

Tokomairiro High School
Prospectus

DISCIPLINA MODERATIO
COMITAS

Welcome

Nau mai, haere mai ki Tokomairiro

Welcome to Tokomairiro High School. Our school is a place where each student is valued, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

About Us

Tokomairiro High School is one of New Zealand's oldest, dating back to 1856. Its roots stretch back into the rich history of the Tokomairiro Plain itself, long before European settlement.

The name "Tokomairiro" harks back to the pre-European era, when the area was a thriving wetland with the Tokomairiro River at its heart, filled with kai and other valuable resources. Initially, the Waitaha people, followed by Kāti Māmoe and then Kāi Tahu navigated these waters in mokihi (canoes) fashioned from raupo (bullrush).

This connection to the whenua and to its awa remains central to our school's identity with the image of te mokihi encapsulated in our school crest, and the action of poling the craft through the reedy waters captured in our school's haka.



Ko te Tamaiti te Pūtake o te Kaupapa: The Child is the Heart of the Matter

We believe in the importance of placing our students at the centre of everything we do. Our dedicated staff are committed to providing a holistic education that not only meets academic needs but also supports the physical, emotional, social, and cultural wellbeing of all our students. We are proud to offer a learning environment that is both nurturing and challenging, whilst fostering growth and excellence in every aspect of student life.

To help students succeed to the best of their abilities we promote the following values ▶

Our Values

RESPONSIBILITY
HAEPAPA

EXCELLENCE
HIRANGA

RESPECT
WHAKAUTE

These values are supported by our

School Motto

Learning, self-control and courtesy	*Disciplina moderatio comitas*

Our Curriculum

Tokomairiro High School provides a broad curriculum that equips students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed. Our programmes reflect the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum and the evolving national qualification system while ensuring students continue to experience a wide range of learning opportunities.

Years 7 & 8

In the Te Kaika Hub students build strong foundations in literacy and mathematics while experiencing a broad curriculum that includes Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, the Arts, Technology and Languages. Learning is supported through a homeroom environment that helps students develop confidence, organisation and positive learning habits.

Years 9 & 10

Students in Years 9 and 10 study a balanced curriculum that combines the core learning areas with a range of specialist learning experiences. Throughout the year, students have opportunities to develop practical skills, creativity and confidence while exploring a variety of subject areas. This broad programme helps students discover their strengths and interests before making choices for their senior years.

Years 11–13

Students in Years 11–13 work towards NCEA qualifications through a range of academic and vocational pathways. Our senior curriculum is designed to prepare students for university, apprenticeships, employment and further training, with programmes tailored to support individual aspirations and future success.

Beyond the Classroom

At Tokomairiro High School, we believe that education extends beyond the classroom. Our diverse range of extracurricular activities provides students with opportunities to explore their passions, develop new skills, and engage with the community. Whether a student is interested in athletics, arts, academia, or social causes, there is something for everyone. Here's a glimpse of what we offer:

Sports

Our sports programme promotes participation, teamwork, resilience and a lifelong enjoyment of physical activity. We have an annual Athletics Day, Swimming Sports and Cross Country. In addition we offer a variety of sports, including:

- Netball
- Basketball
- Futsal
- Hockey
- Athletics
- Rugby
- Bowls

Arts

For students with a creative flair, our arts programmes provide a platform to express themselves and hone their talents. Options include:

- Kapa Haka
- Individual music lessons which are available for a number of instruments
- Drama
- Other Performing Arts

Other

As Tokomairiro High School is located in South Otago with convenient access to Central Otago, the Catlins, Dunedin and Southland, our students are able to take advantage of the many nearby amenities that include the Clutha Gold Trail, ski fields, museums and other cultural events. Some of the many opportunities we offer students access to are:

- School camps
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Outward Bound
- Future Leaders Academy
- Overseas trips



Student Support

The well-being and success of our students are at the heart of everything we do. We offer a comprehensive range of support services designed to ensure that every student feels valued and supported:

- **Guidance and Counselling**: A Guidance Counsellor is available to assist with academic and personal matters.
- **Health Services:** The Health Nurse runs a clinic once a week at the school. Students are able to access help with a range of medical needs while at school.
- **Learning Support:** Students with learning needs are well served through the nationally recognised Learning Support Programme, SPEC.





Student Belonging

At Tokomairiro High School, we place a strong emphasis on fostering a sense of belonging for every student. We understand that a supportive and inclusive school environment is essential for personal and academic success. Our initiatives to ensure every student feels valued and connected include:

- **A Welcoming Environment:** The first day of school where students are welcomed by staff and older students in a mihi whakatau. From the first day onwards we strive to create a welcoming atmosphere where all students feel accepted and appreciated.
- **Peer Support:** Senior students support our Year 7 students by running a Peer Support programme during their first term.
- **Cultural Celebrations:** We celebrate the rich cultural diversity of our student body through various events that honour different traditions and backgrounds.
- **The House System:** Tokomairiro High School has a well established house system that forms the cornerstone of many events during the school year. On arrival students will be placed into one of our four houses: Ayson, Malcolm, Reid and Ross.



Recognising Student Achievement

At Tokomairiro High School, we celebrate the many ways students contribute to our school community. Our unique Recognition Programme provides opportunities for every student to be acknowledged for their commitment and achievement in Academic, Cultural, Service and Sporting pursuits.

Through Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond Awards, students are recognised for sustained involvement, personal growth and excellence over time. The programme reflects our belief that success is measured not only by results, but also by dedication, participation and a willingness to contribute.

Digital Devices

Digital technologies are an integral part of learning at Tokomairiro High School. Students in Years 7 and 8 are provided with a Chromebook for use during the school day. Students in Years 9–13 participate in our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programme and are expected to bring a suitable laptop with a physical keyboard each day. Tablets are not suitable as a primary learning device.





How to Enrol

Enrolment forms can be obtained from our school office. Each family who enrols their child at Tokomairiro High School is met and interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. At this interview the child's learning experiences, strengths and dreams for the future will be taken into account for the planning of their secondary schooling. From this meeting their homeroom class and house will also be organised.

Contact

Phone: 03 417 8620

Email: thsprincipal@tokohigh.school.nz

238 Union Street, Milton, Otago 9220

www.tokohigh.school.nz