



St Clair School
He kākano nō Rakiātea

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROSPECTUS 2026



“He Kākano nō Rakiātea”

Kia Ora – Welcome to New Zealand

Dunedin

Dunedin is the second largest city in the South Island, in the Otago region of New Zealand. It is located on the Otago Peninsula, and is the gateway to Central Otago and Southland. Otago University is an integral part of Dunedin city, attracting around 20,000 students to the city. The city has a population of approximately 133,000 (June 2025), making it the sixth largest city in New Zealand.



To find out more about Dunedin, go online at <https://www.dunedinnz.com/>



Welcome to St Clair School

We are here to help you adjust and enjoy our school. You are very brave to come so far from home. We encourage you to take advantage of everything that our school has to offer.



Climate

Summer temperatures are fairly warm, with the highest temperatures occurring when hot dry north-westerly winds blow over the Alps. During the winter months the climate is often cold, with southerly winds coming directly from Antarctica. We can experience 'four seasons in one day', so it is always wise to pack some layers to manage sudden changes in the weather.



St Clair School

St Clair School is a state-of-the-art school in a very established community. The school provides a safe and inclusive learning environment; is staffed by dedicated and committed teachers; and has sound organisational and financial structures. St Clair School is well placed to welcome international school learners and apart from offering benefits of an enriching experience to these learners, our local students, the school, and our wider community, will also benefit.

St Clair School was opened in 1896 and has had a number of building works over the years. We have beautiful learning spaces, utilising flexible learning plans, where classes can open out to be collaborative or close down to be 'single cell'.

At St Clair School we provide a balanced curriculum that develops both the academic and social/emotional needs of each learner. The foundation for this learning is based on strong learning-centred relationships with learners and their whanau as we embark on each child's educational journey together. Our curriculum is guided by the New Zealand curriculum for years 1-6, which is delivered as required by the Education and Training Act 2020.



See our website: <https://www.stclair.school.nz/>

Principal Message

St Clair School caters for students aged between 5 and 11 years. We focus on providing a well-rounded education preparing students for future learning pathways. No national qualification is offered at primary school level however we are the foundation for NCEA qualification offered at various high schools around Dunedin.

Students experience a wide range of subjects and benefit from specialist teachers in PE, Mandarin, and music. We help students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills as they tackle real-world challenges.

We work closely with individuals and small groups to cater to their unique learning styles and abilities. This personalized approach helps students build confidence, develop independence, and discover their strengths and interests. We actively promote student agency and leadership and encourage students to take on responsibilities within the school community. This fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment among students.

Our priority at school is for children to be happy, to enjoy the opportunities at St Clair School and to be successful at learning, whatever their passion.

We place a strong emphasis on supporting students and their families during the transition from primary to intermediate, and on to secondary school. We collaborate with local intermediate and secondary schools to facilitate visits, and information sessions, ensuring our graduating students feel prepared and confident for the next stage of their education

New Zealand offers a vast array of experiences in the great outdoors. Our learners enjoy surfing, swimming, skiing, hiking, rock climbing, biking as well as a variety of sports, basketball, badminton, volleyball, soccer, netball and rugby.

I look forward to meeting you.



Jen Rodgers (Whaea Jen)

Tumuaki/Principal



Looking after you

Our international team will assist you with:

- Orientation programme
- Keep you safe. There is on-call emergency assistance 24/7 for students, parents and homestay families. (This is the emergency number: **027 600 5173**)
- Who to contact outside school hours, and information on how to seek medical, dental or other services in the community
- Pastoral care for social, personal and cultural issues. When you speak with our team members or the school counselor, your privacy will always be respected.
- Homestay placements. Great care is taken to select homestay families in our school community who will welcome you into their homes
- Visa renewal. Our staff can assist should the child or parent's visa status change.
- Assistance for purchase and renewal of insurance policies, as well as how to make a claim if needed
- Support you, monitor your academic progress and care for your social, emotional and physical well-being
- Help you adjust and learn how we do things here – our expectations and values.
- Provide clear information about how to ask questions or make a complaint should you at any time feel the need.

Our Values

At St Clair School we value a strong sense of belonging.



Manaaki – we care

- We have mana enhancing relationships
- We are caring and respectful of people, places and things

Belonging – our place

- Turangawaewae – we all have the right to stand in this place
 - You can be you
 - You belong here
- Everyone is welcome here
- We are all unique

Resilience – kia kaha

- We give things a go
- Challenges and mistakes help us learn
- Hauora is important

Pono – we do the right thing

- We are responsible with our choices and actions
- We are genuine in what we say and do
- We show courage



Why study at St Clair School?

