

Welcome to Mount Hutt College



Mount Hutt College first opened in February 1925, and is a secondary, co-educational school, catering for Years 7 – 13. Our 2009 school roll is 500 students, with a similar roll expected for 2010.

The school serves the educational needs of families who live in both the Methven area and the wider Mid Canterbury district. It offers students an extensive range of learning opportunities within a wide and varied curriculum.

A rural, co-educational school has the advantage of a friendly atmosphere where students are soon able to get to know each other. Students quickly become part of the Mount Hutt College family, enabling more personal teaching and close tracking of student progress. Students can learn in a safe and secure environment at Mount Hutt College.

Communication is an important priority for our College. The relationships between students and staff are expected to be positive and constructive. We have

effective communication systems to keep parents informed and we value the partnership between home and school which is so important for student success.

Mount Hutt College has an enrolment scheme and zone approved by the Ministry of Education. Enrolment procedure details and enrolment forms are elsewhere in this pack.

The school welcomes enrolment enquiries from international students, while our Outdoor Pursuits Course attracts students from all around New Zealand. Adult students are also able to enrol.

This prospectus sets out to answer the main questions you may have about Mount Hutt College. Should you have any other questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

I would be pleased to show you around our school. We have a school to be proud of.

I look forward to meeting you.

Cathy Ewing
Principal
BA, Post Grad Dip Ed. Leadership



Student Programmes of Work

Subject and Course Structure

Parents are invited to discuss their son/daughter's courses with the Principal, the Guidance Counsellor, the Dean or the Form Teacher.

Year 7 & 8

All students take these subjects: Art, Dance, Hard Materials Technology, Food and Textiles Technology, Health, Information and Communication Technology, Languages (Yr 7 Māori, Yr 8 German), Music, Physical Education, Social Studies and Sport.

Year 9

All students take these subjects: Art, Hard Materials Technology, Food and Textiles Technology, Graphics, Health and Physical Education, Information and Communications Technology, Music, Social Studies and Spanish.

Year 10

All students take these subjects: English, Mathematics, Physical Education/Health, Science, Social Studies and Career Education. Students also study four of the following – Agriculture, Art, Business Studies, Hard Materials Technology, Food and Textiles Technology, Graphics, Information and Communications Technology, and Music.

Year 11

All students take English, Mathematics and Science. Students select three NCEA subjects leading to the level one National Certificate of Educational Achievement. Stage 1 and 2 NZ Certificate Computer Aided Draughting (CAD) is offered at Senior Graphics. Agriculture, Art, Business Studies, Home Economics, Geography, Graphics, History, Information Management (IM), Music, Outdoor Education, Physical Education and Technology.

Year 12

All students take English plus five other subjects leading to level two (NCEA): Accounting, Agriculture, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Studies, Technology, Economics, Employment Skills, Geography, Graphics, History, History of Art, Home Economics, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Outdoor Education, Yr 12/13 Tourism.

Year 13

Scholarship papers are encouraged for our more able Yr 13 students as well as NCEA Level 3. **Students choose five subjects from:** Accounting, Agriculture, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Studies Economics, English, Geography, Graphics, History, Mathematics with Calculus, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Statistics and Modelling and Tourism. All these subjects may be studied for Level 3 NCEA.

Multi-level Studies

It is possible for Year 12 and 13 students to include subjects from a lower level in their course.

Note:

- All Year 11-13 Options are dependent on demand and staffing.
- There may be additional subjects offered from year to year, through the Correspondence School and Distance Education.
- Yr 10-12 students may make an application in September, through the Deans, to study a subject through the Correspondence School.
- A Senior Subject Booklet for Yr 11-13 students 2010 is available at the beginning of July 2009.

Special Programmes

Outdoor Education

Year 8 have a 3-day adventure and team building theme camp at Mt Hutt Retreat. Year 10 have an adventure based camp at the Lewis Pass, Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre which includes an overnight tramp, abseiling and orienteering. In the senior school, Outdoor Education is an assessed subject.

Work Experience/Gateway

Work Experience and the Gateway course cater for students who are planning to leave school and enter the workforce. A comprehensive Careers Programme gives students the opportunity to explore different avenues of employment.

