notice as you can of your travel plans.

International Students Entry Criteria

- Mount Aspiring College accepts students at Year 7 to Year 13 level.
- The school recruits students who have some English language skills. ESOL will provide intensive language programs as required.
- Students need to have a genuine desire to learn and a good record of attendance at their previous school.
- Students must be willing to sign the tuition agreement and abide by the schools rules as they apply to international students.
- School reports and a testimonial must accompany an application to study.
- The school reserves the right to place the student in appropriate courses based on the student's competency in English.

CODE: Mount Aspiring College has agreed to observe and be bound by the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students by the Minister of Education. Copies of the Code are available on request from this institution or from the New Zealand Ministry of Education website at:

<http://www.minedu.govt.nz>



Health and Travel Insurance

Most students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand unless they are :

- A resident or citizen of Australia; or
- A national of the United Kingdom in New Zealand; or
- The holder of a temporary permit that is valid for two years or more.

If the student does not belong to one of these special categories and receives medical treatment during the visit, the student will be liable for the full costs of that treatment. Students must have Medical Insurance that will cover the cost of medical treatment in New Zealand for the duration of the stay in New Zealand.

Travel Insurance to cover travel to and from New Zealand is also compulsory.

Both Medical and Travel Insurance can be arranged for students through the International Language Centre.

Immigration

Full details of visa and permit requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying, and reporting requirements are available through New Zealand Immigration Service, and can be viewed on their website at:

<http://www.immigration.govt.nz>

