



# WELLINGTON GIRLS' COLLEGE



## INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTUS

QUALITY EDUCATION FOR GIRLS IN THE HEART OF NEW ZEALAND'S CAPITAL CITY



Linda, Year 12, Germany



Wanyi, Year 12, China



Linh, Year 13, Vietnam



Lingjia, Year 10, China



Ulrike, Year 13, Germany



Supitchaya, Year 11, Thailand



Hoi Ling, Year 12, Hong Kong

*The last nine months were probably the most adventurous in my whole life. Wellington is a vibrant city in which you can always experience something new. In the beginning everything was a bit different but the students at WGC welcomed me really well and after a short time I had my own friends. The broad variety of clubs made it possible for me to meet new people with the same interests. During exam time international students were offered 2 weeks full of activities like kayaking, climbing, surfing, sailing etc. One of my personal highlights was the Geography trip to Tongariro National Park. I have never regretted for one moment that I chose Wellington Girls' College.*

**Linda, Year 12, Germany**

*The most impressive small Capital city in the world is Wellington, it has friendly people and beautiful scenery. School has well organised timetable and extremely helpful teaching, which I enjoy very much. At school I am not only learning knowledge from books but also learning how to work in society in the future. We have friendly classmates and patient teachers which makes it a suitable atmosphere for study, there are also different nationalities of students and I can learn about more different cultures. I am lucky to be here as it is a fantastic learning environment!*

**Wanyi, Year 12, China**

*I have had a great experience at WGC. I have made good friends who come from many countries. The teachers are welcoming and willing to help me in class. I also like the campus, it is very different from my old school in my country. Especially, I have had an amazing opportunity to improve my English and I think Wellington is a good place to live and WGC a good place to study.*

**Linh, Year 13, Vietnam**

*The capital Wellington is New Zealand's treasured place, this harbour city is beautiful, green everywhere, nice weather, peaceful life, it is a great place for studying abroad. At Wellington Girls' College, life here is full of colours, very happy, the teachers are very kind, the students are all friendly. We have lots of extra curriculum activities. I have made lots of friends from all over the world experiencing different cultures. I feel deeply in love with this beautiful city.*

**Lingjia, Year 10, China**

*For me coming to WGC was the right decision. Here you have a many choices for subjects and different activities in music and sport as well as many clubs. The students are very friendly, open and helpful. They show great interest in foreign cultures so it is easy to integrate. Wellington is a great city. You are literally "blown away" as much from the wind as from the possibilities you have for free time and shopping. Being located in the middle of NZ makes travel very easy. NZ is a beautiful country full of variety. I have been here for 10 months and I still discover new things every day.*

**Ulrike, Year 13, Germany**

*I think life is very joyful and challenging at WGC. We get a very good education, and also a lot of great opportunities. WGC has good technologies which help me to study and all school staff are happy and willing to help. WGC also helps to prepare for future pathways and I learn a lot at WGC. It is good to be a student here.*

**Supitchaya, Year 11, Thailand**

*I think that NZ is a very good place to study. The scenery is very beautiful. It makes people feel good. When I get tired of studying, I just go outside for a walk, breathe in fresh air, and see the nice scenery, this makes me feel less stressed. Here, I will get to know people with a different ethnicity, so that I can broaden my knowledge of them. It is a good place, I really like studying here.*

**Hoi Ling, Year 12, Hong Kong**



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I am delighted to introduce you to Wellington Girls' College. Choosing an international experience for your daughter is an exciting decision. Choosing the right school is crucial if your daughter is to be successful and happy with that experience.

Wellington Girls' College was founded in 1883 in the very heart of New Zealand's capital city. It is a highly respected institution which has long New Zealand student waiting lists for places each year. The college takes an innovative approach to teaching and learning which leads to outstanding academic results and girls who have a strong social conscience. We also take pride in the sporting, cultural and leadership opportunities that are available to all girls.

I think that WGC is a wonderful school which focuses on developing the whole girl within an ethnically diverse college and inclusive population of 1450 girls. About 90% of our students leave to go to university in New Zealand and overseas.

I encourage you to consider what Wellington Girls' College has to offer and if you think we would suit your daughter's needs we would be pleased to discuss the matter further.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Julia Davidson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Julia Davidson  
Principal

We offer you a special experience as one of just a small number of international students enrolled each year in a school of 1450 students. Whether you want to study for university entrance or improve your English or enjoy New Zealand lifestyle and culture, we have a programme for you. As one of New Zealand's leading high schools, WGC provides a broad range of academic and extra-curricular opportunities with motivated and enthusiastic students who participate widely in all aspects of school life. We invite you to come and find out for yourself the wonderful possibilities here at Wellington Girls' College.