We offer:

- A broad and balanced curriculum
- e-learning
- cultural programmes
- Project based learning
- A variety of high-interest extension opportunities
- Indoor and outdoor sports



Flexible programmes

- Daily English and mathematics lessons
- Specialist music, Mandarin and physical education lessons every week



Our Curriculum

- A range of opportunities are provided for students to contribute to leadership, sport, cultural pursuits, technology, community and the arts
- We aim to equip our students to understand, embrace and feel confident with change
- The Learning Programme at St Clair School is based on the New Zealand Curriculum
- Extra learning support is provided by our very able learning assistants (LAs), who work alongside the teachers providing for students who find areas of learning challenging.
- Our very able students have a variety of opportunities for extension throughout the year and this supplements the in-class extension provided by the teacher.
- English language support is coordinated by our ESOL lead teacher, Jody Quedley (jquedley@stclair.school.nz), and delivered by our ESOL specialist LAs Paula and Trish



Education outside the Classroom (EOTC)

Experiences outside the classroom enhance our in-class programmes

- Annual overnight experience
- Sporting, music and performing arts
- Educational day trips (e.g. to local farms, airport, nature reserves, museum)
- Local walks and visits



English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

- Withdrawal programmes that introduce learners to New Zealand culture and introductory English where needed

Accommodation costs

Our international learners will live with parents. Parents are responsible to find their own accommodation close to the school.

International Student Enrolments

Costs are for one year, and may vary depending on the year level of the student. Prices shown are in \$NZ, and include GST

Tuition Fees	\$17,250 per annum \$4,500 per term \$450 per week
Administration Fee	\$850 per student (non-refundable)
Health and travel insurance	Approximately \$650 per student, per year. Privately arranged
Educational trips	Varies between \$5 and \$100 per activity
Camp / noho	Approximately \$300 for year 6 camp (held in March) Approximately \$85 for year 5 noho (held in October)
Stationery	Varies, approximately \$70 per annum
Swimming lessons	\$45 per child for ten lessons

The school year is made up of four terms, of approximately 10 weeks in each term. Term dates are on our school website each year.



Estimated living costs

Rent for a three bedroom home ranges between \$500 and \$600 per week. For more information see:

<https://www.realestate.co.nz/residential/sale/otago/dunedin-city>

<https://www.trademe.co.nz/a/property/residential/sale/otago/dunedin>

Transport

Public transport is good in and around Dunedin. Go to:

<https://www.orc.govt.nz/orbus/dunedin-bus-timetables/>

Travel and Medical Insurance

You must hold travel and medical insurance that covers the period of your stay – from the date you leave your home country until the date you arrive back in your home country. St Clair School strongly recommends that you purchase your insurance through the school with a New Zealand based insurer so that we are able to ensure complete coverage and quick processing of any claims.

Refunds

You are entitled to receive a refund if you:

- request a refund for voluntary withdrawal
- request a refund for failure by the school to provide a course, cessation as a signatory or cessation to be a provider
- have your enrolment ended by the school
- become a domestic student during the period of enrolment
- voluntarily request to transfer to another signatory school

Refund requests must be made in writing within 12 months.



How to make a complaint

St Clair School is bound by the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021, to ensure your safety and welfare

However, should a problem arise or you have a concern:

STEP 1: On the St Clair School website the link for any student/parent to raise a concern, and to find a solution, is: <https://www.stclair.school.nz/our-way/our-place/policies-procedures>

If your complaint is **not** resolved, go to STEP 2.

STEP 2: If the school has not resolved your complaint, you may take your complaint to one of two *Dispute Resolution Scheme providers*, depending on the nature of your complaint. These are:

1. **Study Complaints** (for financial / contractual disputes) and
2. New Zealand Qualifications Authority (**NZQA**) for other code complaints.

Study Complaints

If you have a complaint relating to your **contract** or **finances**, find out how to make a complaint, at: <https://www.studycomplaints.org.nz/> and specifically, to lodge a complaint: <https://www.studycomplaints.org.nz/make-complaint>

NZQA

NZQA is a government organisation. They can provide an independent assessment of your complaint and will either investigate your concerns or advise you what you can do next. You can submit your complaint query on the NZQA website:

<https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/contact-us/complaint/code-of-pastoral-care/>

At St Clair School, we ensure that our staff are familiar with the relevant DRS rules and follow the rules if an international learner dispute is accepted by Study Complaints. This would mean working towards a mutually agreed solution through negotiation, mediation, and adjudication, and providing information when requested to the DRS operator, as appropriate. We ensure that the Lemonwood Grove Board is kept informed of any such situations and we may seek legal advice. *(Failure of the school to comply with DRS rules is a breach of the Code of Practice and could result in sanctions).*



+64 3 455 8199



principal@stclair.school.nz

office@stclair.school.nz



<https://www.stclair.school.nz/>



135 Richardson Street
St Clair
Dunedin 9012
New Zealand