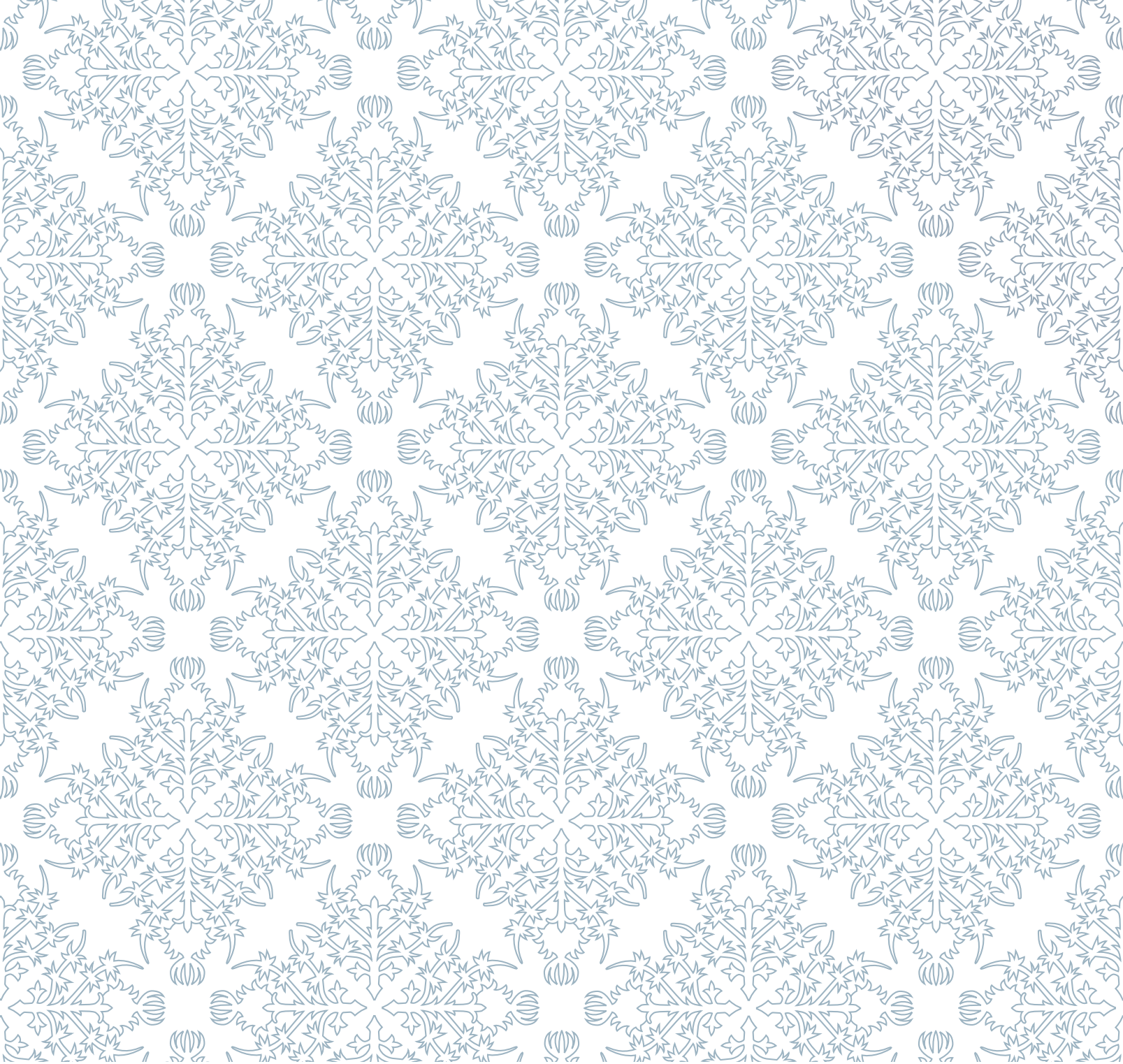




St Andrew's College

Prospectus



FIDES ET PATRIA

St Andrew's College

Truth, Excellence, Faith



Contents

	page		page
The Spirit of St Andrew's	1	A Spirit of Giving	19
<i>Introduction from Rector</i>		<i>Community Service and</i>	
		<i>Culture of Philanthropy</i>	
The Spirit of our Forefathers	3	A Spirit of Support	20
<i>Our history and our values</i>		<i>Gifted and Talented and</i>	
		<i>Learning Support Programmes</i>	
The Spirit of the Highlands	5	The Spirit of Tomorrow	22
<i>Our Scottish heritage</i>		<i>Campus Development</i>	
A Spirit of Co-education	7	A Spirit of Technology	25
<i>Benefits for students learning together</i>		<i>e-Learning and technology in the classroom</i>	
A Spirit of Achievement	9	A Spirit of Community	27
<i>Curriculum</i>		<i>Your connection for life</i>	
A Spirit of Opportunity	11	Pre-school	29
<i>Sports and Cultural Activities</i>		<i>2-5 year old children</i>	
A Spirit of Celebration	13	Preparatory School Years 1-8	31
<i>Celebrating student successes and</i>		<i>Middle School Years 9-11</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>leadership opportunities</i>		<i>Senior College Years 12-13</i>	<i>35</i>
A Spirit of Adventure	15	A Spirit of Family	36
<i>Outdoor Education Programme at</i>		<i>Our boarding community</i>	
<i>Castle Hill Mountain Lodge</i>			
A Spirit of Inclusion	17		
<i>Our Pastoral Care Programme</i>			



our purpose

To prepare young people for the demands of a changing, challenging world supported by Christian values; a passionate, talented staff; inspirational and innovative programmes; a highly engaged community; a culture of excellence and belonging; and the best of our unique traditions, "Feel the Spirit".

our vision

St Andrew's College students are active participants in a dynamic community of learners and inspired to become valued citizens and enthusiastic learners for life. St Andrew's nurtures the development of talent and creative ability through balanced exposure to academic, cultural, service, social, spiritual and sporting opportunities.

The Spirit of St Andrew's



“St Andrew's is in a unique position – the only co-educational, independent school in the South Island – and co-education is exciting and supportive and inspiring and natural and real.”

Christine Leighton, Rector

