



SCHOOL LIFE IS NOT A REHEARSAL

SELWYN COLLEGE SERIOUS ABOUT SUCCESS

PROSPECTUS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you for your interest in Selwyn College. We are a co-educational secondary school in Auckland's Eastern suburbs – an affluent and attractive part of the city, very close to beautiful beaches and parks and a short distance to the city centre.



Over the last few years, Selwyn College has been on a journey of spectacular change. Our achievements are described by the Education Review

Office in their latest report as 'a significant transformation'.

Our mission is to develop individual excellence and creativity in a vibrant, respectful and purposeful learning community. Statements made by ERO in their report endorse our success in fulfilling this mission.

'The school sets high expectations for overall student achievement'.

'The progress and academic achievement of Year 9 & 10 students is noteworthy'.

'A purposeful learning atmosphere is evident throughout the school'.

'Students are encouraged to think critically and engage in high quality learning conversations with their teachers and peers'.

Academic achievement is our first priority. This is exemplified by our significant gains in NCEA. We challenge and support our students to become

independent, reflective thinkers with excellent goal-setting skills and the confidence, resilience and self-discipline to achieve them.

Our teachers engage in continuous professional development which inspires and equips them to deliver the best possible teaching and learning.

Our excellent pastoral care, outstanding facilities and strong partnerships between home and school also enhance student achievement.

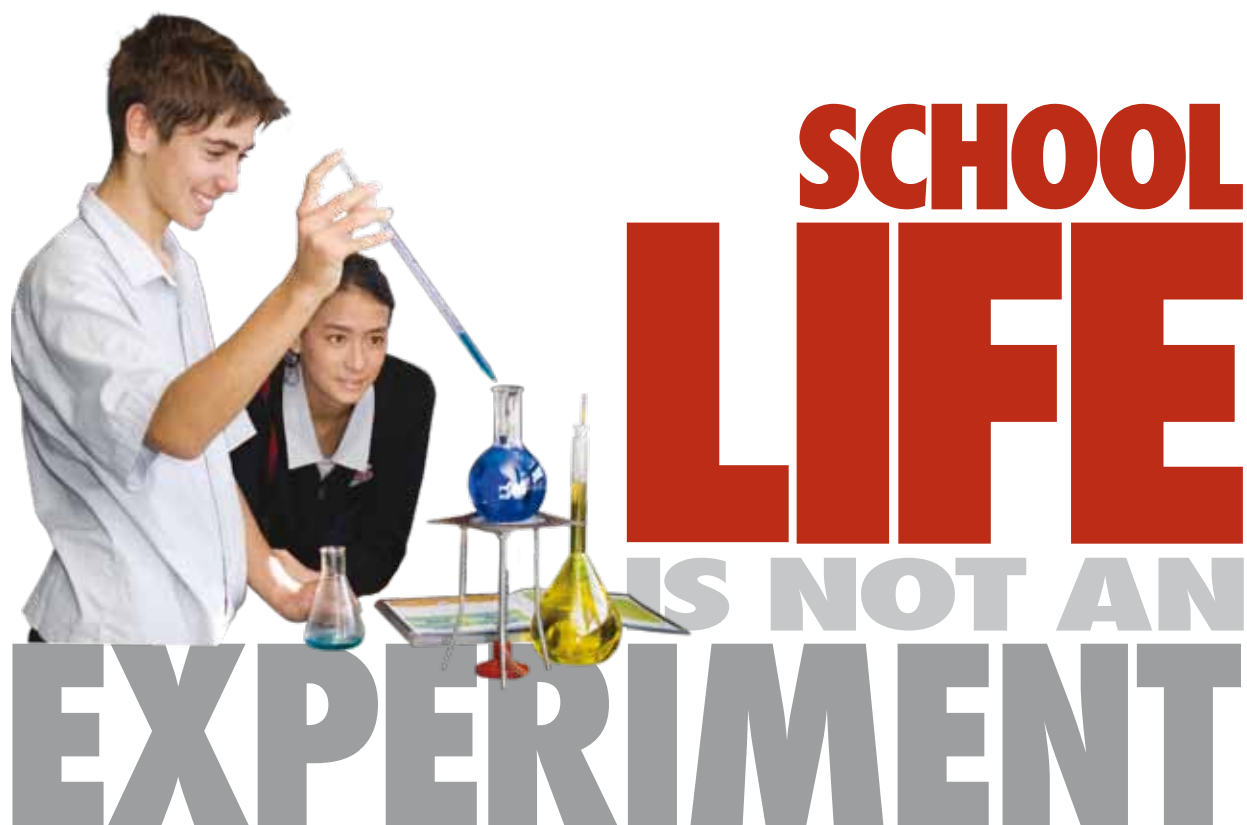
We are committed to celebrating the worth of each individual and developing their all-round potential. For this reason, participation in our rich student leadership opportunities as well as sports, performing arts and other cultural activities is strongly encouraged and monitored.

