



WAIRARAPA

# COBHAM

Intermediate



**PROSPECTUS 2024**





# WELCOME



**Eddie Norgate** - Principal

I am honoured to be the Principal of Wairarapa Cobham Intermediate and feel very fortunate to work in partnership with such amazing staff, students, families and the wider community.

The essence of this school is that it puts great teachers together with great students. It gives each the resources, facilities and freedom to get on with learning. Our programmes adapt the best of both traditional and modern teaching and assessment pedagogy to create a vibrant, engaging and student focussed curriculum.

Wairarapa Cobham Intermediate has a reputation as a leading intermediate school that maximises the benefits of our large size to provide specialised options for individual students. We foster each student's strengths and talents, providing many opportunities for these to flourish.

The talented staff and I are committed to doing the very best we can for all students in our school, with an unconditional focus on the growth, progress and high educational achievement of each and every unique student.

We are a school for the future with learning programmes that focus on the needs of 21st century learners. We do this through a curriculum that is innovative, personalised, connected to the real world and one that encourages students to think.

Wairarapa Cobham receives a huge number of requests for enrolment. This popularity is in part because the school offers courses and activities that cater for the diverse interests of individual students. This ability to tailor learning to student need is illustrated by the wide range of co-curricular opportunities available in the Sports and Arts/Cultural sections of the school.

Our students repeatedly tell us that they love being in an environment focused specifically on the needs of this age group. They enjoy all of the opportunities on offer, the specialist facilities, the friendly and caring staff, and being challenged and motivated with their learning.

I encourage you to visit our website for further information, talk to people associated with our school and to come and have a chat with me to learn more about what we do here and see our students and staff in action. Please phone the school office to make an appointment or to receive further enrolment details.

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# UNIFORM



With a new school, comes a new uniform. Over the last two years we have been through a period of significant consultation about the Wairarapa Cobham uniform.

Two major issues were identified - the price of the uniform for girls compared to the boys, and the gender specific nature of the current uniform. The new uniform remedies these two issues and encompasses our new logo. The changes give all students more options and will create a sense of identity with our new facilities.

2024 will be the first year that all students will be wearing the new uniform.

Our uniform is sold at New Zealand Uniforms. Their store is located at 455 Blenheim Road, Sockburn.





# REBUILD

Get ready to embark on an exciting journey with us! Our team is thrilled to announce that we are already well underway with the construction of a purpose-built intermediate school, set to open its doors by the beginning of 2024. This new school is brimming with all the latest features and amenities that will make your learning experience truly exceptional. From state-of-the-art facilities to an array of cutting-edge resources, we are committed to providing you with the very best learning environment possible.

Our new school, whilst in close proximity to Huia Burnside Primary School, is a

separate entity and we will continue to specialise as an intermediate school catering for emerging adolescents. We will share an entrance way off Ilam Road with Huia Burnside Primary School and whilst the admin blocks are in the same building, they are separated, with two distinctive entrance ways and spaces. The schools will be running on different timetables, as they do now, and will continue to run as standalone schools.