St Andrew's College holds a special place in the hearts and minds of generations of South Islanders. Mention our name, and a story about a family member or friend with a close connection to the school is rarely far away. And the conclusion is nearly always the same: “there is something very special about St Andrew's”. Without doubt, we are unique. We are the only independent and co-educational school in the South Island to offer education from pre-school to Year 13. We are big enough to be a bustling, thriving community, but not so large that the individual cannot shine.

Beautiful Strowan House – a heritage building – is the frontispiece to our spacious grounds that nestle alongside tree-lined Strowan Stream. Many of our teaching facilities are world-class, and some of the greatest names in the last century of New Zealand history spent their formative years in our care.

But the true spirit of St Andrew's – that ‘something very special’ – lies not in the size of our roll, the elegance of our campus or, even, the achievements of our past pupils. The true spirit of St Andrew's is something far less tangible, but nonetheless perceptible. It is the extraordinary energy, humour and collegiality that emanates from a Friday morning assembly. It is the lone kilted bagpiper who patrols the sideline in the mud and spurs our First XV on to greater heights. It is the sublime sound of our chorale in full voice during a weekly chapel service. It is an inexplicable but irresistible impulse that brings Old Collegians in their seventies, eighties and nineties back for one more reunion and one more reverent wander through the familiar corridors of Strowan House.

The true spirit of St Andrew's is all of these things and much, much more, and within these pages you will find only a taste of its many facets. To truly understand the spirit; to feel its invigorating effect, it is necessary to walk through our gates and spend time among us.

We hope this prospectus inspires you to do just that.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Christine Leighton'.

Christine Leighton

Rector



The Spirit of our Forefathers

St Andrew's College was founded in 1917 in the Scottish Presbyterian tradition of the Christian faith. The values our forefathers held dear remain strong and true today. They form a foundation for success and happiness in life within and beyond the school gates.

