

# Westlake Boys High School

## Prospectus



Westlake Boys High School  
Te Kura Tuarua o Ngā Taitamatāne o Ururoto





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**VIRTUTE EXPERIAMUR**

Let Courage Be Thy Test

# A WELCOME FROM THE HEADMASTER

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Welcome to Westlake Boys High School.

This is a school where boys are the focus, their needs are met, and their successes celebrated. Westlake Boys High School understands the value of a schooling experience which emphasises breadth, where boys are encouraged to be as involved as possible both inside and outside of the classroom.

We have high expectations, and this translates to exceptional outcomes. Academically, we are among the best performing schools in New Zealand, gaining the highest number of scholarships in the country and having exemplary NCEA achievement levels. Our boys go on to attend top universities both in New Zealand and all around the world.

Also, our success in cocurricular endeavours sees us achieve regional, national and international honours in sport, music and the performing arts.

These stem from the opportunities available to our students provided by passionate and experienced staff and are supported by world-class facilities.

Our staff also have a strong focus on pastoral care, and you can feel reassured that we will take the time to understand and meet your needs. We will make sure the transition to Westlake is one that is positive and sets you up for success.

I am confident that our school will enrich your educational experience, adding value, challenge and meaning.

We are proud of our school and look forward to sharing it with you.



**Paul Fordham**  
*Headmaster*



# TEACHING AND LEARNING

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At Westlake Boys High School, we take pride in offering an extensive and balanced curriculum designed to foster academic excellence and personal growth. Our students consistently rank among the top scholars nationally and internationally, and we are committed to ensuring each graduate embodies the skills and values of a lifelong learner.

In Years 9 and 10, students experience a broad and engaging curriculum aligned with the New Zealand Curriculum's Learning Areas. Compulsory subjects include English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Well-being. Students also study at least one language — Te Reo Māori, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korean or Spanish — gaining cultural insights alongside language skills. The curriculum is enriched with courses in the Arts (Art, Music, Drama, and Te Ao Haka), Physical Education, and a variety of Technology subjects such as Digital Technology, Design and Visual Communication, and Materials or Food Technology. Additionally, unique courses like Finance and Society and Media and Society broaden students' perspectives and teach critical thinking skills.

Opportunities for further growth and development include the Academy of Sport, Music Institute, Māori Immersion Programme, Literacy Support Class, and other specialist groups tailored to support individual pathways and progress.

Year 11 marks the start of our innovative Elevate programme, designed as a springboard from junior subjects into the specialist courses offered in the senior school. This bespoke programme prepares students for the rigours of NCEA Levels 2, 3, and Scholarship, equipping them with the skills and knowledge for academic success. Graduation from the Elevate programme includes participation in essential aspects of Westlake life, such as service, fitness, extracurricular involvement, and school-wide activities.

In Years 12 and 13, students choose from a wide range of specialist subjects tailored to their future aspirations, whether heading toward university, trades, or employment. Careers advisors are readily available to provide guidance and support. We set high expectations for all students and offer extension pathways and a significant Scholarship programme, ensuring those with particular strengths receive the challenge and preparation needed to excel in competitive academic assessments.

We also recognise that every student is unique, and learning support is a key priority. Our Learning Centre provides targeted assistance to help students overcome barriers and achieve their potential. Using a universal design for learning approach, we ensure that education remains accessible and adaptable to diverse needs.

Throughout their school years, students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities to fully explore their talents and interests, and help them find a sense of belonging and brotherhood.

Our teaching staff are highly experienced, dedicated, and passionate about boys' education. They craft engaging, relevant lessons and invest in understanding each student's individual potential. We are committed to the professional growth of our teachers through our Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, which supports ongoing development and leadership initiatives. This includes mentoring new teachers and providing comprehensive support during their early years of teaching, ensuring excellence remains at the forefront of our educational practice.

At Westlake Boys High School, we offer more than just an education — we provide a foundation for lifelong success, empowering our students to thrive both academically and personally.