STAR programmes offer useful courses (one day and block courses) which operate in conjunction with Aoraki Polytechnic (Ashburton and Timaru).

Work Exploration – Job Search

This programme places students in actual work situation in the district. The school is assisted from time to time by the Enterprise Ashburton Youth Broker.

Outdoor Pursuits Course

Mount Hutt College offers a specialist course for up to 15 students, which combines supervised flatting and an outdoor pursuits course. This quality course requires a six day per week commitment, which taps into the potential of the Canterbury foothills area and beyond. Participants are expected to complete a Year 12/13 course alongside the pursuits programme.



International Programme

Mount Hutt College enrolls a restricted number of International students. This international dimension brings broad education benefits to the school. It is supported with excellent pastoral care, academic programmes and homestays.

Gifted and Talented

In recent years the government has required schools to have programmes for the more able students. Students can be talented in one or more of the many areas covered in our curriculum. Research shows that these students become bored and do not reach their potential in normal classrooms.

We now place together in one class in both of Year 7 & 8 a small group talented in English and/or Maths so that they can work together and extend each other. When appropriate, staff give work to this group that will make them think more deeply. Choosing the members of this group involves consideration of a large number of factors including information from past schools, parents, staff, other pupils, subject tests and diagnostic tests. It is an on-going process. The larger subjects stream students in the senior school so that students are with others of similar ability.

We provide a large volume of extra-curricular activities for talented students in many areas. The list of activities is long and includes: Australasian competitions, Aoraki competitions, art competitions, English competitions, science fair, music events, productions, sports events, technology events, geography and social studies competitions plus many more. We are continually adding to this list. Participation in these events is largely voluntary.

We are pleased with the progress we are making in providing for talented students and will continue to improve our provision for these students.

Pastoral Care and Learning Support

Deans

Four Deans assist students with subject courses and other pastoral matters.

Youth Mentor

'Te Puwaitanga Trust' employs a Methven Community Youth Mentor, Kerry Kampjees, who spends most of his time in and around the College assisting all students.

Guidance Counsellor

The Guidance Counsellor, Mr Wilkins, helps students through their personal difficulties, talks through any learning and behavioural difficulties and encourages them to do the best with their education.

Year 9/10 Graduation System

Students are awarded points for their consistent work in subject areas and wider school life. To be able to graduate and study at the next year level a student is required to have reached a level of at least 75% of points attainable at Year 9 and 80% at Year 10. Each successful student will be awarded a Graduation Certificate at the end of the year. This could be awarded with merit, excellence or distinction, depending on the final percentage achieved. By graduating, students will have demonstrated their ability to equip themselves for advanced study at the next year level.

"Big Buddy" Programme

New students to the school at Year 7 are matched up with big brother/sister from Year 12/13 who help the younger students to settle into College life.

Student Manager

The Student Manager (Mr Newham) ensures that the students are the focus of any decision making within the College. The Student Manager oversees pastoral care, student discipline, student activities, student leadership, student enrolment and orientation systems.

Learning Support Programme

Individual or small group programmes in English or Mathematics are offered to those students who have learning difficulties in these areas. In some special circumstances Teacher Aides may assist some classroom teachers. Special exam assistance, e.g. reader writer or extra time, is offered to those students who qualify for this.

Health Education

As part of the Health Education programme a health nurse visits the College regularly. Students also participate in the DARE programme at Year 8.

Careers and Vocational Guidance

Advice on careers is available from the Careers Advisor. All students in Years 10-12 have an individual subject choice/careers interview during Term 3. There is a regularly updated Jobs Board, newsletter for students and parents and on-going displays.

Tertiary Liaison

The College maintains close contact with CPIT and Aoraki Polytechnic, Canterbury, Lincoln and Otago Universities, ITOs, private training providers and the Armed Services.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Cultural

Productions

A musical, Plays Festival and an Arts Festival week are the major features on the Cultural Calendar.

Music

The College has an orchestra; choir and itinerant teachers come every week for tuition in various instruments.

Public Speaking

All students participate in the early stages of this annual event. School finals are held end of Term 2.