Truth

Throughout your time at St Andrew's we uphold your right to be allowed, and indeed inspired, to challenge and enquire, to think critically, to formulate opinions without prejudice, to seize opportunities without fear and to maintain the highest ethical standards. Our role is to help you be the best you can be and make a positive contribution to your community and society.

Excellence

A culture of excellence will touch every part of your life at St Andrew's. In all your endeavours, we encourage you to set high standards, have high expectations, strive for and support excellent work, have pride in your school and celebrate the efforts and achievements of you and your peers.

Faith

Christian spirituality is central to who we are and what we offer. Chapel worship and Religious Education are in keeping with our Presbyterian origins, although we welcome people of all faiths. Chapel services will be an integral part of your weekly routine and you will also attend Religious Education classes once a week.





The Spirit of the Highlands

The sights, sounds and traditions of Scotland are central to the spirit of St Andrew's College. Our Pipe Band was formed in 1919, and is perennially New Zealand's best at school level. At the 2013 world championships the band won the juvenile grade, making them world champions.

The skirl of the pipes is an integral part of daily life at the College. You will hear it at assemblies, at sports fixtures, at prizegiving and at many other special events and occasions. It is a sound that will evoke powerful emotions and, after you leave St Andrew's, become a treasured reminder of your years here.

In the Senior College, our prefects wear kilts on Friday. The thistle and the Fergusson tartan are icons of the school, along with the Cross of St Andrew's that forms the centrepiece of our Coat of Arms and flag. Each year, in association with our Founders' Day celebrations, we hold our own version of the Highland Games. These are symbols of the strong connection we maintain with our Scottish forefathers. It is a connection that may even see you winging your way to Scotland to undertake an exchange or scholarship with one of our partner schools.

"I love the strong Scottish traditions present at StAC. From Founders' Day Assembly to the constantly playing bagpipes, it makes me feel as though I am part of something special."

Reference: Student survey (2013)





A Spirit of Co-education

For both girls and boys, co-education provides a more realistic way of training young people to take their places naturally in the wider community of men and women. It helps to break down the misconceptions of each sex about the other and provides an excellent foundation for the development of realistic, meaningful and lasting relationships in later life.

We live in a co-ed world – let's learn in one too!

Co-educational schools more accurately reflect the diversity of our society. They help students gain confidence communicating and interacting with a broader range of people, and provide them with the social skills they need to succeed in the real world.

Students at co-educational schools not only learn beside each other, they learn from each other. Co-ed schooling teaches collaboration, fosters a positive self-image, and helps to develop the confidence our future leaders need.

A co-educational learning environment helps break down misconceptions between boys and girls. It introduces students to both male and female role models, and leaves children with a wider, more diverse network of friends.

Co-educational schooling gives children the confidence they need to tackle challenges and embrace new opportunities. It results in young adults who are open-minded, well-rounded, and willing to step outside their comfort zone.

Co-educational schools teach children the social skills needed to interact with a diverse range of people, helping them to form meaningful relationships that they'll carry with them for the rest of their lives.

“Our boys and girls learn together. They share new experiences and gain fresh perspectives from each other, thriving academically and developing social skills in the process. The result? Our students leave us as confident young adults, resilient and better prepared for life in today's world.”

Christine Leighton, Rector



A Spirit of Achievement


Every aspect of life at St Andrew's is geared towards helping you reach your full academic potential and become a lifelong learner. At all levels, our curriculum is strong and varied. During your time in the Preparatory and Middle Schools, you will be exposed to a wide variety of subjects including core subjects such as English, Maths and Science as well as Religious Education, technical and creative pursuits, languages and Physical Education. A wide range of options are available from Year 9 including ballet and a high performance sports programme.

As you progress into the Senior College, you are given greater freedom to shape your own timetable according to your strengths and interests, in preparation for further study or entry into the workforce.

From Year 11 onwards our programmes of study support the NCEA qualification framework. Talented and dedicated teachers, tutors, peer support leaders and study advisers from outside St Andrew's will all be available to help you achieve at the highest level possible in your course work and external NCEA examinations.