# WHAT RESULTS SHOULD I EXPECT?

We are very proud of the examination results our students achieve. If you work hard, learn to manage your own efforts and take responsibility for your learning, you will be very successful here.

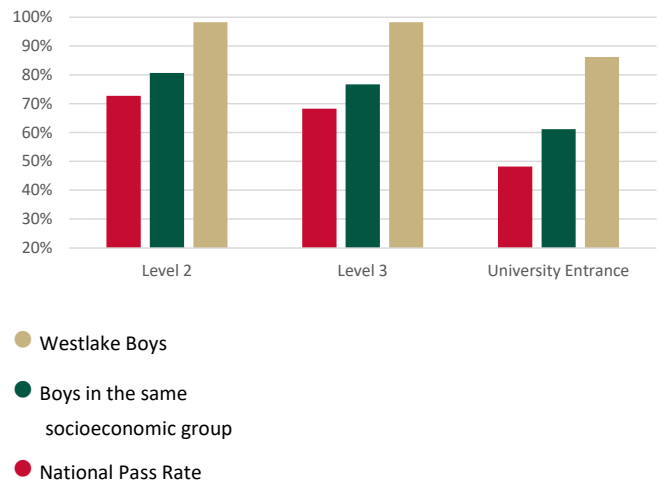
In 2024, our students once again achieved results that were among the very best in New Zealand. Whatever pathway you choose, you can expect your results to be exceptional.

Our students leave school with some of the best results in the country. We consistently maintain pass rates that are significantly higher than the national pass rates for all schools, and higher than the pass rates specifically of boys in schools that are of a similar socioeconomic status to Westlake Boys High School.

Most students also gain places at universities, and we have several successful students awarded scholarships to attend university, both in New Zealand and around the world. We have a robust academic program and support for students wishing to pursue these opportunities.

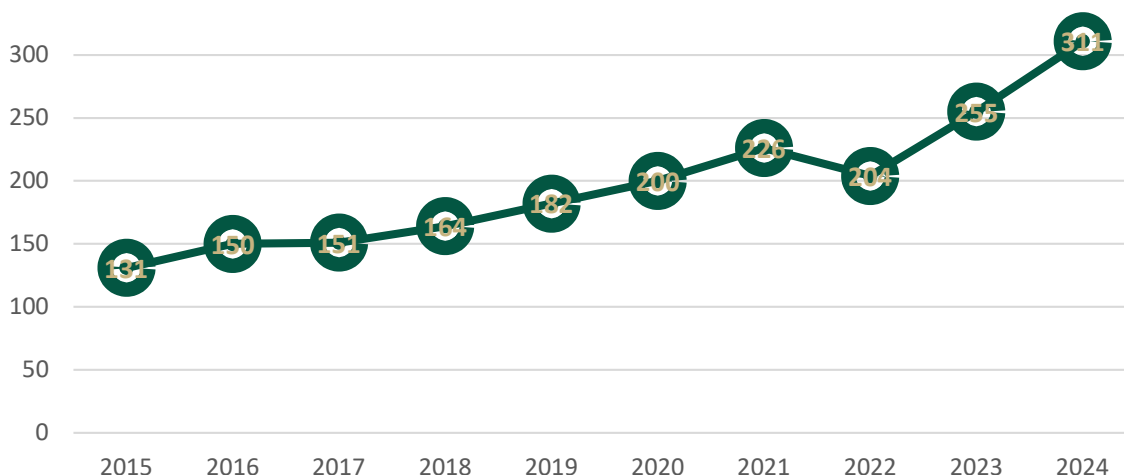
Our NCEA scholarship results have been exceptional for several years, and we consistently have students included in the New Zealand Premier Scholars list, placing them in the top 10-12 achieving students in the whole country.

## Achievement of NCEA Certificates in 2024:



In 2024 we had 3 Premier Scholars, 8 students who gained the Top in Subject award and 9 Outstanding Scholars (top 55 students in New Zealand). Westlake Boys Students were named 20 times in these Top in New Zealand lists, double the amount for any other school. In 2024 our students achieved 312 Scholarships; in the first year that any school has gained over 300.

