



PROSPECTUS  
*Primary*





Our community is an inclusive one: we know that it takes all of us, working closely together, to support every child to be successful.



# TĒNĀ KOUTOU!

## A WARM WELCOME TO YOU

Welcome to Pinehurst School, a community that lives and breathes its values in pursuit of excellence. With a beautiful campus surrounded by nature, there is a deep connection to the land and the people. We are a school that is built on the strength of relationships between students, staff, and parents and we thrive because we all believe in the same thing; the young people who come here need to be equipped for the demands of a rapidly changing world.

Pinehurst is well known for its academic achievements, with our students attaining exceptional performances while following the Cambridge Assessment International Education programme. Cambridge provides a rigorous pathway, where learners develop a range of skills beyond the required knowledge and while it has a British basis, we contextualize our courses to reflect the heritage of New Zealand and the intercultural makeup of our community.

Academic success is just part of the story at Pinehurst, outside of the classroom our students are involved in a wide range of activities from the sports field to the stage, there is something for everyone. Students are deeply committed to the service of others beginning with peer support

between Year 2 and new entrants through to senior students leading a variety of projects that positively impact the wider community.

Our community's true nature is shown through the holistic care that is provided to every member of the school, students are known and cared for as individuals as they progress on their journey through Pinehurst. Our staff always go the extra mile to make sure that the children are safe and secure as they explore their sense of self, their boundaries, and their passion.

The exceptional staff at Pinehurst are dedicated to providing a nurturing, yet challenging environment, where students are encouraged to push their limits in order to unlock their potential. Staff are active well beyond the classroom and the relationships formed through a range of activities contribute positively to our school culture. The professional development offered ensures that we remain on the leading edge of teaching, and we are committed to being role models of lifelong learning.

Pinehurst students are true global citizens, they understand their place in the world and the impact they can have on the people around them. While some of our alumni go on to study at the

most prestigious universities in the world, we will never lose sight of the individual pathways that are made available to every child. We encourage students to find and pursue their passion both in New Zealand and abroad, knowing they are ready for the challenges beyond school.

Our values: respect for self, respect for others, and excellence are at the core of who we at Pinehurst and we are dedicated in our pursuit of them. From humble beginnings as a small school on what was then the edge of Auckland in 1991, to a leading provider of education in New Zealand, Pinehurst School continues its journey of offering an outstanding, holistic education.

Please visit us, one foot on the campus and you'll understand what makes our school so special.

**Ngā mihi**



**MIKE WALLER**

*Executive Principal*



# PINEHURST MISSION AND VISION

AS ONE OF NEW ZEALAND'S LEADING SCHOOLS, PINEHURST EDUCATES ITS STUDENTS TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL POSSIBLE, ENSURING THEY ARE SUPERBLY EQUIPPED FOR AN OUTSTANDING FUTURE.

- Pinehurst provides each student with an excellent education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline, leadership, motivation and excellence in learning.
- Pinehurst works with parents to guide students towards academic and behavioural excellence, sporting achievement and artistic recognition.
- Pinehurst employs and develops teachers and support staff who demonstrate excellence in their profession.
- Pinehurst is internationally recognised for its top academic achievement.
- Pinehurst provides a values-based learning environment which assists students in developing skills to become independent and self-sufficient adults who will succeed and contribute responsibly in the global community.

## OUR CULTURE

What it means to be at our school:

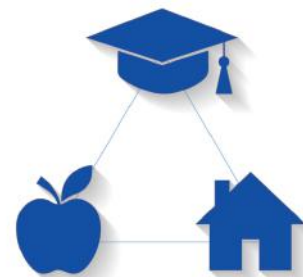
Students will strive for individual excellence in not only academic subjects, but also sports, the arts and life skills.

Parents are encouraged to participate in their child's education and in the wider school community.

Lines of communication are always open, whether it be an informal breakfast with the Principal or a quick on-line survey, Pinehurst values the opinions of its students and their families.

## THE PINEHURST TRIANGLE

When we were established, in 1991, the founding Board created the "Pinehurst Triangle", a way of describing the importance of the relationship between the child, the parent and the school. The Pinehurst Triangle matters to us: when parents join our community, they find they are asked to express their views perhaps more than they expect, and they find themselves invited to participate all the time. We really do listen and we think of our school as a place that belongs to all of us.



# OUR VALUES

RESPECT FOR  
SELF

RESPECT FOR  
OTHERS

EXCELLENCE



## OUR COMMUNITY

Nothing matters more than the relationship between a teacher and a young person. It's the foundation of learning and supports the happiness of the whole community.

The Pinehurst community cares for each other: ours is a family. As in all families, there is a diversity of views and opinions, and we encourage those to be expressed within the context of our mutual respect for each other. That said, there are core values which inform all we do.

