



Wakatipu
HIGH SCHOOL





E te tini e te mano, kia ora rā.
 Anei a whakatipu, e mihi mahana,
 kia koutou katoa. Takahia mai rā,
 ko te aroha, mai i kā rika pōwhiri,
 e tuwhera atu nei, ko Kawarau
 te mauka, ko whakatipu te roto.
 Haere mai rā ki tāhuna.

To the many, to the thousands - greetings. Here we are Whakatipu, a warm welcome to you all. Come forth with love, we welcome you all with open arms. Remarkables the mountain, Whakatipu the lake. Welcome again to you all.

Welcome to Wakatipu High School

Wakatipu High School is a bicultural school committed to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We recognise and value all cultures at our school, and acknowledge the special position of Māori in New Zealand society. We work together with our Māori community to achieve the best environment for success for our ākonga.

Disclaimer: Published 08 May 2026. While every reasonable effort has been taken to ensure the information in this publication is correct at the time of print, it is subject to change at any time without notice.



Information Pack

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Kia ora - Welcome

Wakatipu High School's vision is for 'Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education'. This aspirational vision challenges us to strive to deliver the very best possible opportunities and outcomes for all of our students each and every day.



Thank you for expressing an interest in joining our extraordinary school and learning community.

Our 'Ākonga Profile' outlines what we want for our students in their time at WHS. This profile guides our teaching and pastoral care, supporting every student to gain their best possible qualification, while developing the essential competencies and knowledge for an ever-changing world, all while growing holistically as a young person. At the centre of the Profile, and integral to our daily practice, are our school values of excellence, respect, responsibility, resilience, and inclusion.

Integral to the Ākonga Profile and our vision is student engagement, learning, progress, and achievement, and our strong academic results are testament to our success in this area. Students are also supported to achieve through vocational pathways, which include our Trades Academy, Gateway, and LEAP programmes. We also offer a range of learning supports for literacy and numeracy, and boast a strong Gifted Education programme.

A key part of our all-round education, and a significant opportunity for staff involvement, is the wide range of

extra and co-curricular opportunities we offer. These include sport, arts, music, culture, outdoors, community and service and leadership. From our rowing and jazz band to our school musical, Kapa Haka group, and Duke of Edinburgh programme, our students – guided by passionate staff – have an incredible range of opportunities to participate and excel. Furthermore, the Wakatipu Basin's unique environment enables us to offer exceptional Outdoor Education programmes, including our Greenstone camp for Year 9 students and our iconic Branches camp for Year 10 students, where staff play a vital role in creating unforgettable experiences.

Student engagement, wellbeing and resilience are very important at WHS, and we work hard to support our students to 'feel good and function well', to enjoy coming to school, and learn to build strategies for working through times of challenge. We have a comprehensive pastoral system, central to which are our five Houses.

Well-governed and generously supported by the WHS Foundation and Branches Trust, Wakatipu High School is delivering on its vision to provide Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education. We welcome you to join us at our remarkable campus and to 'reach for your heights' at this high performing school.

Ngā mihi nui,

Oded Nathan
Principal / Tumuaiki



Ākonga Profile



Excellence



Respect



Responsibility



Inclusion



Resilience

Ad alta

Reach for your heights

Kā mauka whakatipu



Our vision is for Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education



Strategic Plan

Our Vision for Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education

Our Motto Ad Alta - Reach for your heights, Kā mauka whakatipu

The Values that guide us are:

- > Excellence - Panekiretanga
Striving to achieve our personal best, in everything we do.
- > Respect - Te whakaute
For self, others, WHS, and the environment.
- > Responsibility - Takohanga
Choosing our responses, and being accountable for our decisions, actions and consequences.
- > Resilience - Te manawanui me te ū
Being able to cope with and grow from challenge.
- > Inclusion - Kotahitanga
Actively welcoming and including all, and creating a safe environment.

Our strategic goals that we are working towards are:

Students

- Support all students to achieve the aspirations of the Ākonga Profile and to achieve their best possible qualification.
- Enable all students to participate in extra and co-curricular activities.

Staff

- Retain and recruit great staff.
- Develop inspiring leaders and teachers who deliver high quality teaching and learning.

School

- Ensure a kind, safe and inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging.
- Embed a great school culture and the Wakatipu Way.
- Strengthen biculturalism and mātauranga Māori.
- Future proofing for growth.

Community

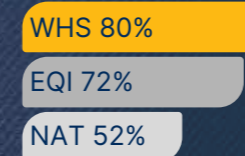
- Engage with the community to enhance our all-round education.
- Communicate and promote WHS to the wider community.

2025 Academic Snapshot

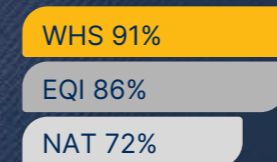
We encourage and support our students to achieve their best possible qualification. Our 2025 academic results continue to impress, demonstrating our commitment to deliver Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education. Notably, WHS achieved the fourth highest University Entrance results among all 185 public co-educational schools in New Zealand in 2025.