## OUR HISTORY

Wellington Girls' College was founded in 1883. The founders were committed to providing an education appropriate to the times that would produce confident young women able to make a positive contribution to society. We remain true in essence to this philosophy, but strive not just to provide an education for the current times, but an education that equips our young women to meet the challenges of the future, helping them to become creative thinkers, independent learners and confident problem-solvers. The College has evolved into a dynamic and vibrant community that is the place of choice for many of Wellington's young women.

The school has a long-standing tradition of strong and stable leadership, having appointed only ten Principals in its 132-year history.





# OUR STRATEGIC GOALS 2016-20

## Mission Statement

*Wellington Girls' College prepares young women to go out into the world as independent thinkers with respect for themselves and others, the confidence to accept and respond to challenges and an enduring passion for learning.*

## Vision

*Mā te kahukura ka rere te manu, ka rere rūnga rawa  
Adorn the bird with feathers and let it fly, let it soar*

## Learning

We will celebrate learning  
We will embrace diversity  
We will nurture creativity

## Environment

We will encourage innovation  
We will optimise our resources  
We will promote staff and student wellness

## Community

We will foster resilience  
We will partner with whānau  
We will connect locally, nationally and globally



AROHIA

learning from mistakes  
flexibility . generosity of spirit . love of learning  
challenge  
confidence . self belief . trust . sustainability  
participation  
empathy . support  
sincerity . responsibility  
manaakitanga . awhinatanga  
resilience  
friendship  
respect . kindness . integrity  
inclusiveness . equity

## OUR FACILITIES

We make creative use of our inner city site. The College is close to many of Wellington city's wonderful resources - Te Papa, National Library, Wellington City Library, Parliament, Victoria and Massey Universities, City & Sea Museum, the harbour, local businesses, art galleries, Pipitea Marae and the Westpac Stadium.



### OUR FACILITIES INCLUDE:

Two gymnasia; netball/tennis courts; artificial multi-sport turf; tiered seating and relaxation courtyards; library; four computer suites, computer pods, computers in classrooms and a ubiquitous wireless network giving students access to ICT throughout the buildings and grounds; data-shows in all classrooms; specialist art block; sports pavilion; hall; specialist drama suites; music suite; media, design and photography classrooms; science laboratories; learning support centre; Careers and Transition centre; and Pipitea block which has six large double sized teaching spaces spread over three floors and the front entrance to the school, along with an Atrium used continually by the girls as a social space. International House – located at the front of the school, the social and learning hub for the international programme, with two English Language classrooms, tutorial rooms and a small student kitchen. The team of five international staff are based there and are in daily contact with students.



## OUR COURSES

The College has a culture of motivated students and teachers focussed on learning.

We offer a diverse, innovative and rich curriculum within the context of mixed ability classes. The expectation of our community is that our College upholds excellence in all aspects of learning. The College has a culture of motivated students and teachers focussed on learning. Students can choose from a wide range of subjects. They are encouraged to select courses that they enjoy, are good at and that form part of their career pathways for the future.

Wellington Girls' College places a priority on developing the full range of each student's abilities, including, but not restricting them to the traditional academic pursuits. The College places importance on literacy and numeracy and encourages all students to study an English, Mathematics and Science subject to senior level. All students study Physical Education and Health until the end of Year 10. Classes are not streamed.

The College has a strong focus on integrating ICT with learning as we believe that this is a fundamental tool for learning and communicating across the communities of which our students will be a part. We operate a wireless environment and girls are encouraged to bring their own digital devices to school.

WGC teaches the NZ national high school qualification - NCEA (National Certificate of Educational Achievement) leading to University Entrance (UE) – this qualification is recognised world -wide. WGC results are consistently amongst the highest in NZ with pass rates over 90% at all NCEA levels.

A normal school day starts at 8.40 and finishes at 3.20. There are six classes each day. Students in Year 10 study eight subjects, in Year 11 and 12 six subjects and in Year 13 students study five subjects. Sport, music and other extra-curricular activities take place before and after school and during evenings and weekends. Some activities will also take place during the hour long lunch break.