All of this means that Selwyn is now being recognised as a leading school in the practice of educational excellence. This is exemplified by the increasing number of national and international visitors who come to our school to see how it is done.

I am proud to invite you to become part of our wonderful school.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheryll Ofner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Sheryll Ofner
Principal



IT'S ALL ABOUT LEARNING AND ACHIEVING

Academic achievement is of central importance to us. At Selwyn, our focus is on building each student's capacity to be an effective learner who achieves their personal best. This means providing the best possible teaching and learning opportunities.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

In Years 9 and 10, students study in all Learning Areas of the New Zealand Curriculum. We place a very strong emphasis on Mathematics, English and Science because they are subjects which underpin academic success in the senior school. We use e-asTTLe (Assessment Tools for Teaching and Learning) to assess students' literacy and numeracy skills and to generate and use individual pathways for learning to enhance each student's progress.

Students also study Social Science and Physical Education & Health and make choices from both The Arts and Technology learning areas. They can also choose to study a Second Language or have extra Literacy classes. The Learning Areas are all vehicles through which students develop the Key Competencies and Values identified in the New Zealand Curriculum as well as critical ICT skills.

Students in Years 9 & 10 are grouped into classes that address particular learning needs. There are Advanced Learning Classes for students with high academic ability. Their learning programmes are designed to foster critical thinking and creativity and to deliver exceptional academic success. Hence, they are taught and assessed at a higher curriculum level. There are also Learning Enhancement Classes for students who require additional assistance with their learning, especially with literacy and numeracy. Students are invited to be part of both the advanced and learning enhancement classes. Entrance tests are used to assist in this process; along with information from previous teachers.

SENIOR SCHOOL

In Years 11 to 13, students are able to choose from a wide variety of courses in order to meet their own particular learning needs and career aspirations. Students who wish to study other specialist courses can often access these through our membership of the virtual learning network HarbourNet.

All subjects offer credits on the National Qualifications Framework and enable students to work towards achieving NCEA at Levels 1 – 3, as well as Scholarship. We provide extension opportunities through the use of clinics and Tutorials, visiting experts, on-line extension and e-learning through

HarbourNet to ensure that our students are fully supported to achieve Excellence and Merit Subject and NCEA Certificate Endorsements as well as Scholarship.

In addition, we offer a range of other National Certificates in areas such as Business, Computing, Performing Arts, Sports Leadership, Engineering, Furniture Manufacturing and Hospitality. Students also have the opportunity to gain credits in the workplace through our Gateway programme.

Students can select multi-level courses and talented Year 13 students can incorporate a Stage 1 University paper, such as Philosophy and Mathematics, into their programme.



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LEARNING SUPPORT

Students at Selwyn are supported in their learning by an extensive and highly regarded pastoral network, which fosters a strong sense of student connectedness.

HOUSE SYSTEM

Our student support system is based around four vertical Houses, each led by a Head of House. The four HOHs have responsibility for the oversight of the well-being and progress of each of the students in their House.

Each House has a system of student leaders and committees who plan various activities and competitions. For example, each House has a charity and all members of the House participate in generating funds to donate. Furthermore, each year there is a programme of inter-House competitions, including a volleyball tournament, an academic quiz and a talent quest through which students earn points towards the House trophy.

All Year 9 students get to know each other and are inducted into both their House and 'The Selwyn Way' by attending a camp shortly after their arrival.

A team of Peer Support leaders, made up of over 50 trained senior students, also help Year 9s feel supported and inducted into college life.