Pinehurst's mission includes providing each student with an excellent education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline, leadership, motivation and excellence in learning. This is something that we all believe in, and that we expect our whole community to support.

We want students to develop skills to become independent and self-sufficient adults who will succeed and contribute responsibly in the global community. Ours is a community led by values.





## BEGINNING THE JOURNEY

Our Primary School is a nurturing, cheerful and caring place. We want what every parent wants: for our children to be safe, feel happy and secure, and develop into curious, resilient young people who can read, write and think at outstanding levels.

Our children are taught in smaller classes than you will find in other schools: our usual maximum class size is 22 from Year 3, and we never go above 25 in any year. Small classes mean that we can give our children the individual attention they need and deserve.

We make joining Pinehurst an easy and comfortable transition; before starting, children have two orientation visits joining other new entrants and their class teacher.

New entrants start together at the beginning of each term so they feel part of an inclusive group allowing them to make friends with ease.

Our teachers are exceptionally well-qualified: they are experienced, caring and committed to developing a strong relationship with the parents of the children in their classes through regular communication, frequent feedback, information evenings and formal conferences. Parent input is valued and an essential part of the relationship between the parent, the child and their teacher. You will often hear us refer to this as the 'Pinehurst Triangle'

# PRIMARY CURRICULUM

We follow the Cambridge curriculum in all subjects from Year 0, making sure that all our children achieve excellent levels across the board and especially in numeracy and literacy. These are the skills they are going to need to continue to excel in the future.

We teach Cambridge Science from Year 0 as well, encouraging children's thinking skills about the world in which we live.

We are proud of our, 'Above and Beyond' extension and enrichment programmes: we run extension and enrichment lessons from Year 2, as well as encouraging and teaching critical thinking strategies across the school which help our children gain the skills they need to solve problems and develop ideas when they are presented with a new situation.

For children who need extra support, we work with parents to ensure that they have everything they need and provide a number of programmes facilitated by Learner Assistants as well as in class support.

We also have an extensive sports programme. We have multiple teams in most sports and make the best use of our fantastic facilities. Art, music, and drama are also very important to us: we have a dedicated music teacher for our Primary students, and our annual productions are both amazing and huge fun.

After Year 6, Primary students can continue their learning journey at Pinehurst up to Year 13. Our College students all follow the internationally acclaimed Cambridge system.





PINEHURST  
SCHOOL

PINEHURST  
SCHOOL

# NEW ENTRANTS

Pinehurst Primary has a warm and caring environment giving children the very best start to their school life.

New Entrant intakes occur at the beginning of each term and new students attend two orientation visits before they start. During these orientation visits, students familiarise themselves with the school facilities and meet their future classmates and teachers, fostering a smooth transition into the Pinehurst Primary community. This thoughtful and comprehensive approach ensures that every new student feels welcomed and supported, contributing to the school's commitment to providing a positive and nurturing educational experience.

## SIMPLE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Four points of entry two terms ahead.
- Introductory video is submitted by prospective families, interviews are arranged which include both parents and child. Meet with the Principal of Primary and Deputy Principal of Primary.
- School selects if more applications than places available.
- Priority of place is given to siblings of children already enrolled.

## WHEN YOUR CHILD STARTS AT PINEHURST:

- They will either move into a brand-new class of no more than 18 students with one experienced teacher.
- Or they will join a class of up to 25 students with two teachers in the morning to ensure they receive the individual attention that matters so much.
- In their second year the teacher student ratio is 1:23
- Nurture and care: ethos of individual care.
- Cambridge curriculum from New Entrants: a structured course with exceptional resources.
- Phonics and very explicit reading and writing development based on how the brain learns to read
- Specialist teaching (includes music, Science from Year 4, physical education, and languages).
- Committed parental community: social dimensions, increasingly supported by school.



# YEAR 1 - 6

Our Primary School is a nurturing, cheerful and caring place. We want what every parent wants: for our children to be safe, feel happy and secure, and develop into curious, resilient young people who can read, write, think, and reflect at outstanding levels.

Our children are taught in smaller classes than you will find in other schools: our usual maximum class size is 23 from Year 3, and we never go above 25 in any year. We think this is important for many reasons, but the main one is simply that we know how important it is for us to get to know every child in the class well. We see it is our job to nurture your child when they are with us, supporting them alongside their parents, giving them everything that they need to be happy and confident. Small classes mean that we can give our children the attention they need, and they deserve.

Our teachers are exceptionally well qualified too: they are experienced, caring and committed to developing a strong relationship with the parents of the children in their classes.