Our teachers focus on great teaching and learning, including differentiated instruction, and also have a focus on 'high performance', which includes Merit and Excellence endorsements and Scholarships. We also have rigorous systems for monitoring and supporting students to achieve to their heights.

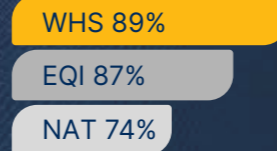
UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE ACHIEVED



LEVEL 3 ACHIEVED



LEVEL 2 ACHIEVED



YEAR 12 HIGH PERFORMANCE



YEAR 11 ACHIEVEMENT



13 NZ Scholarships Awarded
Across nine different subjects, with two Outstanding Scholarships awarded



13 students attained NZ Scholarships, including seven returning students

He waka eke noa

The Wakatipu Way

Ahakoia he iti he pounamu



Pride Whakahi

Valuing the school and its people

• We celebrate our successes

• We represent the school positively

• We wear our school uniform correctly



Excellence Panekiretanga

Striving to achieve our personal best, in everything we do

- > We do our best
- > We set and work towards personal goals
- > We challenge ourselves

Respect Te whakautē

For self, others, WHS, and the environment

- > We follow instructions
- > We use appropriate language
- > We take care of our school
- > We show our thanks

Responsibility Takahanga

Choosing our responses, and being accountable for our decisions, actions and consequences

- > We own our actions
- > We are organised and use our time well
- > We look out for others

Resilience Te manawanui me te ū

Being able to cope with and grow from challenge

- > We believe in ourselves and others
- > We keep trying even when things are hard
- > We seek help when we need it
- > We actively manage our wellbeing

Inclusion Kotahitanga

Actively welcoming, including all and creating a safe environment

- > We are kind and considerate
- > We listen to and value others
- > We support others to belong

Ākonga Profile



Central to our vision of delivering Aotearoa New Zealand's best all-round education is our Ākonga Profile. The Ākonga (Learner) Profile outlines the areas in which we want our students to learn, develop and grow during their time at WHS. The profile is very holistic and has four key areas:

1. Values - excellence, respect, responsibility, resilience and inclusion are at the centre of the profile.
2. Future-focused qualifications, transitions and pathways - including the best possible qualification for each student.
3. Capabilities for lifelong learning - including competency development and key knowledge, skills and processes.
4. Holistic development - including self, social and active citizenship.

In Year 9, our students experience the eight learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum, choosing subjects that allow them to explore their passions while building a strong foundation for senior school success. As students progress through high school, they increasingly specialise within their chosen subjects and pathways. Our broad range of subject choices for both junior and senior students is designed to cater to diverse interests and needs.

We also provide comprehensive support through literacy and numeracy programmes, ESOL classes for second language learners, talent development initiatives, dedicated scholarship support, and extension learning opportunities across all learning areas.

Aligned with our Ākonga Profile, our students also learn and grow through our wider school curriculum. Our extensive extra and co-curricular programme, which includes sports, arts, cultural activities, outdoor education, service, citizenship and leadership opportunities, alongside our vibrant House competition, all provide valuable avenues for our ākonga to learn, grow, and develop holistically.

Teaching and Learning

Our team of talented, passionate, and experienced staff are dedicated to ensuring there is high-quality teaching and learning at WHS, including making the most of our flexible learning environment.



Teaching and Learning Model

Our teaching and learning model outlines the guiding principles for high quality teaching and learning which are underpinned by research on what matters most for our students and their learning. These include:

- > Whakawhānaungatanga - creating a class climate and culture conducive to learning;
- > Wānanga - growing great learners who love to learn and learn to learn;
- > Kaitiakitanga - high quality teaching for equity and excellence.

The school supports staff to engage in ongoing and up-to-date professional learning to ensure students receive world-class learning experiences.



Our Modern Campus

Our Campus

Our world class facilities include a multi-purpose theatre space, two gymnasiums (including a double and single gym), outdoor gym circuit, specialist learning spaces, purpose built science laboratories, performance rehearsal space and a recording studio. The campus was designed and built in accordance with the principles of an Innovative Learning Environment (ILE), encompassing Flexible Learning Spaces as an integral part of learning.

The school is built for 1625 students and includes onsite student facilities such as a cafe, fitness studio, climbing wall, and outdoor basketball courts as well as student social spaces

Innovative Learning Environment

WHS's Innovative Learning Environment (ILE) provides open, flexible learning spaces, which paired with technology, enable teachers to choose from a variety of pedagogical approaches to enhance teaching and learning. They support students to develop future-focused skills and competencies for lifelong learning, while engaging in a knowledge-rich curriculum.

The flexibility of our ILE enables teachers to deliver personalised learning, better meeting the needs of individual students. Personalised learning is supported through leveraging digital technology, with students bringing their own devices to school (BYOD) and using them as tools for learning.