## Number of Scholarships:



# THE JUNIOR CURRICULUM

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## Year 9

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Well-being
- Physical Education
- Te Reo Māori, Chinese, French, German or Japanese

- Art, Music and Drama
- Technology, Digital Technology, Design and Visual Communication

*You may also be invited to join the:*

- Academy of Sport
- Music Institute
- Māori Immersion Programme

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## Year 10

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Well-Being
- Physical Education
- Te Reo Maori, Chinese, French, German, Japanese or Spanish
- Finance and Society

- Media and Society
- Digital Technology
- Materials Technology, Design and Visual Communication or Food Technology
- Art, Music, Drama, Te Ao Haka

*If taken in Year 9, you may also continue in the:*

- Academy of Sport
- Music Institute
- Māori Immersion Programme





# THE SENIOR CURRICULUM

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## Year 11 (Elevate Programme)

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Makerspace (mixed materials technology)
- Food and Hospitality
- Robotics
- Design & Visual Communication
- Digital Technologies Programming
- Visual Art
- Drama & Theatre Arts
- Contemporary Music
- Music
- Media Studies
- Commerce
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Chinese
- Korean
- Spanish
- Te Ao Haka
- Te Reo Māori
- Academy of Sport - Basketball
- Academy of Sport - Cricket
- Academy of Sport - Hockey
- Academy of Sport - Football
- Academy of Sport - Rugby
- Physical Education
- Geography
- History
- Sociology

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## Year 12 (NCEA Level 2)

- English
- Mathematics with Calculus
- Mathematics with Statistics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Science
- Digital Technologies Programming
- Design & Visual Communication
- Building & Construction
- Food Technology
- Hospitality
- Robotics
- Product Design
- Mechanical Manufacturing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Art Design
- Photography
- Drama & Theatre Arts
- Contemporary Music
- Music
- Technical Production
- Media Studies
- Accounting
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Korean
- Spanish
- Te Reo Māori
- Te Ao Haka
- Physical Education
- Outdoor Education - Marine
- Outdoor Education
- Gateway & Future Pathways
- Classical Studies
- Geography
- History
- Social Studies
- Tourism
- Art History



# THE SENIOR CURRICULUM

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## Year 13 (NCEA Level 3)

- English
- Mathematics with Calculus
- Mathematics with Statistics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Science
- Earth & Space Science
- Digital Technologies Programming
- Design & Visual Communication
- Building & Construction
- Food Technology
- Hospitality
- Product Design
- Robotics
- Mechanical Manufacturing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Art Design
- Photography
- Drama & Theatre Arts
- Music
- Contemporary Music
- Technical Production
- Media Studies
- Accounting
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Openground (Westlake Business Incubator)
- Future Sport
- Gateway
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Chinese for Native Speakers
- Korean for Native Speakers
- Korean
- Spanish
- Te Reo Māori
- Te Ao Haka
- Physical Education
- Sports Leadership
- Outdoor Education
- Outdoor Education - Marine
- Art History
- Classical Studies
- Geography
- History
- Social Studies
- Tourism









# SPORT

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At Westlake Boys, we are strong believers in the value of sport to the development of young men. Beyond the physical benefits, sport provides a great opportunity to teach essential life skills through leadership, teamwork, empathy, and resilience. These skills can enhance learning, foster better relationships, and provide a sense of belonging. We encourage our students to take advantage of the many sporting opportunities that will present themselves during their time at Westlake.

Our sporting programme offers more than 35 sports annually, accommodating all skill levels from traditional house events to our popular social and participation-based programmes, right through to our Premier pathways and teams who compete successfully on the regional and national stage.

Since the beginning of 2023, we have captured New Zealand Secondary School team titles in

Football, Sailing, Tennis, Cross-Country, Softball, Cycling, Ki-o-Rahi, Touch, Swimming & Road Race, we have also achieved national podium places in Rugby, Cricket, Rowing, Badminton & Table Tennis.

We are incredibly well served by our passionate and highly skilled sporting staff, who along with our external coaches and managers work diligently to prepare and develop our teams.