MENTOR SYSTEM

Within the Houses, each student is assigned a mentor-teacher who stays with them throughout their time at Selwyn. The mentor monitors and guides the student's academic goals and progress, along with their choices for their future and extra-curricular activities. This is done using the student's e-portfolio on Selnet which is accessible to parents. The mentor also acts as an avenue for problem-solving and ensures timely individualised intervention where necessary, by referrals to and coordination with appropriate staff and parents.

STUDENT PATHWAYS DEPARTMENT

This department is responsible for ensuring that all students are fully prepared to make appropriate careers choices and decisions and for facilitating their entry into tertiary study, the world of work or pre-work training. Our annual Careers Expo is highly regarded.

COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT

Qualified counsellors provide confidential help to all students and their caregivers on any matters that may interfere with the student's readiness to learn.

SCHOOL NURSE

Our registered nurse in the school Health Centre works to ensure that health issues that could interfere with student learning are addressed. This includes arranging free Doctor and Physiotherapist clinics.

TOTARA LEARNING CENTRE

This centre provides opportunities and support for students with special needs. Our philosophy is to mainstream special needs students as far as is appropriate. Support available includes:

- Disabled access to most of the school
- A therapy room
- Specially adapted toilet areas
- Computer resources
- A withdrawal area with a bed
- A teacher to coordinate programmes and monitor student progress and wellbeing
- Meetings with parents to set goals and review progress
- Teacher aide support

Caregivers of prospective students are invited to phone the college for an appointment to view the unit and speak with staff.

SCHOOL HOUSE SYMBOLS



MANGOPARE

determined and ethical



PITAU

focussed and supportive



RAUTAWA

persevering and compassionate

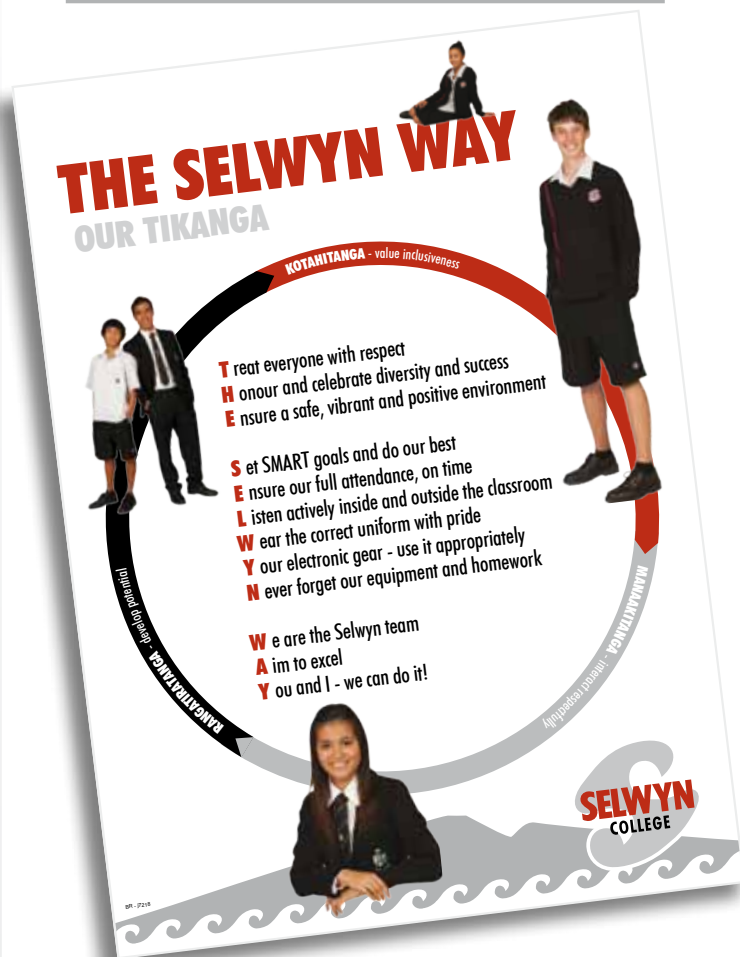


TAKEKETONGA

motivated and dignified

LEARNING RELATIONSHIPS

At Selwyn, we have an agreed set of expectations about the way everyone in our Learning Community will behave.