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

LEARNING AREAS	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 NCEA Level ONE	Year 12 NCEA Level TWO	Year 13 NCEA Level THREE Scholarship
<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>English</b> → English Language <sup>1</sup> → <i>Learning Studies</i>	<b>English</b> → English Language <sup>1</sup> → <i>Learning Studies</i>	<b>English</b> → <i>English Language</i> → <i>English Language Literacy</i>	<b>English</b> → English Language → English Language Literacy	English English Language Academic English
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	<b>Māori</b> → Chinese → French → German → Latin → <i>NZ Sign Language</i>	Māori → Chinese → French → German → Latin →	Te Reo Māori → Chinese → French → German → Latin →	Te Reo Māori → Chinese → French → German → Latin →	Te Reo Māori Chinese French German Latin
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<b>Mathematics</b> →	<b>Mathematics</b> →	<b>Mathematics &amp; Statistics OR Mathematics &amp; Statistics Internal Mathematics for Numeracy</b> →	Mathematics & Statistics OR Mathematics & Statistics Internal →	Calculus OR Calculus & Statistics OR Mathematics & Statistics OR Mathematics & Statistics Internal
<b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>Science</b> →	<b>Science</b> →	<b>Science Internal OR General Science</b> → Science Extra →	Science → Biology → Chemistry → Physics →	Science Biology Chemistry Physics
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCES</b>	<b>Social Studies</b> → Geography → History →  Managing Money → Media Studies →	<b>Social Studies</b> → Geography → History →  Economics & Enterprise → Media Studies →	Geography → History →  Accounting → Economics → Media Studies →	Sociology → Geography → History → Classical Studies → Accounting → Economics → Media Studies →	Sociology Geography History Classical Studies Tourism Accounting Economics Media Studies
<b>HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>Physical Education /Health</b> → Extension PE →	<b>Physical Education /Health</b> →	Sports Science →	Sports Science → Sports Leadership →	Sports Science Sports Leadership
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>	Fashion & Textiles → New Imaging → Interior Design → Jewellery Design → Animation & Programming → Digital Technologies → Biotechnology →	Fashion & Textiles → Product & Spatial Design Technology → Digital Technologies →	Fashion & Textiles → Product & Spatial Design → Digital Technologies → Computing (English Language) →	Fashion & Textiles → Product & Spatial Design → Digital Technologies → Digital Technologies internal →	Fashion & Textiles Product & Spatial Design Digital Technologies Digital Design Technologies
<b>ARTS</b>	Visual Art →  Drama →  Choral Singing → Creative Extn. → Music → Instrumental Playing → Music for Beginners →	Visual Art →  Drama →  Music →	Visual Art → Commercial Design & Print → Drama →  Music →	Visual Art → Photography → History of Art → Drama →  Music →	Art Design Painting Photography History of Art Drama  Music
<b>ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS</b>	Critical & Creative Thinking	Critical & Creative Thinking	Transition & Pathways	Transition & Pathways  General Studies → Early Childhood Education & Care →	Gateway  General Studies Early Childhood Education & Care

<sup>1</sup> Year 9 & 10 students taking English Language also take English

\* Subjects in **BOLD** are compulsory

\* Subjects in *ITALICS* have no prerequisite



# OUR ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

High school in NZ consists of five year levels, Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. WGC enrolls 60-70 international students each year, into Years 10-13. Students come from all over the world, primarily from Asia and Europe and a small number from South America. Our classroom programmes are well suited to English language learning and academic achievement. The wider school life and extra-curricular programmes at Wellington Girls' are ideal for experiencing NZ lifestyle and culture and there are many opportunities to enjoy the outdoor activities for which New Zealand is famous.

Students may enrol from one term (minimum) to a full year and longer. Enrolments are accepted for the start of Term 1 with limited places available in Term 2 and 3. It is rare for students to start in Term 4.

Students wishing to achieve University Entrance in NZ should ideally plan on a 3 year programme, commencing at the beginning of Year 11. A good academic record and IELTS 5.5 is required for direct entry to Year 12 with the aim of achieving UE in two years. Students from Germany may be able to achieve UE after 18 months, commencing July of the previous year.

The school year consists of four terms of about 10 weeks each.

- Term 1 February – April
- Term 2 May – July
- Term 3 July – September
- Term 4 October – December
- NCEA examinations are in November
- Our annual Prizegiving is held in early November, in the Michael Fowler Centre.
- NZ summer vacation is during December and January

For information on fees and application documents, please visit the International page on the WGC website. [www.wgc.school.nz/international/welcome](http://www.wgc.school.nz/international/welcome)

## English Language

WGC teaches English language to all levels, from advanced beginner through to English for academic purposes (for university study). English lessons are a normal part of the timetabled school day. Students will sit an English language assessment on arrival at WGC to determine how much English language support is needed and to assist with subject selection. Students will be placed in one or two English classes daily, according to age and ability. Girls not requiring English language support will be placed in regular English classes alongside NZ students. 5.5 IELTS is required for direct entry to Year 12 with the aim of achieving University Entrance.