Our Academy of Sport is a selective, curriculum-based athlete development program offering outstanding coaching, state-of-the-art facilities, and comprehensive support to foster growth and success. Those selected will complete weekly strength and conditioning sessions as well as two sport specific lessons. Currently we offer Basketball, Cricket, Distance Running, Football, Hockey, Rugby Union and Rowing.









# PERFORMING ARTS

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## Music

At Westlake, we love music. In collaboration with Westlake Girls, we run New Zealand's largest secondary school music programme, offering unparalleled opportunities for young musicians.

Our top choirs and instrumental ensembles perform to the highest standards, both nationally and internationally. Beyond our premier groups, our comprehensive music programme provides instrumental tuition and ensemble experiences for musicians of all styles and skill level. Every student who wishes to participate is given the opportunity, and we provide the highest quality support to broaden and extend the skills of our best musicians.

Whether you're an experienced musician or just starting out, you'll be welcomed into our vibrant music community. Most of our students participate in multiple ensembles, discovering new talents and growing as performers along the way.

*Current groups include:*

Barbershop  
Big Band  
Camerata Strings  
Chamber Orchestra  
Choralation Choir  
Concert Band  
Dramatic Plays  
Jazz Combos  
Momentum Choir  
Musical Shows  
Rock Bands  
Stage Band  
Symphonic Band  
Symphony Orchestra  
Taharoto Orchestra  
Voicemale Choir

## Drama

The Westlake Drama & Theatre Arts Department offers a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, providing students with opportunities to develop their skills and explore their passion for performance. These activities include Theatre sports, Wāna Dance Crew, Special FX Club (Make-up), and participation in the Shakespeare's Globe Centre NZ Shakespeare Competition.

However, the centrepiece of the department is its highly anticipated annual school production, a collaboration with Westlake Girls that involves over 150 students in acting, music, and technical or backstage roles. Each year, in Term 2, the department stages both a musical and a play,

running over a two-week season. In 2025, Westlake presented the beloved ABBA musical *Mamma Mia!* alongside *Three Birds Alighting on a Field* by Timberlake Wertenbaker.

With a legacy of excellence, Westlake Productions has earned over 35 regional and national awards. Notably, it won the prestigious Auckland Live Showdown Award for Outstanding Production in 2019, 2023, and 2024 for its performances of *Les Misérables* (2019), *Into the Woods* (2023), and *The Three Musketeers* (2024)

# CULTURE

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## TE PUNA

Te Puna o Ngā Mātauranga Māori is the heart of Te Ao Māori at Westlake. Te Puna aims to provide a learning environment where students are encouraged to find their cultural identity, to then have pride in their mātauranga and themselves. As the central hub of Māori kaupapa at Westlake, we have a multitude of programmes and learning experiences that further enhance the essence of tikanga Māori.

- We provide a Māori Immersion Programme that promotes the excellence of Te Reo Māori in their daily learning. Te Whānau Rūmaki o Te Puna, is a programme built for our students who want to further embrace Te Ao Māori, to immerse themselves in Māori culture, incorporating it into their day to day lives.
- We have a Māori Leadership Group which is an opportunity for our young men to lead and guide, not only their fellow students, but also staff through their own journey through Te Ao Māori.

- Our kapa haka group, Ngā Tamatoa o Ururoto, is an integral part of our kura (school). Students compete in two major competitions a year and perform at many events, providing an opportunity for them to showcase their talent.
- Our Māori centric 'Te Kauri' programme is underpinned by tikanga Māori, and is responsive to the cultural needs of our young men. Through this, we embrace tuakana / teina, a concept that allows our older students to mentor our younger students, fostering relationships that may last a lifetime.

Irrespective of who you are, where you come from, or what your beliefs are, Te Puna fosters growth within Te Ao Māori, having many opportunities for young men to learn and develop their knowledge and own cultural identity.

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Being a bicultural school in a multicultural community, we reflect this through the celebration and acknowledgement of the many cultures and traditions our students bring to Westlake.