THE SELWYN WAY

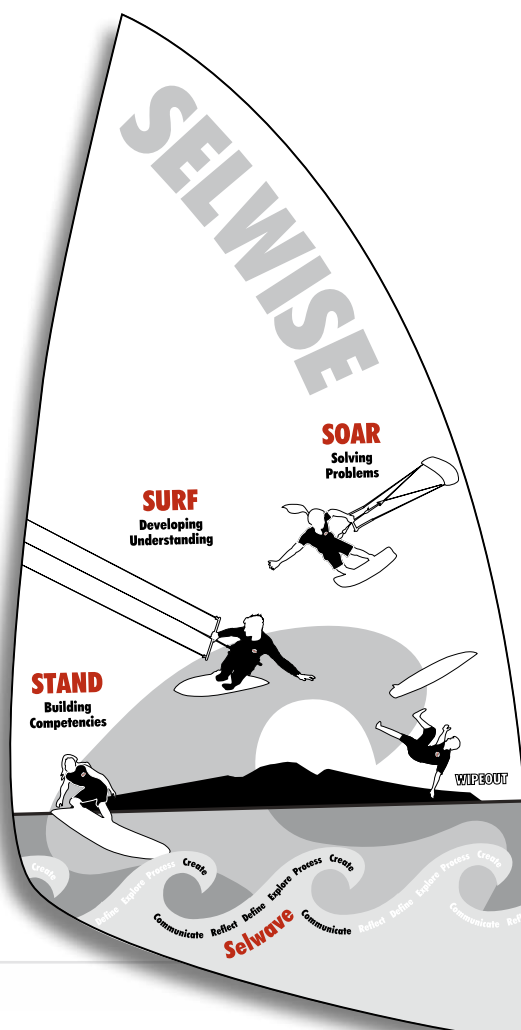
At Selwyn, we have an agreed set of 'Our Expectations' about the way everyone in our Learning Community will behave called The Selwyn Way. Each expectation is underpinned by clear procedures for staff and students to follow and teachers are trained in a range of behaviour management strategies, including restorative practice.

These expectations recognise that high quality relationships are crucial to successful learning and to maintaining a safe and positive environment for learning. They also reflect the personal attributes students need to live, learn, work and contribute as members of our wider communities.

LEARNING LEXICON

SELWISE

At Selwyn we also have a school-wide learning lexicon called Selwise. It provides our students with a framework to understand what is happening to them as they learn and helps them become powerful, lifelong learners. It includes Selwave: the six stages you always move through during the learning process.







SCHOOL LIFE IS NOT A PRACTICE

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Selwyn College provides an extensive co-curricular programme ranging from activities such as chess to debating to the worm farm. Participation in learning beyond the classroom increases motivation and maturity, deepens social and emotional competencies and develops a strong sense of community and service. For this reason, we are committed to ensuring that the individual pathways each student chooses includes learning beyond the classroom and that a record is kept in their e-portfolio.

PERFORMING ARTS

Selwyn College is renowned for its exemplary Performing Arts programme, run by a team of exceptional teachers. Many students relish the rich co-curricular learning and achievement gained from participation in our drama, dance and musical

productions which take place during the year. This includes an annual major musical production.

We have a wide variety of music groups including barbershop, brass ensemble, funk jam, concert band, string ensemble, choir, jazz groups, rock bands and an orchestra. Subsidised instrumental tuition is available from qualified music tutors and instruments are available for hire.

JUNIOR PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY

This Academy for Years 9 & 10 is designed to foster students' talents and creative expression in Drama, Dance and Music. Students audition for this Academy and once accepted, are required to attend outside of school hours for up to four hours per week to allow for additional study with specialist teachers such as learning a musical instrument, dance tuition, voice training, performance development and production technologies.

We also have a strong and talented Kapa Haka group.

SPORTS

We offer a wide variety of sports including Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Cricket, Cycling - Race Cycling and Mountain Biking, Duathlon, Golf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Orienteering, Rugby, Rock Climbing, Soccer, Squash, Softball, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tag, Touch, Triathlon and Volleyball.

We have several academies, including a Golf Academy run in partnership with the Remuera Golf Club and a Basketball Academy. Close links with local clubs and a new funding agreement with Sport Auckland mean that our students are benefitting from high quality coaching in a range of sports and are also able to complete coaching qualifications. Selwyn teams and individuals are now excelling at the highest levels of sport in Auckland and beyond.