## OUR CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

An important and special aspect of school life in New Zealand is the wide range of sports competitions and arts and cultural activities –all organised within school. This is especially true of all girls schools where students are enthusiastic and motivated to join in the many activities available to them and often organised by them. Additionally at Wellington Girls' there are outdoor education opportunities and opportunities to visit other parts of NZ with class and other school groups. For example - our four day outdoor education camp in the Marlborough Sounds with hiking, kayaking and mountain biking; our three day geography trip to explore the volcanic region of the central North Island; numerous outdoor activities in the Wellington region for students not sitting exams – sailing, kayaking, hiking, surfing, visits to wilderness and conservation parks – and much more. For students interested in cultural activities there is just as much choice. Many of these activities take place with the boys from our brother school. We have three choirs and two orchestras, numerous music, drama and dance events at school along with Maori and Pacific Island cultural groups – all welcome students from overseas.





# OUR CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

## SPORTING LIFE

Participation in sport at WGC is outstanding and we are proud of both the participation rates – over 60% of students play sport for the College – and the success that we have at both a national and local level.

School sport in NZ consists of weekly competition against other schools in the region, leading up to national championships at the end of the season. Greatest sports participation is during winter in Terms 2 and 3. Teams are selected in Term 1.

A sports booklet is produced annually and is available on the school web site <http://www.wgc.school.nz/student-life/wgc-sport>

We offer an extensive range of sports including:

Winter (Terms 2 and 3)

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cross country running
- Football (soccer)
- Hockey
- Lacrosse
- Netball
- Rugby
- Underwater Hockey

Summer (Terms 4 and 1)

- Athletics (track and field)
- Cricket
- Dragon Boat racing
- Futsal
- Handball
- Lawn bowls
- Rowing
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Waterpolo

## CULTURAL LIFE

The cultural life of the College is equally rich and exciting. Art, drama, music, dance and other creative endeavours are extremely popular.

Some of the cultural pursuits available are:

- Choirs
- Concert band
- Debating
- Drama clubs & productions
- GIFT (Christian group)
- Kapa Haka
- Orchestra
- Polynesian Club
- Rock Bands
- Stage Challenge

## CLUBS AND GROUPS

The student leaders of the school run many clubs which are open to any student.

Some of the Clubs and Groups available are:

- Amnesty International
- Breakfast Club
- Environmental Club
- International Club
- SADD
- Spectrum
- Supporters Club
- Teal TV
- Tech Angels
- Writers Club

A Clubs booklet is produced annually and is available on [www.wgc.school.nz](http://www.wgc.school.nz) for the girls to see what is available.



## OUR CITY

Wellington Girls' College is ideally located in the heart of Wellington, NZ's capital city. WGC international students can live anywhere in the Wellington region, in accommodation approved by the College. There is no boarding hostel. Students may live

- with a homestay family selected by WGC
- with a parent
- with an adult caregiver arranged by the student's family

Our wonderful homestay families are located throughout the suburbs of Wellington. Living with a homestay family is the ideal way to improve English skills and to experience NZ lifestyle and culture. Homestays are vetted by NZ Police and visited twice yearly by WGC international staff. Most WGC students commute to school by bus or train, average travel times are 20 – 30 minutes each way.

Wellington has been described as “the coolest little capital in the world” (Lonely Planet Guide) and its compact size and good public transport make it a great place for students to live and study. It is perfectly situated in the centre of NZ – one hour flight from Auckland or 3 hour direct flight from Sydney or Melbourne. Wellington has the attractions of a large world city on a small city scale – cafes, shops and boutiques, theatres, national museum, swimming beach, parks, sports stadium, three world ranked universities – all within walking distance of the College. Wellington is the home of the movie industry in NZ (the Hobbit, Avatar, Lord of the Rings and more). Most importantly, Wellington is ranked in the top 10 safest cities in the world and the only capital city with World Health Organisation “Safe Community” status.





## OUR SUPPORT SYSTEM

Students are guided in their school life by a team of specialist and experienced staff who work together to support and monitor student learning and well-being at school and in homestay. This team helps girls to settle in and adjust to school and life in NZ and works with girls to achieve their goals. Each girl is known and appreciated as an individual.

The International Office is located in International House and girls have easy access to staff at any time. Native language support is available if needed. There is also a 24/7 contact in case of emergencies.

