

SOUTHLAND GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTUS





HELLO, WELCOME

A warm welcome to Southland Girls' High School. Established in 1879, we are known as a high performing school. Our innovative curriculum is nationally recognised and reflects quality 21st Century learning.

Sending your child to Southland Girls' High School is an investment in their future.

They are taught by highly qualified teachers who are experts in teaching and providing high levels of pastoral care and support for students.

Students are encouraged to have balance in their education – combining their academic goals with a variety of co-curricular activities encompassing sport, cultural and performing arts programmes.

Southland Girls' High School students become independent and resilient women. They are future-focused and well prepared for employment pathways and universities across the world. We look forward to welcoming your child and you into the Southland Girls' High School community.

Yvonne Browning MNZM
Principal

INTERNATIONAL TEAM



International Director
Fah Phermphoon



Academic Tutor
Sharee Ineson



Homestay Coordinator
Jill McKee

Southland Girls' High School is passionate about providing international students with an unforgettable study abroad experience.

Our school offers a warm and supportive environment for students who are interested in immersing themselves in New Zealand's vibrant culture while receiving a world-class education in a safe and welcoming community.

Our dedicated team of educators and staff take pride in providing personalised support to each student.

Whether you need academic guidance, career pathway

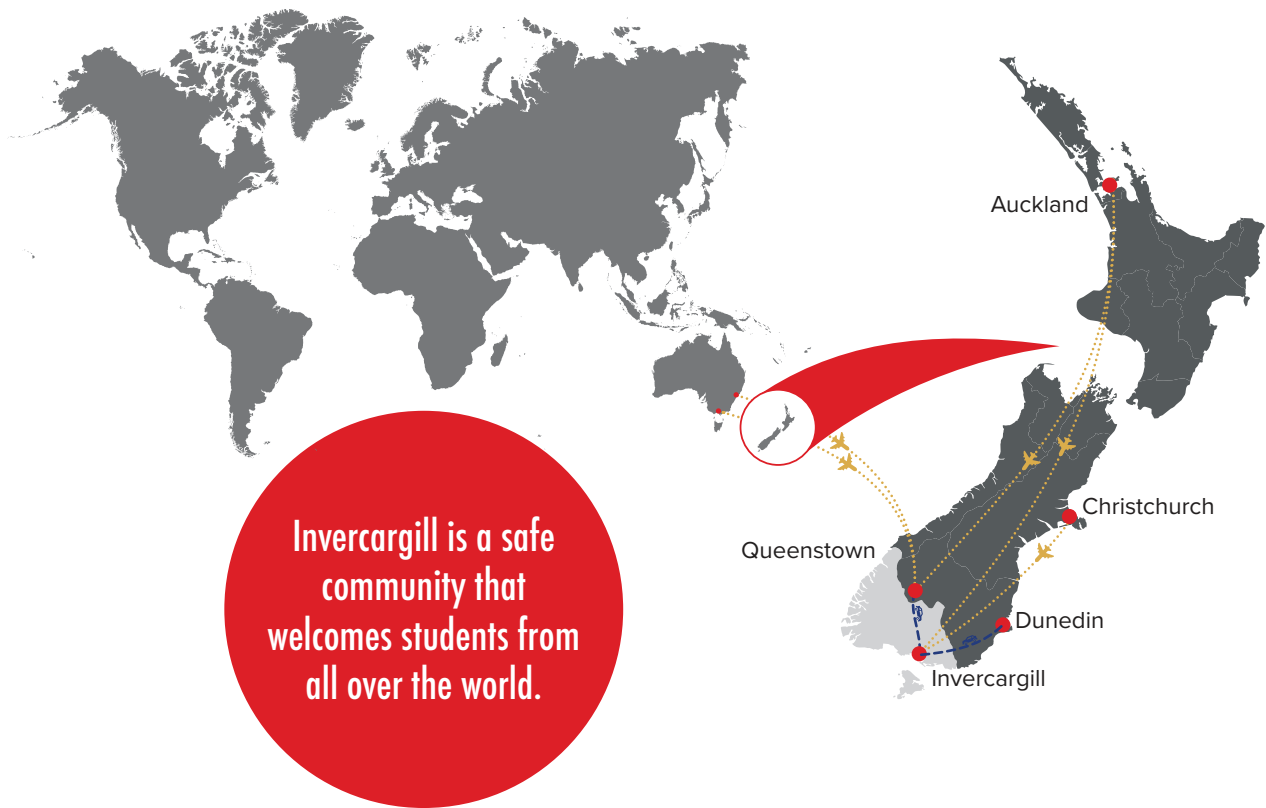
planning, or language support, we're here to help you achieve your academic goals and support you in your learning pathways to further study at university.