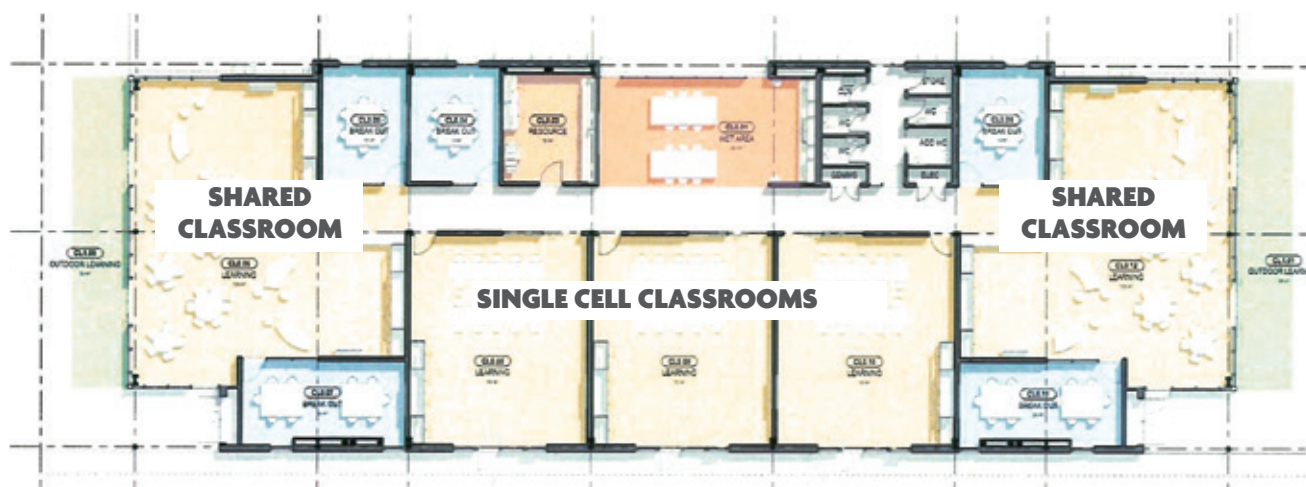
## CLASSROOM SPACES

The Ministry of Education has set the roll at our new school for 610 students, 305 in each year group. We have designed

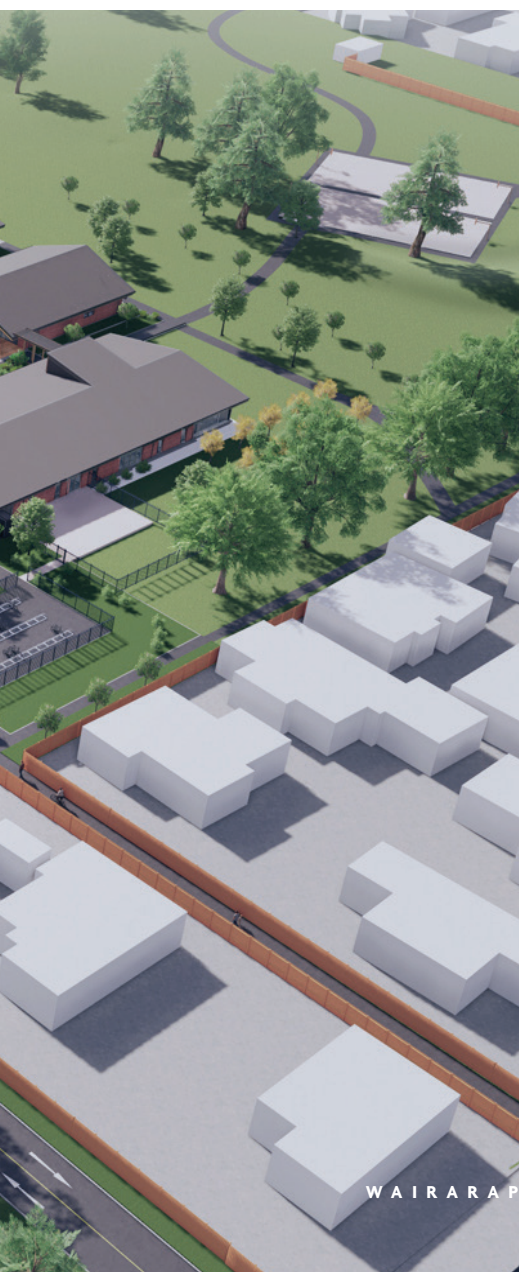
the learning spaces to accommodate the needs of all learners, with a combination of single cell and shared learning spaces. The single cell classrooms are located in close proximity to each other and have access to break-out rooms if needed. The shared learning spaces will consist of two classes and are located on the ends of the three classroom blocks which allows plenty of space and the use of carefully located breakout rooms. We expect our configurations will meet the needs of all learners.







**LEARNING HUB DESIGN**



### STAGING PLAN

- In July 2022 students moved seamlessly from the old school to the new school.
- Our new technology block opened and is fully functional.
- Our admin block relocated to a temporary building.
- Our new playground opened in October 2022.

### AUGUST 2023

- Main entrance from Sunningvale Lane.
- Work to start on athletics track, main entrance and hockey turf.
- New admin block is completed.

### DECEMBER 2023

- New hall is completed.

### FEBRUARY 2024

- Full access to Ilam Road.

*We are excited about this wonderful opportunity, to take all the positive aspects of Wairarapa Cobham to a new facility, one that is purpose built and readily equipped to develop 11-13 year old students.*

# OUR MOTTO - ACHIEVING FOR LIFE

In order for our motto to become a reality, it is our aim to have each student reach their potential through quality learning and teaching with specialist teachers who understand the unique needs of early adolescents. There are three key aspects to this.

- We place an emphasis on individuals. It is important to us that our students can be themselves and develop in their own unique ways.
- We value students being known by teachers within the teams they are

clustered in and by staff across the school. This is necessary if we are to meet student needs and allow them to flourish and grow.