Our Pasifika students participate in Polyfest each year, perform at other school events, and enjoy culturally orientated school structures such as Pasifika classes and assemblies. In these, Pasifika students meet at the beginning of each school day to work with selected staff and to share in cultural practices and bond with one another. Our Pasifika

Komiti ensures connection with the community to ensure excellent engagement and outcomes for these students.

Our annual Korean Night and Chinese Night events are incredibly popular and throughout the school year we enjoy cultural performances and activities which are further highlighted during our annual Culture Week and Languages Week.

The diversity and backgrounds of our students, staff and wider community are embraced and bring a richness to the Westlake experience.





At Westlake, we are aware that many of our young men aspire to enter the world of business in the future. Our Openground programme provides a supportive environment that nurtures Year 13 students' entrepreneurial skills, encourages their personal growth, and equips them with the confidence and knowledge needed to pursue their entrepreneurial endeavours.

Openground is an immersive and practical experience where those involved create and run their own business ventures. Students are matched

with a mentor, of which we select from our suite of local and successful business people, and they are exposed to a series of high calibre guest speakers who inspire and share their insights into developing successful businesses. Alongside their mentors and the teachers of this programme, students are giving time in their school day to start and run their business whilst still participating in a traditional timetable which is structured to meet University Entrance requirements.





# FUTURE SPORT

Future Sport is an engaging, exciting, and innovative addition to the Westlake curriculum, paving the way for aspiring sports professionals. It is designed for Year 13 students who are passionate about sport and eager to pursue a career in the sports industry. Whether a student is aiming to be on the frontlines or behind the scenes this course explores the sport landscape and provides students with numerous opportunities to delve into its diverse and dynamic world.

Through Future Sport students develop their core competencies and essential soft skills whilst gaining industry insights, thus ensuring a confident transition into their chosen roles. With over 80,000 sports-related jobs in New Zealand, there's a career opportunity available for everyone, regardless of their skill set.

A standout feature of Future Sport is our speaker program where students hear from a selection of industry experts, tertiary professionals, and Westlake alumni. They offer valuable real-world insights into the latest trends, challenges, and opportunities within the sports sector. In addition to engaging classroom activities, Future Sport includes site visits to witness career sports professionals in action. This direct access to first-hand experiences equips students with a deeper understanding of the industry allowing them to envision their goal.

Future Sport is more than a course; it's an engaging gateway to a fulfilling and dynamic career for driven and self-directed students who wish to take the first step in turning their passion for sport into a life-long profession.







# HOW TO ENROL AND FURTHER INFORMATION

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If you would like to join our school, the first step in the process is to complete an online enrolment form on our website.

## For In-Zone Students:

All students living within our school zone are entitled to a place at our school, in accordance with our Enrolment Scheme, and can enrol at any time throughout the year.

Living in zone means that a student has his main residence in the school zone.

Tenancies must be in the name of the parents or legal guardians with the Property Agent/Property Owner – flat share/boarding house and sub-letting do not meet these criteria.

A transfer of guardianship to someone living in zone for the sole purpose of enrolment will not be accepted.

A full list of required documents, along with the zone map and frequently asked questions, can be found on our website.

## For Out-of-Zone Students:

Applications for an out-of-zone placement are only accepted during our mid-year enrolment window, and you may only apply for a place in the following academic year. We do not take out-of-zone students for the current year.

After we have received all enrolment submissions, a ballot will be drawn. Boys with a connection to our school (sibling or father) are given priority in the ballot. The remaining students are then drawn randomly until all places have been filled. Unsuccessful students are automatically placed on a waitlist, in the order they were drawn.

Academic or sporting abilities do not influence the ballot, and we do not collect any school reports, certificates, or testimonials until after the ballot has been drawn.

Full information on the ballot process, including important dates and a list of frequently asked questions, can be found on our website.

**[www.westlake.school.nz](http://www.westlake.school.nz)**

# GRADUATE PROFILE

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Inspiring our students to become ...

Boys of Character



Boys with Promise



Boys of Courage



Boys of Kindness



Boys who Persevere



Boys with Resilience





## Westlake Boys High School

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