



STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL

DEVELOPING WELL-ROUNDED YOUNG PEOPLE,
READY TO EXCEL IN THE WORLD



PROSPECTUS



Naumai haere mai koutou ki te kura tuarua o W'akaa'urangi

'Ready to learn, ready to connect, ready to be!'

Secondary school is a critical time for young people and choosing the right school for your child is important. It is vital we work together to prepare your child for a fulfilling and successful future.

Our vision at Stratford High School is to develop well-rounded young people who are ready to excel in the world beyond school. We recognise that every individual who enters our learning environment brings with them a unique set of skills and passions. We see it as our responsibility to provide a warm and engaging atmosphere and a broad and balanced curriculum that places the student at the centre. We are large enough to offer a wide range of academic, cultural and sporting opportunities, but small enough to know our students well.

Community is important to us. Our 'HEART' values guide how we engage and collaborate with each other, our whānau and the wider community; effective relationships are critical to our success. Our school motto, **Palma Non Sine Pulvere** - no reward without effort, encapsulates our philosophy around learning.

The world is continually changing. The learning journey your child is on must reflect these changes and as a school we are committed to providing opportunities to grow the skills and competencies required to be successful in the 21st century.

It is a privilege to be Principal of this school and work alongside staff who are committed to every child's success. We want this school to be the school of choice for your child and I look forward to the opportunity to assist you in making the right decision about your child's future.

Ngā mihi nui

Cameron Stone
Principal



Our Mission

We are committed to providing an environment that is warm and inclusive and that offers the educational opportunities for every student to be the best they can be.

Our Vision

To develop well-rounded young people, ready to excel in the world.

Our Motto

Palma Non Sine Pulvere
No reward without effort

Our Values



Honesty
Excellence
Aroha
Respect
Tolerance

Pono:

Rawe:

Love:

Manaakitanga:

Manawanui:

understanding, trustworthy, accountable
aspirational, courageous, hardworking
caring, kind, connected
considerate, responsible, appreciative
inclusive, patient, understanding



Who and where are we?

Stratford High School is a state, co-educational, rural secondary school for students in years 9-13. We are part of the Stratford Community of Learning (Taranaki Mohoao), and work closely with our contributing schools.

The school has a long history, dating back to 1897 when Stratford District High School was opened on the corner of Juliet and Fenton Streets. Following the purchase of a 14 acre section on the current Swansea Road site, Stratford Technical High School was opened in 1922 and has operated on this site since. In 1966, the school was renamed Stratford High School. The school has always prided itself on serving the local and wider community and continues to do so. We are committed to providing opportunities for all students within this community, enabling the needs and future aspirations of all learners to be met.

At Stratford High School, students have a wide variety of facilities available to them on campus:

- Whare - Te Amorangi
- Large swimming pool, sports fields, Netball, Basketball and Tennis courts
- Sports Office
- Large Community Stadium - including weights room
- Drama Studio
- Large Hall with production facilities
- Multiple Science Labs
- Music - practice rooms, recording studio, band rooms
- Careers and Pathways Information Centre
- Well-resourced Technology Centre - Metalwork, Woodwork, Fabric Design, Design and Visual Communication, Home Economics, Art/Photography
- Hospitality - barista and catering facilities
- Multiple Computer rooms - including access to a number of loan laptops
- Multi-purpose library with conference room
- High and Complex needs unit - Te Rangimārie
- 20 hectare farm



Pastoral Care

Wellbeing has a significant impact on a student's academic success. Providing a supportive environment is paramount to enable our students to become independent, confident and well-rounded young people while at school. Our HEART values guide how we do relationships and we expect all members of our school community to engage respectfully. We have a significant focus on acknowledging positive behaviour through a school wide reward system.

Our school is broken into four house groups; Tyrer (former Headmaster), Trimble (former Board Chair), McAllister (former Board Chair) and Amess (former Principal). Students are placed in a house group upon enrolment and this fosters a sense of belonging as students remain in this house for the entirety of their education at Stratford High School. Regular house competitions contribute significantly to school culture and student participation is encouraged.



- Form classes

Students are placed into a form class with students from their year level (horizontal). The form teacher is the first point of contact for any concerns and provides pastoral and academic mentoring. Form classes meet on a daily basis.