We understand that studying abroad can be daunting, which is why we are committed to your wellbeing and success. Our 24/7 emergency assistance and regular progress reports to families ensure that you have the support you need to thrive academically and personally.

With over 25 years experience in welcoming international students to Southland Girls' High School, we are experts in educating girls from overseas.



WAIHŌPAI INVERCARGILL



Invercargill is a safe
community that
welcomes students from
all over the world.

Southland is well known for being warm, friendly and welcoming. International students are valued by the local community for the diversity and knowledge they bring to our city when studying at our school.

Invercargill is a safe and welcoming city with a rich history and plenty of attractions for visitors and locals alike. It is called the “City of Water and Light”. This is fitting with the chance to view the Aurora Australis, our award-winning Queens Park, and the stunning coastal views of The Catlins on our doorstep.

Invercargill is the southernmost city in New Zealand. The school is a five-minute drive to the regional airport, and only a two-hour drive from the vibrant tourist attraction of Queenstown, and Dunedin, where Otago University is located.

The city has a diverse population, making it an ideal place for international students to live and study. The world-class sports facilities and outdoor lifestyle options make it an attractive destination for those who enjoy an active lifestyle. Invercargill offers a great balance of affordability, accessibility, and quality of life for students.

Students enjoy all that the region has to offer with access to nature reserves and parks, lively cafes, restaurants, and shopping,

CHOOSE SOUTHLAND GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

Southland Girls' High School has a strong reputation for academic achievement, where girls excel.

Our international students consistently achieve a 100% pass rate for NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 with graduates attending universities in New Zealand and throughout the world, in countries that include Thailand, U.S.A., Australia, U.K., Japan and Hong Kong.

NCEA is a universally accepted and recognised qualification by universities across the world.

Girls who attend single sex schools have several advantages, including a culture of strong academic

achievement, enhanced self-esteem and wellbeing, a positive self-image and high engagement with STEM subjects - science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The absence of boys ensures a more supportive and inclusive learning environment, where the girls are the only priority and sole focus of the school.

Girls in all-girls schools are also more likely to engage in a wider array of sporting activities, including sports traditionally considered masculine, which may further boost their confidence and self-esteem.

Additionally, girls in single-sex schools achieve more in STEM subjects, which can lead to greater career opportunities and success in the future.



NCEA LEVEL	SGHS DOMESTIC STUDENTS	SGHS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS	NATIONAL AVERAGE DOMESTIC STUDENTS
Level 1	86.5%	100%	64.8%
Level 2	94.2%	100%	74.8%
Level 3	81.4%	100%	68.1%

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS WHEN STUDYING AT SGHS

Southland Girls' High School has modern facilities, including state-of-the-art Science Labs and a Performing Arts Suite, to support a high-quality education designed for 21st Century learning.

SGHS expects all students to study hard and achieve well. International students are well supported by our teachers, who are experts in teaching girls.

Girls and boys learn differently. We know what it takes for girls to achieve academically. The teachers at SGHS are committed to ensuring international students enjoy the same level of success as Kiwi girls.

For students who do not have a high level of English, we provide specialist ESOL (English as a second language) classes to ensure they learn English quickly, so they can access all other subjects with greater ease.

At NCEA Level 1, students study six subjects including Maths, Science and English. At Level 2, students take English and five other subjects of their choice. Level 3 students sit five or six subjects that support their career aspirations. Scholarship exams are also available to students with exceptional ability in a subject.

Career Pathways

Our Career Advisor and our International Academic Tutor work closely with students to provide access to the most up-to-date information on careers and university pathways in New Zealand and overseas.

Each student will participate in personalised career counselling, to ensure their subjects will meet the entrance requirements of the student's preferred university or pathway.

We also offer students advice and guidance about possible pathways, and help them to complete university applications and apply for scholarships.