St Andrew's College students consistently achieve well above the national average in NCEA at all levels, and in the attainment of NCEA Merit and Excellence endorsements. There are also opportunities to sit the premier academic New Zealand Scholarships exams. St Andrew's students often excel in these exams and some students have even received Top Scholar Awards recognising their achievement of the top mark in New Zealand for their subject.



 You can view videos on our YouTube channel and photos of events on our Flickr website.



A Spirit of Opportunity

Sports and the arts figure highly on our list of priorities for students of all ages. In our experience, young people who are able to explore their interests and express their talents in a wide variety of fields make better scholars, employees, friends, family members and citizens.

You will continue a rich and varied sporting tradition at St Andrew's. From Years 4 to 12 you will participate in a sport and/or cultural activity each week, during both the summer and winter terms. You will have the opportunity to attend inter-school competitions at local, regional, national and perhaps even international level. Many of our top teams in targeted sports achieve outstanding success in regular national competitions. Our much-anticipated annual athletics, swimming and cross-country events will also be on your agenda.

Each year, Middle School and Senior College productions grace our theatre stage, giving you an authentic taste of Broadway or the West End. The script and music for our biennial Preparatory School production are written entirely by students, who also design the sets and costumes.

Our Music Department provides professional tuition in singing and a wide range of instruments, as well as regular opportunities for you to hone your performing skills in groups such as our extraordinary stage and concert bands.

Membership of our internationally-renowned Pipe Band is a special opportunity open to you as a St Andrew's student. Ballet and dance, speech and drama, kapa haka, photography, the visual arts, broadcasting and media studies add to the choices available to you.





A Spirit of Celebration

Life at St Andrew's is about celebrating success in all its forms. Whether you achieve top honours in a national sporting competition, lift your academic performance to a new high or contribute to a worthy community cause, your extraordinary effort and determination will be recognised.

Nowhere is that spirit more evident than at our regular assemblies and annual prizegiving. Academic, sporting and cultural effort is acknowledged openly and warmly, and our top achievers become role models and mentors for their peers.

Leadership is also encouraged and celebrated at all levels. Throughout your time in the Preparatory and Secondary Schools you will be given numerous opportunities to take on leadership roles and receive specialised training. Whether a prefect, peer support leader, sports or cultural captain, the responsibilities you assume will be respected and applauded. The leadership skills you develop at St Andrew's will also serve you well as you move into the next phases of your life.





A Spirit of Adventure

The Alistair Sidey Mountain Lodge at Castle Hill in the spectacular Canterbury high country will quickly become one of your favourite classrooms. In 2008 the lodge was completely rebuilt into a state-of-the-art centre for our Outdoor Education and Leadership programmes, where personal empowerment and team spirit are top priorities.

Activities at the lodge are designed and overseen by highly-qualified, full-time instructors. The facility and its programmes have earned the prestigious OutdoorsMark rating, which means our management and safety procedures are of a measurably high standard. In 2014 we were awarded the Outdoors New Zealand Organisation Award for exceptional processes for health and safety, sustainability, community engagement and bicultural awareness.

Between Years 7 and 10 you will discover a lot about yourself and your classmates during your annual excursions to the lodge. You will learn the importance and art of decision-making and taking responsibility for your actions, develop leadership skills and realise the value of working as a team. You will acquire skills that will help you in the classroom and in life beyond school. And you will have a lot of fun! Activities include group problem-solving games, abseiling, rock climbing, skiing, snow-caving, tramping, camping and kayaking. In the Senior College, our prefects, peer support and other student leaders undertake much of their specialised leadership training in the inspiring surroundings of Castle Hill.





A Spirit of Inclusion

When you join the St Andrew's College community, you gain the support and friendship of an entire network of people who take an active interest in your welfare. We do everything we can to ensure your academic, co-curricular and social interactions here are as rewarding as possible.

Our Pastoral Care programme is led by the College Chaplain and supported by an experienced and respected counsellor. In each year of your secondary education you will be placed into a tutor group of 12 to 16 students. Your tutor, who you will get to know very well, will take primary responsibility for your well-being throughout the year and provide advice and assistance if you need it. A Dean is also appointed to your year group and will provide additional support if required.

