



OXFORD AREA SCHOOL

A NEW INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE



WWW.OXFORD.SCHOOL.NZ

WELCOME TO OXFORD AREA SCHOOL

A NEW INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Oxford Area School is a growing Year 1 – 13 co educational school of approximately 520 students. Our school has a strong family atmosphere, with everyone knowing everyone else. Class sizes are small and we provide quality teaching of a full range of subjects which inspires students to enjoy their learning. Our academic results are excellent and most students graduate and continue into tertiary education. We are proud of our culture of excellence, innovation and creativity.

As the Principal, I am pleased to welcome you to Oxford Area School, Oxford, New Zealand.

Oxford Area School has so much to offer International Students including future-focused academic programmes supported by high-quality teachers and activities which make the most of our spectacular surrounding environment. Our International students will experience our local and regional environments with plenty of opportunities to learn beyond the classroom in the mountains, rivers and beaches that surround us.

Being 45 minutes to New Zealand's second-largest city, International Students at Oxford Area School can experience both rural lifestyle in the countryside as well as an urban experience being so close to the city.

At the heart of what we do are people. We value the relationships gained between the teachers and the students. In a very caring and positive environment, International students will flourish.

An education at Oxford Area will open you up to a world of opportunities.



MIKE HART
Principal

FACILITIES:

- WIFI
- School grounds set on 4 hectares with hills directly behind and surrounded by the large village showgrounds
- Observatory
- Gymnasium
- Library
- Extensive sports fields including rugby and football grounds, tennis courts, basketball and netball courts
- Technology block with workshop for woodwork, metalwork, textiles and food rooms, 3D printers and laser cutters
- Community pool less than 5 minutes walk from school
- Visual arts block including photography studio and dark room
- Music block with band practice rooms
- New specialty drama room
(We are undergoing a major rebuild from 2021 incorporating the latest technology and innovative teaching spaces)

WHAT'S IN OXFORD

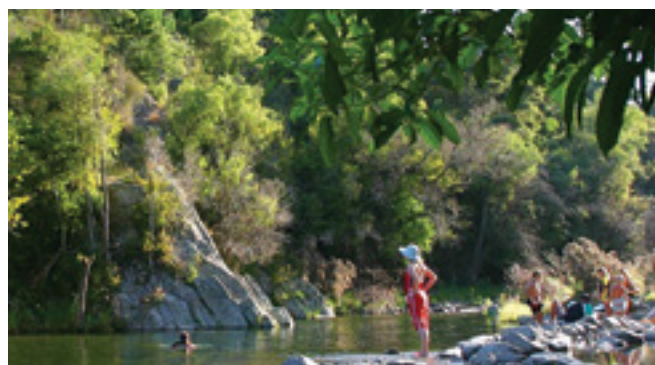
AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Oxford is a scenic location which is home to about 4000 urban and rural residents. It is just 45 minutes from Christchurch or 25 minutes from the town of Rangiora, in a growing semi-rural area. Traditionally, Oxford was an agricultural service village but is now at the heart of a much more diverse community of farmers, small lifestyle block dwellers and city commuters.

WHAT'S ON OFFER:

Oxford village is a beautiful country town with a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. The village is fully equipped with the necessities such as a Community Health Center, the pharmacy and supermarket as well as many other sporting and cultural facilities.

- Cafe
- Gallery
- Supermarket
- Restaurant
- Shops
- Bakery
- Movies
- Farmers Market
- Gym
- Squash Courts
- Swimming Pool
- Sports Clubs
- Skiing at Mt Hutt
- Golf Course
- Library
- Museum
- Backpackers Hostel
- Youth Group



OUR SUBJECTS

At Oxford Area School we offer the following subjects:

LEARNING AREAS	SUBJECT	YEARS 1-6	YEARS 7-8	YEARS 9-10	YEARS 11-13
ENGLISH	English	•	•	•	•
	ESOL		•	•	•
HEALTH & PHYSICAL WELLBEING	Health	•	•	•	•
	Physical Education	•	•	•	•
	Outdoor Education	•	•	•	•
	Sport	•	•		
LANGUAGES	Spanish		•	•	•
	Additional Languages –Via NetNZ				•
MATHEMATICS	Mathematics	•	•	•	•
	Statistics				•
	Calculus				•
PERFORMING ARTS	Drama	•	•	•	•
	Music	•	•	•	•
	Kapa Haka	•	•	•	•
SCIENCES	Science	•	•	•	
	Agriculture		•	•	•
	Biotechnology			•	
	Psychology			•	
	Biology				•
	Chemistry				•
	Physics				•
SOCIAL SCIENCES	Classics				•
	Geography				•
	History				•
	Social Studies	•	•	•	•
	Tourism				•
THE TECHNOLOGIES	Digital Technology	•	•	•	
	Digital and Visual Communications		•	•	
	Hard Materials		•	•	
	Food and Nutrition		•	•	•
	Food Technology		•	•	
	Hospitality				•
	Robotics		•	•	
VISUAL ARTS	Art	•	•	•	•
	Photography			•	•
LEARNING THROUGH PLAY	Play Based Learning	•			
NETNZ AND DISTANCE LEARNING	Extra subjects				•