WE LOVE LEARNING



We Work Together *Mahi Tahi*

The school’s curriculum is learner-centred, future-focused, and teaches students essential knowledge and skills so they are better prepared for their future pathways and ambitions.

The curriculum is designed to challenge all students, appropriate to their abilities. The school places equal focus on all year levels.

Across these two years, your child will be immersed in a wide range of curriculum areas.

Learning Package Examples:

English
Structured Literacy
Maths
Science
Social Science/Inquiry
PE/Health
Visual Art
Performing Arts
Languages
Technologies: Materials/Foods/Digital
Financial Literacy



Student’s abilities, needs and interests can be provided for within Learning Packages by selecting the level of subject the student and their whānau believe matches their ability, regardless of their year level.

Learning Package Examples:

Year 9	Year 9 Advanced
English Discovery	English Expand
Mathematics Applied	Mathematics Excel
Mathematics Beyond	
Science	
PE/Health	Performance Physical Education

Year 10	Year 10 Advanced
English Developed	Cambridge English
Mathematics Applied	English Extension
Mathematics Beyond	Cambridge Mathematics
Science	Cambridge Science
Wellbeing	
PE/Health	

Year 9 & 10	Year 9 & 10 Advanced
Show me the Money	Cambridge Global Minds
Enterprise	
Cultural Location	
Ancient Influences	
An Era of Trouble and Strife	
Pinky and the Brain	
French	French
Japanese	Japanese
Te Reo Māori	Te Reo Māori
Art Worx	Bring Out the Artist in Me
Architecture and Visual Communication Design	
Digi Image	
Hard Materials	
Drama Devised	Drama Defined
Constructing learning through Music	Music Advanced
Joy of Dance	Dancing Centre Stage
Designers for the future	Designers for the Future Plus
Avant Garde	
Food Design	Food Design Plus
Computer Bytes	
Code Busters	



NCEA Level 1	
English Whero	English Kikorangi
French	Te Reo Māori
Japanese	
Accounting	Economics
Digital Technologies/ Computing	Fashion and Design
Culinary Arts	Food and Nutrition
Physical Education	
Geography	History
Dance	Performance Drama
Music	Theatre Tech
Outside the Square	Star Courses
Maths Reasoning	Maths Investigations
Maths Applied	
Science 101	Science 102
Visual Art	Digital Arts – Design and Photography

NCEA Level 2	
English Māwhero	English Waiporoporo
English Kōwhai	
French	Media Studies
Japanese	Te Reo Māori
Accounting	Agribusiness
Economics	Financial Literacy
	Digital Technologies
Fashion and Design	Culinary Arts
Food and Nutrition	
Health	Physical Education
Classical Studies	Geography
History	Tourism
Dance	Performance Drama
Music	Theatre Tech
Business Retail	Gateway Courses
Star Courses	Murihiku Trades Academy
Mathematics with Algebra	Mathematics with Statistics
	Financial Numeracy
Biology	Chemistry
Physics	Science
Agriculture	
Visual Art – Painting/ Printmaking/Sculpture	Digital Arts – Design and/or Photography

NCEA Level 3	
English 301	English 302
Media Studies	
French	Te Reo Māori
Japanese	
Accounting	Agribusiness
Economics	
	Food and Nutrition
Digital Technologies	Fashion and Design
Physical Education	Health
Classical Studies	Geography
History	Tourism
Art History	
Dance	Music
Performance Drama	Theatre Tech
Transition for the Future	Gateway Courses
Star Courses	Murihiku Trades Academy
Calculus	Mathematics
Statistics	
Biology	Science
Chemistry	Human Science
Physics	Agriculture
Visual Art – Painting/ Printmaking/Sculpture	Visual Art - Design
Visual Art - Photography	

WE AIM HIGH

WHĀIA I TE PANEKIRETANGA

At SGHS we believe in personalised learning for every student that meets their needs, interests and abilities.

We offer students the following options to extend their learning:

- Multi-Level Learning and acceleration means a student's timetable can include different levels of learning, e.g. a Year 9 student can also be taking a Year 10 subject.
- Cambridge Exams (IGSCE) – Science, Maths, English and Global Perspectives.
- Ability grouping within a year level for English, Science and Maths.
- Subject choices that include extension classes also include Performing Arts classes and PE.



CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International School

We are an approved Cambridge International School, registered to offer programmes from Cambridge International Education, part of the University of Cambridge.

We are proud to offer Cambridge examinations for Year 9 and 10 students, and be part of the world's largest international classroom.

Southland Girls' High School offers IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) to our Year 9 and 10 students.

This internationally recognised Cambridge University Exam is normally sat by Year 11 students, however we believe that by offering it at Year 10 we are better preparing the students to be able to achieve 'excellence' at Levels 1, 2 and 3 at NCEA.

A photograph of three students in a chemistry laboratory. On the left, a female student with dark hair and safety glasses looks on. In the center, a female student with blonde hair and safety glasses is adjusting a red stopcock on a glass burette. On the right, a female student with dark hair and safety glasses watches the process. The burette is mounted on a blue metal stand and is dispensing a purple liquid into a conical flask that also contains purple liquid. The flask sits on a white paper towel. In the foreground, there are two other glass vessels: a large beaker filled with clear water and a smaller round-bottom flask containing a yellowish liquid. The background shows a typical school lab setting with windows, posters, and a sign that says 'A WEE PROBLEM'.

WE ARE LEARNERS

HE AKONGA MĀTOU



NZQA data shows
that our students perform
year on year above
the national average.

Southland Girls' High School students are engaged in the learning process and our staff help nurture each student towards their goals.

We are proud of our academic success with the latest NZQA data showing that our students perform year on year above the national average for girls' schools.

Personal excellence is always expected from students. They receive support and guidance with their goals at all year levels.

First Days at SGHS

An initial orientation programme is provided to help new students learn about the school.

Students are paired with a buddy in class to support their learning.

ESOL support in reading, writing and oral language is provided to accelerate English progress. Our Literacy Centre supports English language learning, and we use online programs for students' independent study.

A photograph of three young people on a stage. On the left, a young woman with long blonde hair is smiling and looking towards the center. In the middle, a young woman with long dark hair is also smiling and looking towards the center. On the right, a young man with dark curly hair is looking towards the center. They are all wearing casual clothing. The background is a solid purple color.

WE ARE CREATIVE

HE AUAHA MĀTOU



Southland Girls' High School is renowned for our Creative Arts. A large number of our students participate in the extensive curriculum offered in Music, Dance, Drama and Visual Arts. Students are able to study in each of these areas up to NCEA Level 3.

Dance

The dance curriculum is well supported with highly qualified teachers in a purpose-built dance studio. Students are able to access multiple performance opportunities and contribute to events such as school productions and Showquest.

Dance is offered at all year levels and no previous experience is necessary.

Visual Arts

Southland Girls' High School runs a successful Visual Arts curriculum that sees many of our students continuing on to study at tertiary level and gaining scholarship awards.

Our talented staff includes current local artists. Classes are offered in Sculpture, Photography, Painting, Printmaking and Design.

Drama

Drama at Southland Girls' High School is delivered by a team of dedicated teachers who are passionate about the subject. Students who study drama develop into confident, articulate and creative individuals who will be an asset to society when they leave SGHS.

Music

Southland Girls' High School has produced a number of talented musicians who have gone on to perform at a high level, both nationally and locally.

Numerous opportunities exist to showcase students' skills – from school concerts, performance showcases, school productions and outside events.

Our three school choirs provide an opportunity for students who have a love of singing and performing to develop their talent.

We have recently opened a new music suite creating a modern, well resourced learning environment.



OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Sports Available

Aerobics
Archery
Badminton
Basketball
Cricket
Football
Futsal
Gymnastics
Hockey
Indoor Tag Touch
Netball
Pickleball
Rugby
Softball
Squash
Table Tennis
Touch Rugby
Volleyball
Waka Ama
Water Polo

School Groups and Events

Art Committee
Chess Club
Creative Writing Club
Debating Club
Drama Club
Duke of Edinburgh
Femme Choir
Global Minds Club
Itinerant Music
Kapa Haka
Leo Club
Librarian
Mathematics Achievement Challenge
Oli Ula, Pasifika Performance Group
Rosso Choir
SADD Club (Students Against
Dangerous Driving)
Sanguine Choir
School Magazine
School Productions
Science Badges
Science Fair
Showquest
SMAC Maths
Speech Competition
Student Volunteer Army

External Opportunities Available via one off events

Adventure Racing
Athletics
Bowls (Indoor and Lawn)
Cross Country
Cycling (Road and Track)
DanceNZMade
Equestrian
HETTANZ –
Fashion, Design and Craft Awards
ICAS Exams
Kayaking
Lit Quiz
Multisport events
Orienteering
Paddles Up
Rowing
Swimming
Tennis
Triathlon



WHAT STUDENTS SAY

KATNISS

17, HONG KONG.