Our House system and Peer Support programme also play important roles in helping you to feel secure, confident and included while at St Andrew's. Our student community is very diverse. It is made up of young people from as many as 30 different countries. We are co-educational, multicultural and have varying skills and interests. We will recognise and respect your uniqueness, while helping you in any way we can to connect with your College.

“We have been impressed by the overwhelming feeling of community and the support given to students and family throughout difficult times and the spirit and excitement of the students when given opportunities to try new things they would normally not endeavour to try.”

Reference: Parent survey (2013)





A Spirit of Giving

St Andrew's College believes in creating purposeful local and global partnerships that allow unique opportunities for learning and foster civic engagement and social responsibility. Community service is an intrinsic part of student life from the Preparatory School through to the Senior College where students complete 30 hours of service for their diploma. Chapel services, mufti days and special efforts driven by students and staff result in a range of support going to Christchurch charities and international organisations with which St Andrew's College is closely aligned. Big Brother - Big Sister, Hagar International, the Cancer Society, World Vision, Youthline and the Christchurch City Mission are a few of the organisations St Andrew's supports.

In keeping with the College's ethos of developing a culture of philanthropy students are offered the opportunity to take part in service trips to places like Cambodia and Vanuatu. Every year students gather much-needed items for these communities to take away with them. Students enjoy the friendships they make on these trips, the challenges of new languages and cultural experiences and a renewed sense of gratitude for our lives here in Aotearoa.

"It is so exciting to see the impact St Andrew's College students have had on the lives of many through our trips to Cambodia. I am certain that the more than 100 students who have gone on this service trip would say their lives have been transformed too."

Paul Morrow, College Chaplain

A Spirit of Support

Gifted and Talented Students

In both the Preparatory and Secondary Schools gifted students are identified through a variety of means and offered the opportunity to be part of our Gifted and Talented programme (GATE) so that they may deepen their intellectual engagement and heighten their enthusiasm for learning in general.

In the Preparatory School GATE students work as part of integrated programmes to enhance problem solving, inquiry learning and higher order thinking skills. Programmes include Future Problem Solving, working with the College's writer-in-residence, robotics and various competitions.

In the Secondary School gifted students in Year 9 spend three hours per week working with a specialist teacher, and programme from the second half of the year. This programme includes preparing for Future Problem Solving and the Junior Young Physicist competitions as well as introducing philosophical discussion. From Year 10 students enjoy learning about areas such as forensic science and psychology. From Year 11 there are opportunities to continue with senior Future Problem Solving, Brain Bee and topics such as neuroscience.

Learning Support

Our Learning Support staff aim to build self-esteem and confidence in students experiencing difficulties with their studies. They do so in a safe, caring and non-judgemental environment. Support is based on individual student needs and is priority assessed.

The Learning Support programme is run by highly qualified teachers whose fields of expertise include thinking and learning extension programmes, special education needs, and student counselling and support. Reading and language support is offered for students experiencing difficulties, and study support is available to senior students.

In Learning Support we have introduced the Morningside Model of Learning at the Year 9 and 10 level. This highly effective model of learning, which was developed in the United States, aims to develop the students' mastery of the fundamentals in Mathematics, writing and reading so that they are better prepared to take on the challenge of NCEA Level 1 in Year 11.



The Spirit of Tomorrow

Tradition and history are fundamental to the spirit of St Andrew's, but we also have our sights fixed firmly on the future. The teaching methods and technologies we employ in the classroom are leading edge. All of our teachers are committed to an annual programme of professional learning that keeps them attuned to latest thinking in their specialist subjects, and to new trends in effective classroom practice. A number of our senior staff contribute to initiatives and networks charged with shaping the future of education in New Zealand.

Campus Development

We are also preparing our learning environment for the students of tomorrow.

As we move towards our Centenary in 2017 the school has undergone a radical transformation, beginning with a brand new Science and Mathematics Centre in 2009 and continuing with a redevelopment of the Preparatory School, new Boarding Houses, a second Gymnasium and planned developments for a new Junior Department, new Chapel and Sports and Cultural Centre including a refurbished Theatre.