NETNZ

NetNZ is a programme of online learning offered by schools to provide a wider range of subjects. A course usually consists of 8-15 students who are taught by an eTeacher through face to face video tutorials and digital/paper based learning. Students will receive work, download assignments and interact with the teacher and other students, online. An eDean will support students at school and help with the line of communication. Additional costs apply.

SPORTING AND CULTURAL

New Zealanders have a real passion for sport, both recreational and competitive. Oxford certainly does not fail to deliver when it comes to sport. At school, the most popular competitive team sports are Basketball and Netball. Both of these are strongly supported, anticipated and enjoyed by our students. Further sports such as Rugby, Football, Tennis, Golf, Lawn Bowls, Squash, Table Tennis and Taekwondo are offered within the community. Whether playing for the school or local club, students have the opportunity to participate in local and national competitions. A wider range of sports can be played in Inter - School Competitions, during PE, or at break times, just for fun.

Oxford Area Schools purpose designed drama studio is in use for classes, productions, shows and Kapa Haka practices. Music lessons are available for a number of different instruments such as Drums, Guitar and Piano. Various forms of Visual Art can be taken as school subjects, including Photography and Painting. There are also a selection of community clubs that offer dance and other artistic pursuits.

■ VISUAL ARTS



■ SPORTS



■ KAPA HAKA



■ DRAMA



■ MUSIC



THE OXFORD AREA SCHOOL CURRICULUM

■ YEAR 1-6

A collaborative approach allows teachers to work to their strengths and deliver an integrated programme of learning. A range of diverse subjects across the New Zealand curriculum are taught in both small and larger groups. Students enjoy the security of a homeroom teacher responsible for student wellbeing, and being the primary contact between school and the parents/caregivers.

■ YEAR 7-8

Students spend a significant amount of time with their homeroom teacher each week. This focus on wellbeing provides strong pastoral support as well as a solid foundation in numeracy and literacy skills through Reading, Writing, Mathematics and current topics, as well as learning directly linked to our school values. Students are taught by specialist secondary teachers of Science, Health and Physical Education, Technology, Languages and the Arts, throughout the year.

■ YEAR 9-10

This programme is run by semester with a strong emphasis on student choice while still ensuring broad exposure to the New Zealand Curriculum. All year 9 and 10 students spend six hours per week in English and Mathematics with a focus on literacy and numeracy. Each semester students select three courses from across a wide range of options allowing them to pursue areas of passion and interest. In addition, students choose two integrated courses which incorporate inquiry and project based learning skills within a collaborative learning environment. Students spend one hour per week with their Learning Mentor, with an explicit focus on academic consulting, student wellbeing and school values. Additionally, they participate in "The Rite Journey" programme which is designed to support their development into self-aware, responsible, respectful and resilient adults.

■ YEAR 11-13

Senior students select 5 or 6 subjects at each year level, facilitated by passionate teachers who are specialists in their fields. Students are provided with a personalised programme to best suit their learning needs, and aim to achieve NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3. Every student is assigned a Learning Mentor who, for 2 hours a week, oversees their general wellbeing and academic journey.

Please note: International Students not participating in NCEA exams will be offered a diverse and interesting programme in November.





Oxford Area School

Te Kura o Te Poho Rakahua

Kāhui Whetū • Tātai Whetū • Rau Whetū

As a community, we align our learning and skills, showing how extraordinary we are.

Grow together

Thriving • Connected
Communities

Kia ngātahi ai te tū, e pakari ai te tuarā

Stand united, stand strong.

- Our school has integral relationships with family, school, community, and the world. We will nurture meaningful connections that ensure we all flourish. The community is at the heart of who we are.

Learn together

Pioneering • Collaborative
Learning

Takata te mōhio, takatā te pai

Learning will help you in life. It's great to learn and have knowledge.

- We are a future-focused school. We will work and learn from and with one another. Our school will flourish in authentic learning by utilising expertise and knowledge around us.