- We place an emphasis on achievement. Our record in local, regional, national and international competitions and events is outstanding. Students are encouraged to achieve personal goals, and to reach the highest achievement levels possible. We want them to follow their passions and unlock unknown potential. Our environment and staff encourage and promote this.

To support the individual child, their connectedness with staff and academic achievement, we support all learners to achieve through our Connected@C programme. This programme provides students with a toolbox of skills and strategies to cope with the challenges of emerging adolescence. Complementing this programme we have a school counsellor available for all students.

Through the programmes and processes outlined above, Wairarapa Cobham students are well set up to achieve for life.

## SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELLING

Specialising in the field of therapeutic guidance counselling, our counsellors are available to provide confidential and professional support to our students, our teachers and to our school community.

Sessions cover a broad range within the social, educational, developmental, mental health, emotional and behavioural areas.

The School Guidance Counsellors are involved in:

- Supporting and being responsive to students dealing with personal issues important to them
- Responding to referrals from parents, teachers and students
- Safety, child protection and crisis management issues
- Parental education and support
- Classroom involvement in well-being sessions

The School Guidance Counsellors have strong links with specialised child and adolescent and mental health agencies.



**Respectful  
Resilient  
Responsible  
Positive**

**Our 3RP Values underpin all that we do and are infused throughout our learning and teaching programmes. It is expected that everyone within our school community takes ownership of, accepts responsibility for and embraces these values.**







## OUR CLASSES

At Wairarapa Cobham we recognise that not all students are the same and therefore do not all learn, think and act in the same way. We cater for these unique differences by utilising our large roll size to generate multiple options and opportunities across the school. This,

coupled with a thorough and robust class placement process, allows us to carefully place each student in a class and with a homeroom teacher who will best meet the particular needs, learning styles and interests of each student. Generally students will remain with this same class

group and homeroom teacher for both Year 7 and 8. Students, parents and/or teachers may, for a variety of reasons, opt for a change in the second year.

At Wairarapa Cobham we provide the following class options to meet the diverse needs of our students:

- We recognise exceptional ability and potential in a wide range of domains.
- Broad-banded classes of students with a complete range of abilities reflecting the norms of New Zealand schools.
- Kahikatea programme caters for high to exceptional ability students who require depth, pace and complexity in an environment that responds to personal, social and emotional needs.
- Learning support for all students with identified specific needs through individual or small group teaching.
- ESOL (English as a Second Language) programmes for students who need English language assistance. We welcome International students to our school. They are integrated across classrooms and we encourage them to take part in the wider life of the school. They are given specific ESOL lessons depending







on their needs. Wairarapa Cobham provides excellent pastoral care to all our International students and we have a dedicated International Student Co-ordinator.

- Wairarapa Cobham is committed to the delivery of the New Zealand Curriculum, including its stated vision, principles, values and key competencies. All students will experience the full breadth and depth of the curriculum as shown on the following page.







# OUR CURRICULUM

Wairarapa Cobham offers an integrated curriculum, which is delivered through four universal concepts per year. The concepts provide contexts for students to reflect on the world around them and how it works. The themes, ideas, challenges and ways of thinking, which they are exposed to within the concepts, are transferable to everyday life and will help them to prepare for successful and rewarding lives in the future.

## ALL STUDENTS STUDY WITH HOMEROOM TEACHERS:

- Connected@C - Well-being Programme
- Literacy – oral, written and visual English
- Outdoor Education
- Social Studies
- Health and Physical Education
- Social Skills
- Information Technology
- Science and Languages

## ALL STUDENTS STUDY WITH SPECIALIST TEACHERS:

- Mathematics – ability groups across both year groups
- Science

- Physical Education
- Sports
- Art Groups
- Languages – Te Reo, Korean, Mandarin and a variety of other languages
- Hard Materials – Metal, Plastics, Glass, Wood Technology
- Fabric Technology
- Food Technology
- Digital Technology

## OPTIONAL AREAS FOR STUDENTS TO STUDY:

- Instrumental Music – including orchestral, chamber group, rock band, ukelele, jazz band, itinerant and private tuition
- Kapa Haka
- Choral Music – choir and chorale
- Sports Academy
- Young Enterprise Group
- Pasifika
- Literature Group
- Science and Maths Badges
- Future Problem Solving