This is my third year studying at Southland Girls' High School.

I am lucky enough to have the opportunity to study overseas and it has really changed my life. I found my motivation to work hard and I'm able to do what I'm passionate about with the support of my SGHS teachers and peers.

I study English, Maths, Dance, Drama, Theatre Technology and Media Studies. I enjoy all my classes and find them really helpful for my future since I intend to study similar subjects at university.



MOMOKA

17, JAPAN

I have been studying at SGHS for one year.

We can take different classes in New Zealand, that we can't take in Japan. I like fashion and design class, PE and Dance class. I am making a dress I designed in Fashion and Design class, which is so enjoyable and the teacher treats us kindly.

Additionally, we have great sport opportunities. We can join lots of sport clubs and play sport with friends.

GG

13, THAILAND

I started at Southland Girls High School in Year 8, mid-2024. Let me tell you, everyone here is super nice and kind – teachers and classmates alike!

One thing I totally like about this school is I get to pick fun subjects like Sewing and Dance. In Year 9, I'm pumped to try out new stuff like Fashion Design and Cooking. And the best part? I can join many clubs like gymnastics, basketball, tag touch, and more after school.

I'm living in Enwood Boarding House, and it's awesome because it's not far from the city centre. Weekends are great because I can shop and have fun with friends. It's like having a sleepover with buddies every single day!

Even though I'm away from my family, I'm not feeling lonely because everyone here is so cool. The weather's nice, the food's great. Every moment here is just awesome, and I'm happy to be here. I'd totally recommend this place to anyone!

STUDENT WELLBEING

All students are assigned a buddy for when they start at Southland Girls' High School to help with their arrival into our school community.

SGHS has a dedicated International Director who looks after the pastoral needs and wellbeing of all international students and is contactable 24/7.

Our international team are on hand to help students acclimate to their new environment, navigate life at school and aid in communication between parents, agents, students and SGHS staff.

Students are encouraged to participate in activities to enhance their social interaction and foster a sense of belonging within the school.

Our international team can help students access general healthcare services if and when required.





ACCOMMODATION



All students are required to live in the school boarding house, Enwood House, or approved homestay accommodation.

Boarding

There are places in the school boarding house for international students studying at Southland Girls' High School. Enwood House is a safe and caring environment for students with 24/7 supervision. Students become increasingly independent young women with core values of respect, responsibility and integrity.

Homestays

SGHS offers high-quality homestays. Southland Girls' High School has an experienced Homestay Coordinator who checks and approves all our homestay families including police vetting, reference checks and home visits.

OUR UNIFORM

Ō MĀTOU KĀKAHU KURA

Southland Girls' High School is incredibly proud of our school uniform. The iconic red shoes worn by all students ensure we stand out in a crowd.

Students are expected to wear the full and correct school uniform at all times. School tie must be worn with the white school shirt.

We offer an online store where items of new uniform may be purchased Monday – Friday, during the school term. Ordering with a click and collect service is available at store.southlandgirls.school.nz.

A second hand uniform shop is also on-site. Please contact Student Services at school to make an appointment to try on uniform.

Summer Uniform

- Summer dress
- Red v-neck jersey
- School blazer
- Red school shoes
- Plain white fold-over ankle socks

Winter Uniform

- White drop-neck shirt
- School tie
- School kilt
- Kilt pin
- Red v-neck jersey
- School blazer
- Navy tights or Over-the-knee socks
- Red school shoes

PE Uniform

- School PE top
- Navy shorts
- Sneakers

Optional Uniform Items

- School jacket
- Plain black jacket
- School lava-lava
- School trousers
- School scarf
- School blazer from Year 7





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