- Peer Support

During Term One, year 13 students work closely with year 9 students to help them become familiar with high school, to get to know each other and enjoy the positive culture of Stratford High School.

- Year Level Deans

We have one Dean per year level from year 9-13. Deans work closely with students and whānau, developing strong and effective relationships. We have a strong focus on academic achievement, working closely with staff, students and whānau to ensure students are given the best opportunity for success.

- Student Support

Our Guidance Counsellor works closely with Deans and Form Teachers to support both students and staff. Our Social Worker works alongside the Guidance Counsellor to further enhance the wellbeing support available within the school. Together, they provide a coordinated approach to student care, working closely with Tutaki Youth Service and other external agencies, and making referrals when needed.

- Careers

The Careers Advisor and Pathways Assistant work with the HOD Pathways, Deans, Senior Leadership, and local organisations and businesses to support positive outcomes for individual students. Careers education is an integral part of every student's journey. Information is available to students and whānau through the Careers Office at any time.

- School Nurse

Our dedicated school nurse is available for 15 hours per week to support the health and wellbeing of our students. Equipped to address a wide range of health concerns, our school nurse provides care in areas such as sexual health, mental health, injuries, wound dressing, medical conditions, and referrals to external health providers. She also promotes healthy lifestyle choices and offers a compassionate, listening ear when needed. Her presence ensures that students have access to professional health support throughout the school week.



Learning at Stratford High School

Stratford High School offers a broad and balanced curriculum that is designed with the learners at the heart of our programmes. Feedback from our community has highlighted the importance of providing pathways that enhance the skills and competencies to engage as a citizen, become a lifelong learner and be ready to excel in the world beyond school. Our future-focused curriculum exposes students to new opportunities that allow them to follow their passions and continue to grow a love of learning, while partnering with students, parents and whānau in the process.

Junior Curriculum (Years 9 & 10)

Students experience a broad and balanced curriculum through a dynamic and engaging modular approach across Year 9 and 10 which aims to develop our students' love of learning by exposing them to new opportunities and finding their interests and passions before they begin to specialise in the senior school. The year is divided up into two semesters of approximately 18 weeks each. Students engage with up to eight Learning Areas of the New Zealand Curriculum throughout the year, providing a broad range of choice and exposure to new learning.

Each module is underpinned by key skills and knowledge which are essential to prepare students so that they are ready to excel in the world, as well as laying the foundations for further learning.

Senior Curriculum (Years 11-13)

Our curriculum in the Senior School offers students a wide range of academic and vocational subjects. Whether a student wishes to go to university, or to follow a trade, we have options to meet their needs. We have not only a variety of subjects that give students University Entrance, but also a range of vocational programmes such as Build a House, Agriculture on our farm and Gateway courses. No subject is compulsory in the senior school, as long as students have passed literacy and numeracy in Year 10. Our Careers Department supports students with making informed choices and to transition out of school onto the next stage of their education or career.



Gifted & Talented Programme

Stratford High School is committed to supporting gifted and talented students in achieving their full potential by providing opportunities to enhance their learning and foster curiosity. Our teaching and learning programmes challenge and encourage the pursuit of excellence and the development of passion for lifelong learning.

Stratford High School uses a multifaceted approach to providing for gifted students.