## SPECIALIST FACILITIES INCLUDE:

- Science and Technology Centre
- Haberfield Hall/Gymnasium
- Library
- Learning Centre
- Learning support rooms
- ESOL teaching rooms
- Food Technology room
- Fabric Technology room
- Metal/Wood/Plastics/Glass Technology room
- Digital Technology room
- Canteen
- Performing Arts





# SPORT

At Wairarapa Cobham we cater for all levels of sporting ability. Success in the full spectrum of sporting pursuits has traditionally been a key feature of Wairarapa Cobham. In both individual and team sports our students have excelled at local, regional and national levels. We have a proud history of achievement in the prestigious AIMS Games (national competition for intermediate and middle schools). The AIMS tournament, held annually in Tauranga, provides students the opportunity to gauge themselves at a national level against some of the best intermediate athletes in New Zealand.

Wairarapa Cobham continually send the biggest team to the AIMS Games from the South Island.

We also have a Sports Academy for our most talented students. These students participate in a weekly before school fitness programme and an in-class session focussed on areas such as nutrition, fitness, goal setting, training principles and sports psychology. Positions for the Sports Academy are keenly sought after and an application process takes place annually in term 1.

All students participate in sport every

Tuesday afternoon. In the winter terms we have a three tiered system. Firstly, we have our competitive options where students trial for teams and play against other intermediate schools at other venues around Christchurch. We also provide recreational sports for students like mountain biking and rock climbing and the third tier involves students completing sports at school like yoga, wheels based activities.

Our programmes at Wairarapa Cobham allow students to compete and excel, to try new sports with the overall aspiration of having students participate in sporting pursuits beyond high school.



Sports available throughout the year include: athletics, badminton, basketball, cross-country, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rippa rugby, rugby union, sailing, skiing, softball, self defence, swimming, table tennis, touch rugby, volleyball, water polo, ice skating, ten pin bowling, mountain biking, yoga, lawn bowls, gymnastics/ trampoline, rock climbing, action indoor sports and cross fit.





## MUSIC & CULTURE

Wairarapa Cobham is highly regarded for the quality music opportunities it offers and this provides a significant attraction for many students. In 2023 we have a 50 member orchestra, 12 member chamber orchestra, 100 member chorale and choir, 120 member kapa haka, and two rock bands. We consistently have a significant number of students who successfully audition for the Christchurch Schools' Music Festival and we also perform in the Christchurch Schools' Cultural Festival, the NorthWest Music Festival and at various other events and venues in the city.

In addition to the groups above we have itinerant and private tutors who provide specialist tuition in a wide variety of instruments. These cater for students across the spectrum of experience. Tuition is offered in: clarinet, saxophone, flute, violin/viola, piano, drums, guitar, trumpet, cornet, horn, baritone, trombone, voice, digital music.

Performing arts are also very well catered for at Wairarapa Cobham. We offer multiple dance groups, perform at ShowQuest, Jump Jam and other inter-school competitions/ festivals

and produce outstanding (recognised as to a secondary school level) major productions every two years. Our strong Kapa Haka group perform with distinction at the annual Christchurch Cultural Festival.

At Wairarapa Cobham we are proud to accommodate the needs of 25 different ethnic backgrounds.

We are a sought after institution for international education with one of the highest number of long term enrolments in the primary and intermediate sector in Christchurch.







*Jump Jam, 2nd at South Island Regional Competition*



*Chess, Year 7 and 8 South Island Champions*

## ACHIEVEMENTS & SUCCESS

Wairarapa Cobham has a strong history of high achievement and success across the curriculum, whether it be local, regional, national or international events. We value high performance and are very proud of the attainments of our students.

One of the benefits of a large school is the range of talents on offer from the

staff due to this increased pool. We have talented, motivated and dedicated staff. Our teachers, along with targeted specialists from outside of our school, are used effectively to facilitate high achievement.

We consistently achieve top results in literacy, mathematics, problem solving,

science, music and sports events. Our high expectations, culture of positivity, grit and resilience, along with the students pushing each other to great heights, is a recipe for success.

## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING** – Future Problem Solving (FPS) thrives at Wairarapa Cobham and our school has been constantly strong in FPS for many years. FPS is an international extension programme that considers issues of importance to humanity in the future. FPS has several components. Wairarapa Cobham offers the Global Issues (GIPS) and Scenario Writing components. Teams of four, or individuals, compete in GIPS, while Scenario Writing is a futuristic, short story competition for individuals.