Academic

Canta Maths, Social Studies Quiz Evenings, Science Fair, Rotary Speech, Health Seminar, Literary Competitions, Essay writing, Spelling Bees, Australasian Maths, Science, English and Writing Competitions, Science and Technology Challenge, National Bank Maths Competition.

Sport and Recreation

Students participate in a Sports Option on Wednesday afternoons in Terms 1, 2 and 3. A Ski/Snowboard option is available in Term 3. One annual whole school ski trip per year.

General Information

Addresses of Students

Parents are asked to inform the school office of any change of telephone number, address or family circumstances, whether temporary or permanent.

Alcohol and Drugs

Any student who is in possession of or consumes alcohol, or is in possession of or smokes tobacco, or is in possession of or consumes drugs at school or at any school-related activity, or who directly or indirectly aids or abets any student to possess, smoke or consume any of these substances at school or at any school-related activity may be stood down by the Principal.

Attendance

Under the Education Act exemption is automatically granted to a student who is unable to attend school because of illness. In all cases of sickness it would be appreciated if a parent would telephone the school office. This is especially important if a student is being internally assessed in any subject. If absence is known in advance, we need a written request. (Leave can only be approved for exceptional circumstances). On their return to school, students are asked to show the explanatory note in the back of the student diary to their form teacher.

Bus

Methven Area Bus Company is a company representing the four Methven schools and runs a directly resourced system allowing therefore inherent flexibility. A school bus information booklet and enrolment forms are included in this enrolment package.

Cellphones/Walkmans/Discmans/Ipods

The school's stated position on students' cellphones, walkmans and i-pods (or similar) is 'invisible, inaudible or in the office'. Cell phones, walkmans and i-pods (or similar) must be switched off from 8.30am until the end of the school day and may not be seen, heard or used during school hours. Confiscation of up to 10 weeks will result if this rule is broken.

Code of Behaviour

At the beginning of each year, Form Teachers explain to all students the school's code of behaviour, the discipline system and the school routines. A copy of this material is displayed in all form rooms and is included in the student diary.

Expected student behaviour is based on common sense, respect for the individual and respect for property.

In all School Activities students will show these values:

P Passion
R Respect
I Integrity
D Diversity/Difference
E Excellence

Curriculum Charges

In several subjects students will be required to pay for consumables or take home materials used.

A leaflet outlining the curriculum charges for 2009/10 is included in this information pack.

Dental or Medical Appointments

Where possible these appointments should be made for after school hours, particularly for students in senior forms. If it is necessary to keep appointments in school hours, these should be arranged at the beginning or end of a school session so as not to interfere with more than one class. Students with these appointments must take to the office that day (or the previous day for an early morning appointment), a card from the dentist or doctor, or a parent's note. On leaving or returning to school, the student must report back to the office.

Enrolment Procedure

We have an enrolment scheme and MOE approved zone. Enrolment procedure details and forms are elsewhere in this pack.

Field trips/Camps

Field trips and camps are operated on a cost-recovery basis. These are to be paid for by cash or cheque before the event takes place.

Health Bay/Medication

Facilities are provided for those who may become sick or are injured while at school. Parents will be notified of this as soon as possible. If a student is required to take medication it must be lodged with the school office who will make it available when needed. If students have a medical condition the office must be informed of it. No panadol is available at the school office.

Leaving Procedure

Parents/Guardians are to inform the Principal at least five school days ahead of a student's final day. Student is to collect a leaver's clearance form and leaving questionnaire sheet from the office.

Lunches

Our Canteen sells nutritious food at interval and lunch time. Students are discouraged from going into town at lunch time but may get permission by presenting a note from home giving the reason. Town students can obtain a permanent lunch pass, which allows them to go to their own home for lunch.

Personal Property

All school clothing and personal equipment must be clearly named to assist recovery if it is lost. No responsibility will be taken for lost property but considerable effort will be made to find named clothing and equipment. All money and valuables should be left at the school office for safe keeping.

Reports and Discussion Evenings

The regular evaluation of each student's progress and attitude to work is made throughout the year and the results communicated to parents regularly in written reports and parent-teacher interviews.