Supporting students to achieve their "Best Possible Qualification"



“Wakatipu High School is a place where growth is shaped through challenge, opportunity, and persistence. It is where I've learned that confidence is built through experience, and success comes from continually striving to improve rather than comparing yourself to others. The culture here encourages students to push their limits, support one another, and discover what they are capable of.”

Zara Small
Head Student 2026



Secondary Education in Queenstown

Our goal is to develop students holistically. This involves participating in our vibrant community and learning to be kaitiaki of our spectacular natural environment.

As the region's sole secondary school, Wakatipu High School serves a growing community with more than 1500 students from eight local primary schools. Our school community mirrors the broader demographic of the Wakatipu basin, encompassing a rich tapestry of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.

The Queenstown community has expanded in recent years attracting residents from all over the world wanting to make it their home. With a culturally rich population, we pride ourselves in having teachers and support staff who offer a diverse set of capabilities and experiences to enrich students learning, progress and achievement.

While academic achievement is central, WHS our stunning local environment into the curriculum, offering unique learning opportunities.

The natural and cultural environment that we live in is truly unique and the teaching and learning at Wakatipu High School reflects and embraces the special character of our slice of Aotearoa New Zealand.



“

Wakatipu High School is a place to forge new paths, follow your true passions, and find your true potential. The breadth of opportunities I experienced here molded me into who I am today, and I want it to be the same for you. Kei ō ringaringa te ao. The world is in your hands.



Haru Kuroe
Head Student 2026





Community Support

WHS Foundation

The WHS Foundation was established in 2013 to bring the community together to support the school in delivering a great all-round education. We are humbled by the fact that the Foundation has supported us with over \$4 million, including more than \$1 million in the past two years. We are very grateful for the generous support of many supportive community members and local businesses who have supported the Foundation and WHS.



Branches Trust

Branches Trust was formed in 2009 to help fund our Year 10 Branches Camp and ensure that this significant Wakatipu High School opportunity is accessible to all students and families.

With changes to education and funding over that period their very generous support remains as important as ever in supporting us to be able to run a safe, high quality Branches Camp.

Learn more about Branches Trust at branchestrust.co.nz



The Foundation's support has provided funding for a range of initiatives including our Āwhina Support Fund, academic achievement, as well as leadership development and strategic resourcing which have enabled us to successfully deliver a great all-round education to our students as we have progressed and grown.

The Foundation and the Wakatipu community which supports it, has a real and significant impact on our students and the school.

Learn more about the Foundation and their fundraising initiatives at whsf.nz



“Students experience meaningful and intentional teaching, where the classroom culture is well established to support their learning.”
 2024 Education review office (ERO) report



Position Description:

Assistant Principal

Position:	Assistant Principal
Department:	Senior Leadership Team
Responsible to:	Principal
Purpose:	The Assistant Principal, in association with the other members of the Senior Leadership Team, is responsible for leading and managing the school in the achievement of its vision in a manner consistent with the school charter, the strategic plan, Board policies, and all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Key Responsibilities / Job Duties

- > Provide professional and strategic leadership within allocated portfolios, which will be fewer than that of the Deputy Principal, and tend to be more operational and less strategic in nature.
- > Assist with professional and strategic leadership that fulfil the school's strategic plan and priorities.
- > Assist with professional and strategic leadership which reflects the school's commitment to high quality teaching and learning and supports student engagement, learning, progress and achievement.
- > Assist with professional and strategic leadership which reflects the school's commitment to student wellbeing and resilience and the school's Ākonga Profile.
- > Plan, implement and evaluate programmes, in consultation with the Principal and SLT, that meet national requirements, and are consistent with the school's charter and strategic plan and annual goals.
- > Communicate effectively with the Principal, Board, members of the Senior Leadership Team and staff on portfolios and other areas of delegated responsibility, as required.
- > Assist in developing, promoting and maintaining a positive school culture that actively encourages and reflects Wakatipu High School's key values: excellence, responsibility, resilience, inclusion and respect.
- > Reflect and evaluate individual and team performance and demonstrate a commitment to on-going learning and professional development.
- > Adopt a consultative approach with the Principal and other staff on issues relating to school operations and policy.
- > Understand and operate within the limits of the delegated authorities.
- > Other duties as reasonably required.

Note: The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required of personnel so classified. All personnel may be required to perform any reasonable and lawful duties outside of their normal responsibilities from time to time, as requested by their line manager.

How to Apply

Please submit your application online by visiting the following link:
<https://wakatipuhs.schooljobs.nz/>

Applications will be electronically acknowledged, and further correspondence may be by email.

Useful Links

About Us

- wakatipu.school.nz/our-school

Strategic Plan

- wakatipu.school.nz/our-school

News

- wakatipu.school.nz/school-news

School Contacts

- wakatipu.school.nz/our-staff

ERO Report

- ero.govt.nz/institution/374/wakatipu-high-school

WHS Foundation

- whsf.nz

Branches Trust

- branchestrust.co.nz

 @wakatipuhighschoolqueenstown

 @wakatipuhighschool