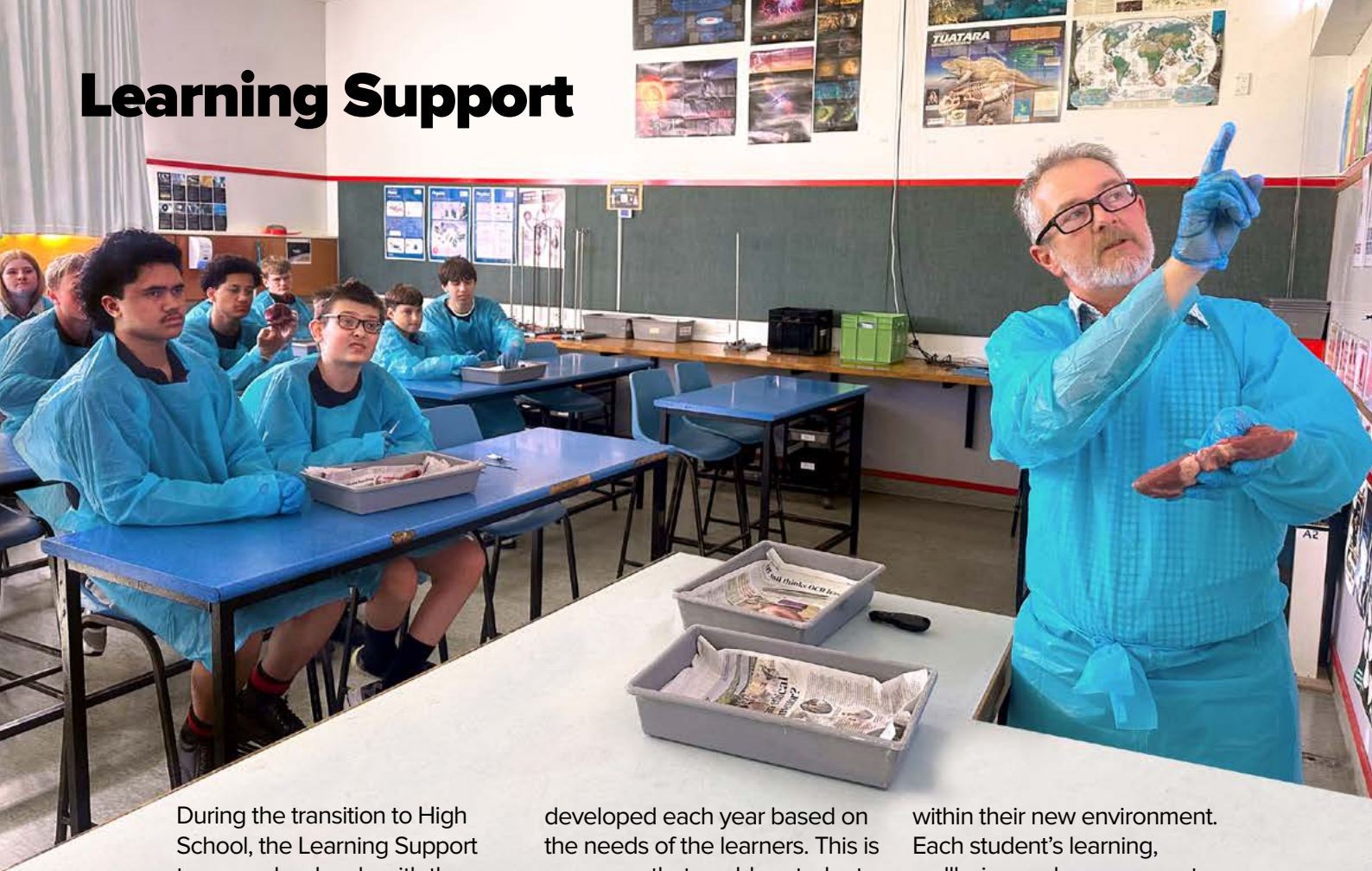
This includes, for example:

- A timetable structure that supports students to choose classes and courses that best meet students' individual needs with modules in the junior school and full-year courses in the senior school;
- Scholarship subjects;
- Subject extension;
- Subject acceleration where appropriate;
- Other co-curricular opportunities such as STEAM, Lions Speech Competition, National Mathematics Competitions, Ministry of Education Science Fair and subject field trips including visits to the Taranaki coastline, Lake Rotokare and Wellington.

Student Development

At Stratford High School, we are committed to supporting the holistic development of every student. Dedicated time is built into the weekly timetable, including a regular school assembly, dean check-ins, and an extended form time once a fortnight. Sessions in the extended form time focus on student wellbeing (Hauora), covering topics such as relationships, service, and self-management, while also providing academic mentoring through goal setting, reflection, gratitude, and the development of key life skills to support student engagement and success.

Learning Support



During the transition to High School, the Learning Support team works closely with the contributing schools to identify students who require further learning support opportunities. A targeted transition plan is

developed each year based on the needs of the learners. This is a process that enables students, along with their parents/whānau, to work in partnership with the school and ensures students have a sense of belonging

within their new environment. Each student's learning, wellbeing and engagement are then monitored once they are at Stratford High School and appropriate support and or interventions are planned.