School Activity Fees

School fees – Whilst not compulsory, the school and BOT appreciates the payment of this voluntary 'school fee' to enable Mount Hutt College to provide educational opportunities for all of our students. These include purchase of library books, sports equipment, computers for our computer rooms, end of year prizes, subsidises the cost to students of the annual school magazine, provides education presentations and performance from outside providers, and assists with swimming pool costs.

1 Student	\$100
2 Students	\$150
3 or more	\$175
Per year	

(G.S.T. included)

School Day

School begins each day at 8.45am and finishes at 3.10pm.

- 6 periods in the day. P1/P2 then interval. P3/4 then lunch. P5/6 after lunch.
- Lunch break 12.45 – 1.30 daily except Wednesday which is 1.05 – 1.55.

- Wednesday afternoon 1.55 – 3.10 is compulsory sport/recreation period for Term 1-3.
- Weekly assembly on Friday morning.

Snowfed

This is a weekly community newspaper which is owned by the school and produced on school premises.

Sports and Extra Curricular Activities

Students must pay cash/cheque in advance for any extra sporting and curricular activities. Students must have money in a clearly marked envelope with name, activity and amount, with permission slip enclosed. Envelopes are to be posted in the payments slot in the student foyer of the office.

Stationery

Stationery can be purchased through the Methven Bookshop. A list of requirements is given to all students.

Student Council

The school promotes and encourages students to have an active voice in the function of the school. The Student Council consists of representatives from every form class and is led by the Head Girl and Head Boy.

Telephone

There is a telephone for students to use for **emergencies only** in the student reception area of the office.

Term Dates Year 2010

Term 1 Friday 29th January – Thursday 1 April

Term 2 Monday 19 April – Friday 2 July

Term 3 Monday 19 July – Friday 24 September

Term 4 Monday 11 October – Friday 10 Dec

Text Books

Text books are issued on loan to all students. Responsible care needs to be taken of the books. Lost or damaged books are charged to the student concerned.

Transport

Students bringing a car or motorbike to school (and/or passengers) must have a signed vehicle permission slip renewed every year.

Calendar of Events 2010

Term 1

29 January – 1 April

Late Jan

Year 8 Camp

Early Feb

Swimming Sports – Junior & Senior

Mid Feb

Athletic Sports Eliminations

Yr 12 Biology Trip

Early March

Athletic Sports

Mid March

Aoraki Athletics Sports

Yr 11 Geography Trip

Production Practices

Early April

School Photographs

Production practices

Mid April

Progress reports issued

Term 2

19 April – 2 July

Early May

Yr 13 Biology Trip

Year 12 Geography Trip

School Cross Country

Parent/Teacher interviews

Production Practices

Mid May

School Production

Careers Expo

Australasian Science Competition

End of May

Australasian Maths Competition

School Ball

Early June

School Open Day

Senior Assessment Week

Yr 9-13 Australasian Maths Competition

Mid June

Enrolment applications for next year close

Ellesmere College Winter Sports Exchange

End June

Year 7-13 Public Speaking

Yr 11-13 Reports issued

Careers Evening

Geraldine Sports Exchange

Term 3

19 July – 24 Sept

Mid July

Next Year Senior Subject booklet (Yr 11-13 issued.)

Yr7-10 Aoraki Schools Social Studies

Quiz

End of July

Confirmation of Out of Zone enrolments

Yr 7-10 reports issued

Aoraki Mathematics

Early August

Yr 10+ Subject Information evening.

Year 7-10 Parent Teacher Interview

Mid August

Canta Maths

Aoraki Science Fair and Competitions

School Ski Trip

Correspondence Exams

Next years option lines confirmed

Early/Mid September

Next years subject confirmation evening for Yr 10-12 students

Arts Festival Week

Student Workday

Outdoor Pursuit course applications close

Year 10 Camp

Term 4

11 October - 10 December

Mid Oct

New entrant student and family interviews.

Yr 11-13 Exams

End of October

Year 11-13 reports issued

Mid November

Yr 11-13 finish for the year

External NCEA Exams Yr 11-13 students

Senior Prizegiving

End of November

Yr7/8 Plays Festival

New entrant orientation

Early December

Yr 7-10 Reports issued

Junior Prizegivings Yr 7/8, Yr 9/1