We follow the Cambridge curriculum in all subjects from Year 0, making sure that all of our children achieve excellent levels across the board and

We believe students need to be nurtured, encouraged and taught the processes that will help them to develop responsibility for their own learning and behaviour. With this, students develop self-confidence and self-esteem, by understanding their own strengths and needs.

especially in numeracy and literacy. These are the skills they are going to need to continue to excel in the future. We have a specialist Cambridge Science teacher from Year 4 as well, encouraging children's thinking skills about the world in which we live. Music, Physical Education, Mandarin, and Spanish are all subjects taught from Year 0-6 as separate lessons by specialist teachers.

We are proud of our 'Above and Beyond' enrichment and extension programmes throughout the Primary which includes STEM, Music, Robotics and Lego Dacta as well as extension and acceleration in Mathematics and English. These lessons help children develop the skills they need to solve problems and develop ideas when they are presented with a new situation.

For children who need extra support, we work with parents to ensure that they have everything they need for the future. A daily literacy support programme is also offered in the Primary. We provide one to one and group support for students who need help in Mathematics and English as well as study skills and work habits and each learning syndicate has an Academic Learner Assistant who teaches alongside the teacher and works with small groups.







# A BROAD AND BALANCED CURRICULUM

In our Primary school we have a strong focus on learning what are called the basics in the form of our numeracy, literacy and science programmes. Alongside that is our determination to cater for the needs of the whole child, developing their passions through a broad and balanced curriculum. Also, we want learning to be fun so that our students enjoy high levels of engagement leading to better educational outcomes.

With a focus on relationships as the basis for all learning we aim to create an experience where students can discover their passions and develop their skills in all

areas of the curriculum. That may be on the sports field, on the water, through music, arts, and drama or swinging from a flying fox at camp. There is so much to discover about our world. Students learn to develop grit and resilience, build confidence, try and sometimes fail, whilst also understanding that this is healthy and part of the process of learning. We offer a diverse range of programmes and activities to appeal to every child and to help them to become more rounded as young people.





## SPORTS

At Pinehurst school we offer the students the opportunity to develop their Hauora (well-being) through participation in physical education and sport. Our physical education program is designed to teach our students about their personal health and physical development, movement concepts and motor skills and relationships with other people. The development of these skills is then utilised within the curricular and co-curricular sport program. Our sport curriculum enables students to compete in a wide range of sports within their class, house, year, or school group, developing interpersonal skills that will benefit them in everyday life. There is always something sport related taking place in our Primary school to get involved in and have a go.

## MUSIC AND THEATRE

At Pinehurst, our primary music programme offers a diverse and enriching experience for pupils of all ages. For our Year 1-2 students, the focus is on singing and the fundamentals of music, utilising both tuned and untuned percussion instruments. As they progress to Year 3-5, pupils enhance their note-reading skills through recorder lessons. Our Year 5-6 students delve into the world of ukuleles, exploring global music influences and bass line creation. We have introduced a primary rock band, adding a contemporary edge to our already vibrant offerings. In addition to classroom activities, students can join our orchestra, Suzuki violin group, marimba ensemble, woodwind group, and choir. For those seeking further musical challenges, we provide itinerant lessons in a variety of instruments.

## STEM

STEM learning is an educational approach that focuses on integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics disciplines to foster problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovation among students. The Pinehurst STEM Enrichment programme applies this concept through meaningful content, solving real-world problems through creative design and engineering. From Space exploration and the Icy Arctic to behind-the-scenes Movie Magic and battling the elements, we cover all elements of STEM learning and put it in to practice with practical and engaging tasks.





## CAMPS

From Year 0 our students attend annual camps where they learn the skills of outdoor adventure whilst taking responsible risks and challenging comfort zones.

In Years 0-2 our students experience an onsite camp facilitated by Conscious Kids where they take big pieces of equipment, think a boat, ropes, tracks, tarps and a myriad of other items and they play, create, and collaborate.

As they progress through the years, the camp experiences evolve to provide increasingly challenging and enriching opportunities. In Year 3, students venture off-site for two days,

followed by Year 4 with an extended stay of 3 days and 2 nights. By Year 5, they embark on a 3-night excursion, culminating in Year 6 with an immersive week-long adventure.

Challenge as well as time is added as students mature and they participate in a range of activities such as building go carts and racing them, flying at great speed on a flying fox, going tramping and navigating confidence courses which help them to build resilience and to learn how to be part of a team as well as just having fun!

## WATERWISE

At Pinehurst, we prioritize the safety and confidence of our students in the water through our Waterwise program and swimming lessons. Students in Year 4 and 5 receive swimming instruction at Northern Arena, followed by a water safety lesson and then a Swimming Sport inter-house competition. In Year 6, students have the exciting opportunity to learn how to rig and sail an optimist boat at Murrays Bay Beach. Through hands-on experiences, they acquire essential skills such as tying a bowline knot and steering a boat using a tiller. We collaborate with Waterwise, a voluntary organization dedicated to promoting water safety, as one of three participating schools in the Murrays Bay's Schools Waterwise program.





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*Our place*

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