Students compete throughout the year, thinking around a different topic each term. Their work is recorded and evaluated. Top teams and individuals within New Zealand compete at the FPS National finals in early November of each year and then title holders from the New Zealand Finals are invited to represent both Wairarapa Cobham and New Zealand at FPS World Finals in the USA. In the last twelve years Wairarapa Cobham students have placed in the top ten in the world several times, in both the GIPS and Scenario Writing competitions and have consistently represented NZ at this event.

Wairarapa Cobham Intermediate teams

and individuals have been selected to compete in the New Zealand National Finals in Future Problem Solving every year in the last five years with teams and individuals have achieved placings in the top three in New Zealand. In 2022, one of the students coached by us was selected to represent New Zealand at the International Future Problem Solving Conference in Massachusetts.

**CANTAMATH** – At our school, Canterbury Maths Association Annual Cantamath Competition is a passion! We have a long-standing tradition of success in this competition and are proud to have produced many top-performing students over the years. Our commitment to excellence is evident in the way we run a school-wide display competition, which most pupils take part in. From there, we select a large number of displays to enter the competition and we're thrilled to say that many of these were rewarded with excellence from the judges in 2022. But that's not all - we also have a proud tradition of competing for first place in the team competition. Our school name is often engraved on the winners' trophy and in 2022, our Wairarapa Cobham

Teams took home first place in Year 7 and fourth place in Year 8. Our students are passionate about Cantamath and we're proud of the hard work and dedication they put into achieving success in this competition.

**CHESS TEAM** – Wairarapa Cobham placed 5th equal in the Christchurch Chess Comp in 2022. In 2020 Cobham won the Christchurch Interschool Chess Competition for Year7-8, and qualified for the New Zealand Chess Federation Interschool Chess Finals in Mt Manganui. We placed 5th = in NZ at this tournament and were the top finishing South Island school.

**LIT QUIZ** – this group meets once a week at lunchtime. The students have the opportunity to discuss, share and review books as well as taking part in quizzes in preparation for the annual Kids Lit Quiz.

Each year two teams of four students are selected to represent Wairarapa Cobham at the Canterbury Westland regional final of Kids Lit Quiz. In 2022 our A team were placed 4th, and our B Team were placed 2nd out of 38 teams from across the wider Christchurch area.





**AIMS Games Athletes**

## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### CANTERBURY WESTLAND SCIENCE FAIR

– Our students continue to win both category and special prizes. One of our Wairarapa Cobham students received The Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society Award for Excellence in Experimental Design, Approach and Interpretation. Another student received the Mansfield Health Practice Prize for a Project with a Health Aspect.

In 2021 Wairarapa Cobham students received the following awards:

- Yr 7 Science Fair overall second place winner
- Helpful Hydro - How to sustainably pump water - Yr 7 Technology First prize
- Pop away goes bubblewrap - Yr 7 Technology Second prize

**SPEECH/DEBATING** – Bishopdale-Burnside Rotary Speech Competition - Cobham is the home to many confident and entertaining young public speakers. Each year Wairarapa Cobham competes in the Bishopdale-Burnside Rotary Speech Competition and our school has been consistently strong over the years. In 2022, our Year 7 student placed 1st. In 2021, our Year 8 student placed 2nd. In 2020, our Year 7 student placed 3rd and our Year 8 students placed 1st and 2nd.

**EPRO8** – The EPro8 Challenge is an inter-school science and engineering competition, the idea being to promote science and engineering with younger students. Every year thousands of students from throughout New Zealand take part. Wairarapa Cobham Intermediate has a proud and successful history of competing in Epro8, having won a few titles over the years.

**ESPORTS** – Esports continues to engage a growing number of young people in Aotearoa as they discover new ways to connect with their peers while finding

their sporting niche. Esports at Wairarapa Cobham is at the forefront of this journey. We are leading this development by providing opportunities for students to engage in Esport as an optional winter sport, having dedicated times to practice and play and competing against other schools in our Kahui Ako.

**AIMS GAMES** – New Zealand Association for Intermediate and Middle Schools Games (AIMS Games) – Wairarapa Cobham sends the biggest team from the South Island, with approximately 60 students competing each year. Over the last seven years, Wairarapa Cobham has consistently been the best-performing South Island Intermediate school.