In 2015 the Music Suite has been rebuilt with a recording studio with custom-made acoustic panels. It has the finest collection of recording equipment of any school in New Zealand allowing music students of all ages to thrive. The new dance studio (completed in 2014) includes specialist ballet flooring, mirrors and barres, which supports a growing dance programme.







You can read more about our e-Learning programmes and success in the classroom on our blog at <http://eblog.stac.school.nz>

A Spirit of Technology

Students exist in a largely 'digital world' outside of school, but school is often viewed by them as a non-digital environment.

In 2014 St Andrew's College introduced a 1:1 Computing Programme, which meant that every student (rolling out from Year 9) were required to bring their own device to class. One of the benefits of this programme is its potential to increase engagement in learning as students use the tools they are most familiar with on a regular basis in the classroom.

Reasons why it is important for students to have their own device include:

1. There are a number of educational benefits:
 - (a) New Zealand Curriculum specifically references the value of e-Learning and
 - (b) international research shows the benefits of e-Learning for students;
2. We need to prepare our students for future tertiary study and the work environment;
3. There are increased opportunities for collaborative learning;
4. It increases access to a huge range of electronic resources, which help enhance learning.

This programme is also supported in our Preparatory School with many students optionally bringing a laptop or tablet to class on a regular basis.

Supported by extensive wireless coverage across the entire campus, teachers and students easily connect wirelessly in any teaching and learning space in the College. Internet connectivity is maximised by multiple fibre optic connections into the College network.

Staff across the whole school have regular opportunities for professional development in digital literacy. The College also employs a specialist eLearning integrator whose role it is to assist teachers with authentically integrating technology within their teaching in a meaningful way. Students have access to tutorials to assist them in further understanding how to use their device effectively. Through the Pastoral Care programme there is a strong focus for students on good digital citizenship, including keeping safe online.



Find out more at [facebook.com/StAColdcolls](https://www.facebook.com/StAColdcolls)

A Spirit of Community

Our commitment is to partner with families, seek opportunities and strategic alliances to provide StAC students with a holistic learning experience to enable each to be the very best they can be. At St Andrew's we are proud of the values and strong sense of community that has developed over nearly 100 years.

When you join St Andrew's College as a new student or parent you become part of our community for life. Once students graduate from the College we call them our Old Collegians and they become part of our alumni. We have over 12,000 members in our Old Collegians Association – nowadays students automatically gain life membership upon enrolment.

Students have access to mentoring and networking opportunities through our Old Collegian system. A number of our Old Collegians regularly come to the College to share their knowledge and expertise with students.

The St Andrew's College Old Collegians Association aims to cement and promote friendships established at school, and contribute actively to the growth and development of the College. It achieves this by organising class reunions for each decade and other special events and functions. The reunions held each year are popular and lively affairs – testimony to the enormous influence the College has had on the lives of New Zealanders from all walks of life.

Our extended community is supportive and engaged and spread all around the globe. Our community is our current families, staff, PTA, Ladies Circle, Old Collegians, past parents, past staff and Friends of StAC.

We look forward to coming together as a community to celebrate our Centenary in 2017.

“I love the community spirit – it is difficult to express it to those who have not experienced it; however, it is conveyed in the confidence of the students, their support and appreciation of the College and of each other.”

Reference: Parent survey (2013)





Pre-school AGES 2-5

Our Pre-school is a safe, rich, warm and dynamic environment in which young children can enjoy making sense of their world in their own time and in meaningful contexts. We actively listen to and observe each child so we can meet their unique needs. We ensure an appropriate balance of learning and play, and set problem-solving and creative challenges. Our activities are developed in conjunction with the Junior Department of the Preparatory School to ensure a smooth transition into the school environment.

We also offer a comprehensive transition-to-school programme called Sky Bridge. Pre-school children visit the Preparatory School over a number of weeks to learn the classroom routines and establish those first key relationships with their peers and teachers. The programme has a focus on emotional readiness, social routines, organisation and manipulative skills, gross and fine motor skills and early numeracy and literacy.