The International Team consists of :

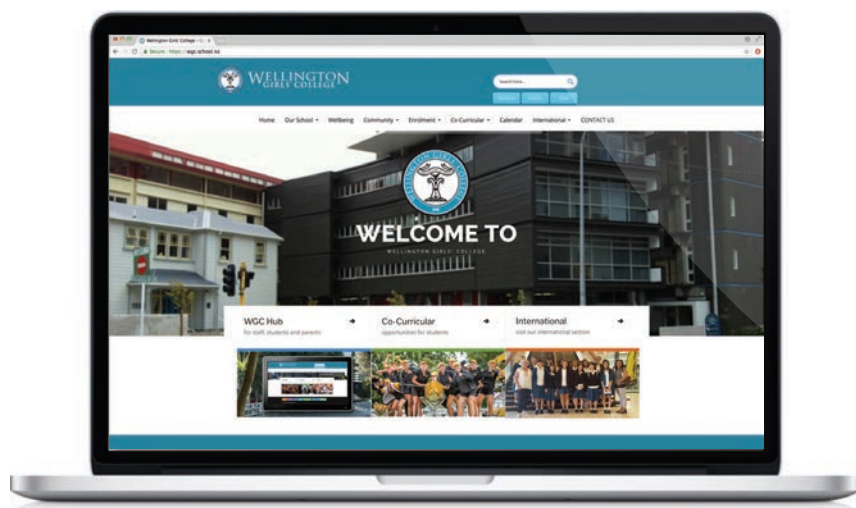
- Mrs Julia Davidson, *Principal*
- Ms Maria Walker, *International Director*
- Mrs Hali Balfoort, *Homestay Manager*
- Ms Mandy Chen, *Chinese Language support*
- Mrs Heather Twigg, *International Administrator*
- Ms Sandra Smith, *Head of English Language*
- Ms Jane O'Malley, *English Language Teacher*
- Ms Kaye Johnson, *Head of Careers and Academic Pathways*





## OUR COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

- Staff and students make extensive use of IT in daily school life.
- WIFI is available throughout the school and school computers are available in all rooms
- WGC is a BYOD school – bring your own device – and students are encouraged to bring their own laptop or other device to school
- WGC has a smartphone app, available free through Google Play or iOS Apple Store
- [wgcschool.nz](http://wgcschool.nz) is the main point of information for parents, students and staff. Through the parent portal you can access the daily notices, attendance, progress updates, progress reports and results. Parents will be sent their user name and password after your daughter has started school.
- Students are expected to access the next day's notices and download resources for use with homework tasks on [wgcschool.nz](http://wgcschool.nz) – they will be taught how to do this.
- Reporting is on-going through the parent portal.



## OUR UNIFORM

Students in Years 9-12 wear uniform, year 13 students do not wear uniform. The uniform is a capsule style with no summer/winter options. Instead girls wear the garments that best keep them comfortable throughout the year. The choices are a skirt, a pinafore, long and short sleeved blouses and t-shirts, a cardigan, a vest, a jersey, a blazer and a rain jacket. There are regulation school shoes and either white ankle socks or black tights can be worn. Year 9 and 10 have a compulsory Physical Education uniform. The PE uniform is required for some sports teams although top teams will be supplied with school sports uniforms. All items of uniform are specific to WGC and must be purchased in Wellington, apart from tights and socks.

For details go to <http://www.wgc.school.nz/enrolment/uniform>





**Code**

Wellington Girls' College has agreed to observe and be bound by the Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016. Copies of the Code are available from the NZQA website at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz).

**Immigration**

Full details of immigration requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying, and reporting requirements are available from Immigration New Zealand and can be viewed on their website at [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz).

Students planning a course of study of more than three months must have a student visa.

**Eligibility for Health Services**

Most international students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. If you receive medical treatment during your visit, you may be liable for the full costs of that treatment. Full details on entitlements to publicly funded health services are available through the Ministry of Health, and can be viewed on their website at [www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz).

**Accident Insurance**

The Accident Compensation Corporation provides accident insurance for all New Zealand citizens, residents, and temporary visitors to New Zealand, but you may still be liable for all other medical and related costs. Further information can be viewed on the ACC website at [www.acc.co.nz](http://www.acc.co.nz).

**Medical and Travel Insurance**

International students (including group students) must have appropriate and current medical and travel insurance while in New Zealand. Details of the policy used by most Wellington Girls' College students are available at <http://www.unicare.org>. Wellington Girls' College can help to organise this insurance.

**Bank Account**

We encourage international students to open a New Zealand bank account and the international staff will help with this. However, the banks will only open accounts for students who are at school for six months or more. A student bank account is free to open, to use and to close. ANZ bank is conveniently located a short walk from school.





WELLINGTON  
GIRLS' COLLEGE

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LUMEN ACCIPE ET IMPERTI - RECEIVE THE LIGHT AND HAND IT ON