Academic Plus Volunteer™
A high school experience abroad with a difference!
Oxford Area School is proud to be offering Academic Plus Volunteer™. As an Academic Plus Volunteer™ student you will get to experience high school in New Zealand while making a difference, volunteering on local sporting, environmental or social projects. Plus you will have the option to volunteer in South America on your way home. You will do up to 5 hours volunteering per week on your chosen project/s.

We are currently offering the following projects: Conservation projects including creating a new local track and conservation area; a Kiwi egg retrieval project; an astronomy club working with the public; Riding with the Disabled; junior sports coaching; junior subject tutoring.

We welcome applications for any length of programme and encourage you to consider volunteering with our partner public school in Chile on your way home.

International Programme
Our international students are well looked after, with dedicated international staff. We have an international director, dean and accommodation coordinator. With such small numbers (less than 15 internationals) you can be assured of personal attention. We would love to hear from you soon and would welcome an application.

Orientation
When you arrive at the school, you will attend a programme of orientation and get advice on your course of study. You will be assigned a Kiwi buddy who will show you the school and help you in your first weeks.

ESOL programme
You will receive appropriate English Language (ESOL) assistance according to your needs established through initial and on-going testing by qualified staff. Each student arrives in New Zealand with different language knowledge and abilities. The department has specialised individual programmes to support your learning both in and out of the classroom.

Facilities
Oxford Area School is going through a major rebuild in 2016 so from 2017 there will be new purpose built buildings incorporating the latest in teaching technology and ideas. We have extensive sports fields and we are surrounded by the large village showgrounds. We have the usual specialist teaching spaces that you would find in much larger city schools.

NetNZ
Oxford Area School is a member of the Virtual Learning Network (VLN) which connects the eLearning clusters and enables the delivery of a range of online courses using a range of technologies. This means we can offer a wide range of subjects such as Spanish, French and Maori.

For more information please go to www.oxford.school.nz
Or email international@oxford.school.nz
Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/oxfordarea

OXFORD AREA SCHOOL
Christchurch, New Zealand
Welcome to Oxford Area School - International
A new international educational experience

Oxford Area School is a growing Year 1-13 school of approximately 550 students. Our school has a strong family atmosphere, with everyone knowing everyone else. Class sizes are small and we provide quality teaching on a full range of subjects, which inspires students to enjoy their learning. Our academic results are excellent and most students graduate to continue into tertiary education. We are proud of our culture of excellence, innovation and creativity.

We are located in Oxford, just 40 minutes north of Christchurch to 25 minutes from the town of Rangiora in a growing semi-rural area. Traditionally, Oxford was an agricultural service village but it is now the heart of a much more diverse community of farmers, small lifestyle block dwellers and city commuters.

We are known for our Outdoor Education. All students have had multiple school experiences as juniors in the outdoors. They will have completed a water skills course, a week in a mountain environment with tramping, river rafting, ropes courses, confidence building and team work activities, as well as experience with snow skills, including snowboarding and/or skiing. Senior students specialising in Outdoor Education often assist on the junior programme so that leadership skills can also be practised. The senior Outdoor Education programme involves travel over the South Island and skills training to advanced levels.

Find out more on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Oxford-Area-School-Outdoor-Education

Our own observatory

Another unique feature of Oxford Area School is our observatory that supports the astronomy components of the science classes with educational materials and observation opportunities. The southern skies of New Zealand are renowned worldwide for their clarity and star-gazing opportunities.

Sports and Arts opportunities

New Zealanders love sport and competing so you can join in too. We have teams in most sports and participate in local, regional and New Zealand competitions.

Oxford Area School's new purpose-designed dance/drama studio will be ready for use in 2017 for classes, productions and shows. Various forms of art can be taken as school subjects such as photography, painting, design and visual communication. There is also a selection of community clubs that teach dance and other artistic pursuits.

Specialisation – Outdoor Education

The Southern Alps, Mount Oxford, Oxford Forest and rivers are all close to our village, meaning there are wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities on our doorstep. Cycling, mountain biking, climbing, hiking, swimming, horse riding, skiing and farm activities like quad biking and shooting, are just some of the activities you can easily participate in here.

Our homestays

Our homestays are all local families who live either within walking distance of the school or on the school bus routes. One of the special things about going to a New Zealand rural school is nearly everyone busses to and from school. You will wait at the gate and the school bus will pick you up.

Many of our homestays have horse riding available and there are local Pony Clubs and a Riding School. If you love horses then you will love your time at Oxford.

Agriculture studies

We are also well known for our quality agriculture courses and events. The yearly Young Farmer contests are hotly contested while whole families participate in the local Agriculture and Pastoral Show held in the Showgrounds next to the school each year.

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