Te Rangimārie

Te Rangimārie is our class for students who have complex education needs and an Ongoing Resourcing Scheme verification.

A strength-based programme incorporating the Key Competencies from the New Zealand Curriculum is designed for each student.

Students access a range of learning experiences inside and outside of the classroom including curriculum classes and activities in the wider school. We utilise community

resources e.g. visits to the art gallery, library, swimming pool, Riding for the Disabled and WITT.

We have three classroom spaces, a sensory room, a specialised bathroom, and a well-resourced outside learning area.

We use a Reggio Emilia inspired approach to teaching and learning. Student agency, making decisions, leading their own learning, working in groups alongside their peers, developing their passions and learning to self-regulate are some

of the important priorities we have for every student.

We support senior students transitioning to life beyond school with a range of work experiences and opportunities out in the community.

We want our students to be happy to come to school, to have meaningful relationships, to feel valued, and to have a sense of belonging.



Opportunities at Stratford High School

The Arts

Stratford has a long and proud tradition in the Performing Arts. This has helped to develop the talent of many young dancers, musicians, performers and directors. We offer a programme of activities including entry into local art exhibitions, as well as our in-school arts showcase, Debating, Drama, Theatre Production, SGCNZ competition, Theatre Sports, Instrument Tuition, Rockquest, Variety Concert, Kapa Haka, Toi and Speech Making. Students regularly achieve outstanding results at NCEA levels 1, 2 and 3 in a range of performance-related topics. They have enjoyed success in local, regional and national competitions.

Sports

There is a strong culture of sport at Stratford High School, reflecting the strength of sport in our wider community. Sport is an important part of school life, and we have a proud history of developing athletes who achieve at representative level in both individual and team sports, including provincial, national, and international honours.

We offer Cricket, Rugby, Basketball, Soccer, Hockey, Netball, Volleyball, Athletics, Swimming, Triathlon, and Cross Country, and participation levels remain high across the student body. Our teams consistently perform strongly across a range of codes, regularly competing with and challenging larger schools. Over 40 TSSA events support engagement and participation, and our annual Tough Guy Tough Girl challenge connects with our contributing schools.

Outdoor Education

With our beautiful Maunga as a backdrop and the sea only a short drive away, Outdoor Education enables students to learn in our unique local environment. Staff provide a range of outdoor experiences that develop key skills such as trust, resilience, confidence, teamwork, and accountability.

In Year 9, all students take part in a one-day expedition to an outdoor facility, building strong connections with their peers while developing the social and leadership skills needed for success at high school. In Year 10, students have the opportunity to attend a week-long TOPEC camp focused on growing leadership.

Outdoor Education is also offered in the senior school, where students continue to build skills and experience opportunities that allow them to engage with environments and challenges they may not otherwise encounter.

Junior Activities Week

The last week of each school year is our Activities Week. Students enjoy a variety of camps and activities both locally and outside of the region. These programmes and camps are available to all Year 9 and 10 students.



Scholarships Available

Stratford High School has several scholarships available for students who attend our school.

Board of Trustees Scholarship

This is available for year 8 students who enrol at Stratford High School and can provide financial assistance during the entirety of their career at school. This scholarship is based on academic excellence.

Robert Reid Tyrer Scholarship

The Robert Reid Tyrer Scholarship is awarded following a bequest by the late Mr Robert Reid Tyrer. Mr Tyrer's father was the first Headmaster of Stratford High School. The scholarship is available to assist a rural student from a rural contributing school to attend Stratford High School. Up to three scholarships may be awarded each year with a maximum value of \$400.

Craig Scholarship

The Craig Scholarship is awarded following a bequest by the late Mr Laurence Roy Craig. The scholarship is available to a current or former student of Stratford High School to pay fees or expenses while undertaking a tertiary agricultural or horticultural course. This scholarship is paid out annually.

Lithgow Family Foundation Scholarships

Started in 2011 by the Lithgow Family, this scholarship is available for all past students of Stratford High who are undertaking any level of tertiary study. Application details are on the school website and it is available annually.







For further
information,
please contact:

The Principal
Stratford High School
Swansea Road
mail@stratfordhigh.school.nz
06 765 6039

Stratford 4332
Taranaki, New Zealand