

Sacred Heart Cathedral School Thorndon Prospectus



Te Kura Ahurewa o te Ngākau Tapu

*A Catholic school where students achieve their
spiritual, academic and personal potential.*



Welcome to the Sacred Heart Cathedral School “Family”

Sacred Heart Cathedral School is an integrated Catholic School. The original school was established in 1865 to provide quality education for Catholic primary students. We have a proud history of excellence in all aspects of a student's school life as we seek to build upon the high standards that the past has endowed. Our curriculum reflects modern educational practice and is designed to encourage high expectations of children in their learning.

We have an experienced team to provide the full and stimulating learning experiences necessary to a 21st Century learner. A balance of spiritual, academic, physical, social and cultural opportunities allows each student to excel to their own potential.

Sacred Heart Primary School has an “open door” policy which encourages student, teacher and parent partnerships in order to build and maintain high levels of co-operation between the home and school. In welcoming you as part of the Sacred Heart Cathedral School ‘family’, please feel assured that we have a genuine interest in your child's wellbeing and on-going progress.



Vision

We are a Catholic school and through our influence, teaching, example and persistent efforts, we aim to encourage students to be Catholics who:

- Have a sense of belonging to a larger Catholic community
- Have personal values based on gospel values
- Recognise and value social justice issues and take opportunities to work for the good of the wider community.



Goals

We aim to develop lifelong learners who are:

- Numeric and literate
- Fully engaged to achieve their potential and thereby have a happy and satisfying life
- Motivated to achieve personal excellence
- Developing positive self-esteem and confidence
- Resilient when taking risks and facing challenges.



Values

At Sacred Heart Cathedral School we value:

Excellence

Using our God given talents to the best of our ability.

Integrity and Respect

We will encourage and support students to be honest, responsible, accountable and to act ethically. We will also respect ourselves, others and the environment.

Wonder and Awe

Being inspired by God's creation, thinking critically, creatively and reflectively.

Dignity of the Person

Everyone at our school is respected. This is lived out through our virtues programme.

Equity & Solidarity with the Poor

Living the theological virtues of faith, hope and love. Developing Social Justice.

Special Character

Sacred Heart Cathedral School is a Catholic school with very close links to the Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish. The Cathedral has a boys' choir made up of about 15 boys from the school. Each boy receives a scholarship which pays for weekly individual vocal tuition and theory lessons. The boys sing Vespers every Wednesday (5.30pm) and Choral Mass at the Cathedral every second Sunday of the month (10.30am) during school term-time. They also sing during school liturgies and masses.

Our school provides altar servers for the daily mass in the Cathedral. We also have a liturgy group of senior students who prepare the liturgies and masses under the guidance of the Parish Priest for the school community. All students are given the opportunity to participate as leaders in school masses and liturgies, regardless of their age.



Enrolment

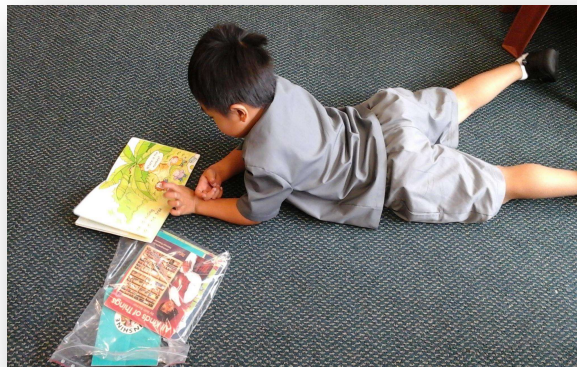
We welcome enrolment enquiries and would like to have the opportunity to assist you in making the very important decision about schooling opportunities for your child. We extend a warm invitation to you to meet with our Principal who will answer all your questions and take you on a guided tour.

Following this meeting you will be given a

pack which will include all the documentation need to enrol. You will then need to

- Complete the enrolment form
- Complete the preference form and have it signed by your Catholic Parish Priest.
- Provide an original birth certificate or passport. This will be copied and certified by the Principal at the school office.
- All enrolments need to be submitted by July 31st each year to be considered for placement the following year.

If you need any further information about enrolling or making an appointment to meet with the Principal, please contact the school office on (04) 4724047.



Learning

At Sacred Heart Cathedral School the curriculum is vibrant, varied and rich. Pupils at all levels cover the eight learning areas of the New Zealand curriculum, with an emphasis placed on English and Mathematics. Religious Education is also taught, being a very important part of everything we teach. Learning experiences are authentic and involve the use of information and communication technologies engaging the enquiring learner. Our local environment is one of our greatest resources as an inner-city school. We make full use of all the resources easily accessible to us.



Cultural Diversity

Sacred Heart Cathedral School is made up of many different cultures. We have a long tradition of close links with our community and celebrate the richness and diversity these links bring to our school. We celebrate many aspects of culture throughout each year. All students are given the opportunity to belong to our Kapa Haka and Pasifika Groups and these groups represent us at many school functions and events.

An important part of our school is developing a tuakana teina approach where the older children look after the younger children. All children are matched up with an older student upon starting school. This creates a positive playground environment.



Sport

Sport is an integral part of the culture of Sacred Heart Cathedral School. Students at all levels of the school experience a variety of sports. The limited space of an inner-city school playground means the school utilises quality outside providers for aquatic education, ball skills, and athletics. Classes also have access to a wide range of Physical Education programmes and equipment as part of their in-school learning. The school is well represented and successful in zone, inter-zone and regional level events



Experiences Outside The Classroom

Because of the school's inner city location there is easy access to a wide range of experiences outside of the classroom. Te Papa, the City Gallery, the waterfront and other local resources mean students enjoy a range of experiences that are closely linked to inquiry topics centred around Mathematics, Literacy, Science, Te Reo, Technology and The Arts. These experiences enrich students' learning. There is also a bi-annual camp for the Senior Students.





Leadership

Leadership is encouraged and developed across all areas of the school. From the earliest age there are many opportunities to take on leadership roles and explore one's gifts and talents. The younger students see this role modelled daily by older students and are keen to try different roles. Our weekly assembly provides a regular opportunity to practise these skills, as do our regular liturgies and masses. Some of the roles taken on by students are liturgy leaders,

assembly leaders, altar servers, choir, Student Council, ICT leaders, Big Buddies, Peer Tutors and many others.

Success

At Sacred Heart Cathedral School we are proud of our long tradition of academic excellence. Many of our students have had family attend our school in the past and we strive to keep this tradition of excellence alive for the next generation.

Sacred Heart Cathedral School endeavours to help each student reach their academic potential and equip them with the necessary skills to become a learner for life. Our students achieve very well academically, and are frequently winners of scholarships and leadership roles once they leave our school.