We have purchased a substantial amount of new sports equipment and have completed a major upgrade of our sports grounds, which are now judged to be amongst the best in Auckland. Our cricket wicket and tennis systems are enabling strong programmes within the school and huge community use.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

We place huge importance on developing students' leadership skills. We have implemented a model which provides for multiple student leadership opportunities and empowers students to be significantly involved in school life.

The Head Students chair a Student Executive made up of House leaders and Student Council Leaders. The Student Councils cover: Arts, Sports, Environment, Social, Multicultural, Academic and Whanaungatanga. Each Council is responsible for identifying what initiatives they will run and for ensuring that committees are established to carry them out. The Student Executive oversees all of the school-wide leadership activities to ensure there are plenty of good ideas and that they are successful. Examples of activities led by the Student Councils include Peer Mediation, International Dress-up Day, House Day, the School Ball and Lunchtime Sports Activities.

The leadership position tagged exclusively for Year 9 students is that of 'Selwyn Ambassadors'.



LEARNING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We invite international students to join our school community. We offer students from all over the world high quality academic courses, supervision of school and home/social life and a comprehensive programme of English language teaching through its ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) department. International students enrol for short courses (lasting one or two terms) or longer periods to achieve qualifications for university entrance (in NZ or in other English speaking countries). Students receive guidance and support in all areas of their study from staff in the

International Students Office. Our international students have many opportunities to take part in cultural and sporting activities within the school or with local clubs. The college also arranges home-stay accommodation with host families living in close proximity. Detailed information is available on the 'International Students' pages on our website www.selwyn.school.nz. Students can make direct personal contact by e-mail with the Director of International Students, Mrs Julia Cornthwaite, on ints@selwyn.school.nz.





FACILITIES & RESOURCES THAT SUPPORT LEARNING

Selwyn College has many first class facilities that support students' learning. This includes specialist classrooms in areas such as media, art, music, technology and science. An extensive modernisation programme has been underway for the last four years.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Students have access to a modern computer network with individual computers in classrooms, pods in departments and four computer laboratories. The school has an Ultra fast broadband connection and a wireless network which enables students to bring their own devices to use at school. All classrooms are fitted with data projectors and we have several interactive whiteboards. We have a powerful learning management system Selnet that serves as both our website and intranet and enables virtual classrooms, access from home and a parental portal. It provides information about every aspect of school life for students and their families. This includes things like NCEA assessment programmes, models of excellent work, activities and resources designed to reinforce learning and the ability to blog and talk with staff and other students about school-work. Parents can also monitor their student's attendance on a daily basis. In addition, we have a state-of-the-art video conferencing facility which provides opportunities for educational connectedness. There is substantial professional development for staff in the use of ICT to enhance learning.

SELWYN THEATRE

This theatre is one of the best of its kind in New Zealand and is the hub of our performing arts programme, where students develop and show their talents in an authentic learning environment.

ASB STADIUM

This sporting facility significantly enhances our physical education and sporting programmes and students' ability to excel.

LEWIS CENTRE

This centre incorporates a modern library with ICT, photocopying and media facilities to support student learning.

STUDENT COMMON ROOM

This modern centre provides seniors with an attractive and comfortable place to study during school time and socialise during breaks.

STUDENT OFFICE

Student Office staff, including the cashier, provide a range of services such as managing the attendance database, selling second-hand uniforms and receiving payments associated with student activities.

A LEARNING PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

We believe that a strong partnership between school and home is the most effective way of supporting our students to gain the most from their learning opportunities and to achieve their personal best.

For this reason, we encourage regular three-way communication between the Head of House, the student and their parents/caregivers.

We hold face-to-face Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews during the year and also provide Progress and Achievement Reports three times a year.

A Principal's Newsletter is published on our website every Friday to communicate information about school events and other important matters.

Membership of the PTA or Te Whanau Awhi o Selwyn is open to families, friends and students of Selwyn College. Its overarching purpose is to support and enhance the educational experience of our students through voluntary service, community involvement, improvement of amenities and assistance with extra-curricular activities.

In addition, we enjoy close links with Ngati Whatua o Orakei and we have established a special home-school partnership initiative with Pasifika families.



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