Shine together

Courage • Success • Pride

He mahi kai hoaka, he mahi kai takata.

Anything worthwhile requires considerable effort. See the rewards of your hard work.

- To prepare for an unknown future, we will empower our school to be risk takers and to seek excellence in all we do. We will celebrate all our achievements to foster pride in ourselves, each other, and our school.

Values

**Kia whakaute
Be Respectful**

**Kia haepapa
Be Responsible**

**Kia manaaki
Be Caring**

**Kia manahau
Be Positive**

SPECIALTY PROGRAMMES OFFERED

■ ESOL

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



■ HORSE RIDING

There are various opportunities within our homestays for International Students to care for, and enjoy being around horses. Students will have the option to ride and participate in equestrian activities, depending on their level of skill and availability. We work closely with an excellent riding school to allow students to take lessons and enjoy treks, during school hours. The riding school offers a range of programmes suitable for all abilities and students can attend a half day per week, or on a more casual basis. The riding school will provide transportation to and from school. Additional costs apply.



■ SKIING (Term 3)

An annual ski programme is run for students of all ages, at the picturesque Porters Ski Field. This is held in the last 5 weeks of Term 3. Students of all abilities can choose to take lessons, use the ski lift, and hire equipment. A school bus is used for transport to and from Porters. Additional costs apply.



■ OBSERVATORY (Astronomy Club)

Another unique feature of Oxford Area School is our onsite observatory. This 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. Some additional costs may apply.



■ OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The Southern Alps, Mount Oxford, Oxford forests and rivers are all close to our village. This means there are a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities on our doorstep. Cycling, mountain biking, climbing, hiking, fishing, horse riding, skiing, farm activities and clay bird shooting are just some of the things you can experience here. 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, camping in a mountain environment with tramping, ropes courses, confidence building and team work activities. The Senior Outdoor Education Programme involves travel over the South Island and skills training to advanced levels. Students have the opportunity to take part in activities such as snow skills, skiing/snowboarding, surfing, kayaking, rafting, abseiling, climbing, mountain-biking, camping and tramping. Senior students specialising in Outdoor Education often assist on the Junior Programmes so that leadership skills can be practised. Additional costs apply.



■ AGRICULTURE

We have quality agriculture courses and events. The annual Future Farmers (for senior students) and Agrikids (for junior students) competitions are hotly contested, and whole families participate in the local Agriculture and Pastoral Show held in the show grounds, beside the school each year. Agriculture is a popular subject with many skills learned through practical experience. Additional costs may apply.



■ FOOD & NUTRITION AND HOSPITALITY

A popular subject for both our local and international students. In this class you will learn the science associated with food preparation and nutrition, plan menus and cook and taste some delicious meals. You may even be able to try some kiwi favourites and share some of your favourite recipes from home. Additional costs for food will apply.



■ SPANISH

This subject is taught by an experienced teacher, fluent in the language and with an excellent understanding of Spanish culture. A programme of learning is structured to meet the needs of individual students and their level of ability.



HOMESTAY

Our homestays are all local families who live either within walking distance of the school, or on school bus routes. You will wait near your gate and the school bus will pick you up and drop you off each day. This is a uniquely rural experience which our students enjoy. Many of our homestays have horse riding available and there are local pony clubs and a riding school. If you love horses, the outdoors and animals, then you will love your time in Oxford.





"I have really enjoyed my time at Oxford Area School and I have made a lot of good friends. Most of the people are really nice and caring. My host family made me feel very comfortable and I learned a lot about how people live in New Zealand. We cooked together, went on trips, walked on the beach and went swimming. To sum it up, this has been one of the greatest experiences of my life so far."

Kilian from Germany

"The style of Education feels more free in New Zealand compared to the schools in Japan. I have learned a lot about the culture being in the classroom, and from the students. My experience with my homestay family was very warm. Every Wednesday at dinner, we all talked about our 'peaks and troughs' for the week and this was good because it helped me practice my English and learn new words, and it made me feel like part of the family."

Yuki from Japan



INTERNATIONAL TEAM & STUDENTS

ORIENTATION

When you arrive at 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.

INTRODUCING THE INTERNATIONAL TEAM

Our International students are well looked after, with a dedicated team of international staff. We have an international director, dean, accommodation coordinator and an administrator. 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.



**CHARLOTTE
DAVIS**
International
Director



**LOUISA
ROBINSON**
International
Accommodation
Coordinator



**NURA
GILPIN**
International
Student Dean



**LUCILLE
RIACH**
International
Administrator



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