Preparatory School

YEARS 1-8

The teachers in our Preparatory School understand that a high quality learning environment challenges and engages students, giving them the opportunity to reach their potential and acquire the values, skills and confidence necessary to become lifelong learners.

During your years in the Preparatory School you will be supported and nurtured every step of the way, in a caring and guiding environment. Each year, you will form a strong bond with your teacher; the person who will know you best of all. Your learning will be personalised to ensure you are working at a level appropriate to your abilities. Not only will you develop your literacy and numeracy skills, but you will also pursue learning within an inquiry and key competencies based framework. You will experience specialist Science, Music, Drama, Dance, Art, and languages and take advantage of our leading edge IT facilities.

Our enrolments are carefully managed to ensure the environment is conducive to your learning, and there are opportunities every day for your teacher to spend quality time with you. Our teachers are committed to you, and to their own professional development, which means you will learn from the very best.





Middle School

YEARS 9–11

We recognise that the years between ages 13 and 16 are vitally important, as young people meet the challenges of adolescence and create healthy relationships with their peers. During these years our academic emphasis is on giving you a sound grounding in essential learning areas while expanding the range of subject options open to you. We encourage independent learning and begin your preparation for the NCEA assessments that commence in Year 11. In Year 9 you will be tested in a nationally moderated assessment that serves as a benchmark against which you, your teachers and your family can measure your progress. Student leadership is also fostered during your Middle School years. Middle School leaders co-ordinate a number of activities across the College, and act as ambassadors, role models and organisers.

Te Waka for Year 10

Resilience, respect and responsibility – these are character traits we want to encourage in our students at St Andrew’s College as they grow from child to adult. The journey isn’t an easy one however. Young people face increasing pressure from media, technology, changing family dynamics and unsuitable sporting or music industry role models that can impact on their self-esteem and coping mechanisms. To support this journey of self-awareness, St Andrew’s has launched ‘Te Waka’ – a unique educational programme for Year 10 students. It provides Year 10 with an overarching focus and purpose. The programme brings together strands that already exist at the College – the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Health Education, Outdoor Education and Tikanga Māori – and includes a new life skills course known as ‘The Rite Journey’.





Senior College

YEARS 12-13

In the Senior College we regard students as unique young adults who are developing social responsibility and preparing for life after school. Our purpose-built Rentoul Senior College Centre reflects that philosophy. It includes a common room, café, lecture theatre, study areas, computer pod and personal storage lockers.

The core Senior College academic curriculum is comprehensive. It is complemented by a huge variety of interesting subject options and a choice of approximately 40 sporting and cultural activities. At the end of your time at St Andrew's, having met your academic, co-curricular, spiritual and service commitments, you will be awarded the prestigious Senior College Diploma. This, along with a personal profile written by a staff member of your choice, will be an excellent addition to your CV.

A Spirit of Family YEARS 9–13


When you join the St Andrew's College boarding family, you gain the support and friendship of an entire network of people who take an active interest in your welfare. We do everything possible to ensure your academic, co-curricular and social interactions here are as rewarding as possible.

Boarding life fosters a sense of inclusion, confidence and co-operation, while helping you to develop independence and maturity. Friends made among our boarding family often last a lifetime.

Close supervision by our boarding staff ensures you live comfortably and securely, and our structured daily schedule helps to create a warm, friendly and disciplined living atmosphere. A key advantage of boarding is that you have onsite academic support at prep times, and easy access to the College Library and Computer Suites. Sporting and recreational facilities are also readily available.

We work in partnership with families, and encourage them to attend as many school events and functions as possible. Extended family and friends are always welcome to join us for meals in the dining room.

Our boarding staff are united in their belief that students must be nurtured in a caring, safe and happy environment in order to develop to their full potential. St Andrew's College is proud to have a committed, enthusiastic and energetic team who work passionately to achieve just that.



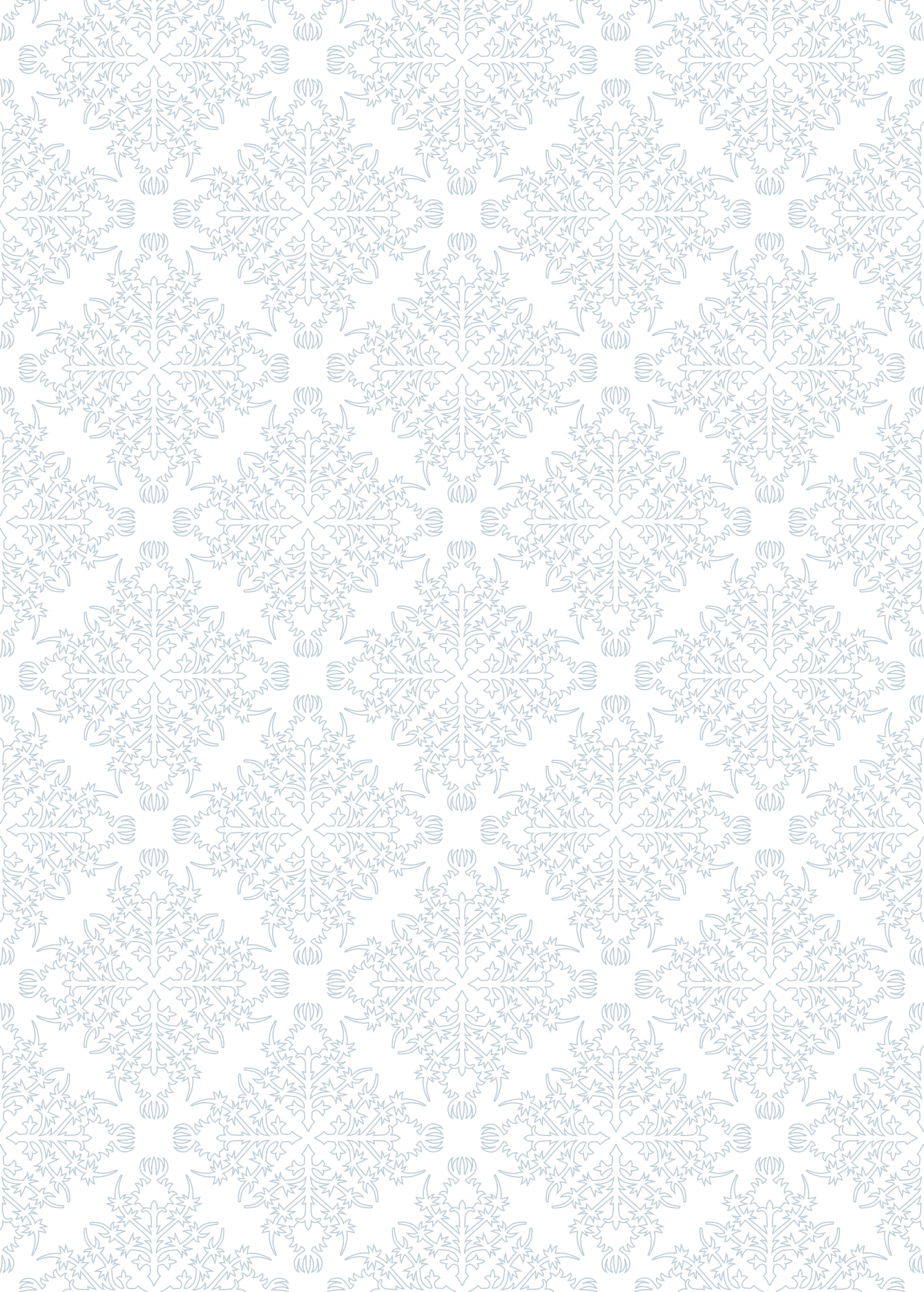
*“The feeling that
St Andrew's College
boarding is a caring and
nurturing community.
It has a ‘family’ feeling –
a positive place to be!”*

Reference: Parent survey (2013)



*“Strong as the grey granite cliffs of St Andrew’s
Wise as the good saint that lived long ago,
So shall the years gather fame to St Andrew’s
And we shall praise her while ages shall flow.”*

Extract from the College Song 





St Andrew's College

347 Papanui Road, Christchurch 8052, New Zealand
P +64 3 940 2000 F +64 3 940 2060 W stac.school.nz