In 2022, Wairarapa Cobham students entered in AIMS Games for cross country, gymnastics, tennis, squash, basketball, hockey, and water polo. All of our teams and individuals competed to an exceptionally high standard. Medals were won by our students competing in the individual sporting codes of tennis and gymnastics. This included gold medals in the boys' singles tennis, boys' doubles, and a silver in the boys' team event. Our four gymnasts all finished in the top 4 of their respective grades, three of whom won a medal. Wairarapa Cobham also placed in the top 4 for the cross-country relay event, and in the top 10 for squash.

In the team sports, our girl's hockey team placed second overall, winning silver in their team competition. Our water polo and girl's basketball teams both finished in the top ten of their respective competitions, while our boy's basketball team placed in the top 20, out of 78 teams

**MUSIC** – Wairarapa Cobham consistently provides significant numbers to the Christchurch Schools' Music Festival elite representative groups. In 2022, 20

students were selected for the Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band and Senior Representative Choir. The Wairarapa Cobham Chorale excels in three part singing of treble voices and the Wairarapa Cobham Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra provide wonderful opportunities for instrumental talent to shine.

**SHOW QUEST** – In order to allow students to let their creativity, dance and drama abilities shine, we offer the opportunity to be a part of Show Quest, a performing arts competition for New Zealand schools. Students are entered into a regional competition where they compete against a range of schools on stage at the Town Hall.

Other dance opportunities available at Wairarapa Cobham include Jump Jam, hip hop and aerobics competition.

**WATERPOLO** – Water polo is a huge sport at Wairarapa Cobham, we run four teams throughout the year and often achieve highly. Last year, we took three teams to Dunedin to compete in the Year 7 and 8 South Island competition where our Wairarapa Cobham A team placed 1st and our Wairarapa Cobham B team placed 3rd – a fantastic achievement by all. In September, we also headed to Tauranga to compete in the AIMS Games competition where the water polo team placed 6th in New Zealand.

**BASKETBALL** – We had 11 basketball teams in 2023, several of which attended tournaments in Oamaru where we placed 3rd in the girls division and 5th in the Boys. Both the boys and girls A teams competed at AIMS Games. Our girls placed 8th out of 20 and our boys finished 18th out of 74 at AIMS games. We also won the 2023 CAIMS Winter Tournament for basketball.





## EXTRA CURRICULAR

We have shared with you many of the opportunities on offer outside of the traditional classroom at Wairarapa Cobham. We encourage students to make the most of their time with us and explore, discover and put themselves forward for new activities to enable any new talents and passions to be discovered.

During their time at Wairarapa Cobham students will participate in sailing, skiing, camp at Glentui in Year 7 and other styles of camps in Year 8.

It is important we engage, motivate and inspire our students and allow them to have a voice in our school. We have a range of leadership opportunities for students. These include:

- Head Boy and two Deputy Head Boys
- Head Girl and two Deputy Head Girls
- 24 House Captains (four for each house)
- Student Council Representatives (one for each class)
- Cultural Leaders
- Maori Head and Deputy Head Leaders
- Kapa Haka Head and Deputy Head Leaders
- Pasifika Head and Deputy Head Leaders
- Librarians

Thanks to the wide ranging opportunities at Wairarapa Cobham, we have associated leadership roles.





## ENROLMENT DETAILS

Wairarapa Cobham Intermediate School has an enrolment scheme to limit the roll and prevent overcrowding. Students who live within our enrolment zone are entitled to enrol at our school. If you live outside our enrolment zone, you are able to apply for enrolment. The number of places available for these students will be determined by the number of both in-zone and out-of-zone enrolments. Should the number of applications exceed the number of places available, a supervised ballot will be held with the following priority groups being allocated places in order until the available places are filled.

1. Siblings of current students.
2. Siblings of former students.

3. Children of former students.
4. Children of board employees or children of members of the board of the school.
5. All other applicants.

**All in and out of zone enrolments must be submitted to us by THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2023.**

For full details of this process, including a copy of our enrolment zone, dates and timelines please either visit our website or contact our team in the office.

Full details regarding class placements, entrance testing, uniform, key dates, stationery and other associated

information will be provided on confirmation of enrolment.

**For further information please contact:**

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Wairarapa Cobham Intermediate School  
Sunningvale Lane  
Burnside, Christchurch  
Telephone: +64 3 351 6381  
Email: [office@cobham.school.nz](mailto:office@cobham.school.nz)

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

### AT WAIRARAPA COBHAM INTERMEDIATE YOU WILL EXPERIENCE:

- Passionate teachers who are committed to the education of emerging adolescents.
- Excellence.
- A strong values based education.
- A culture of care and support.
- Numerous academic, sporting and cultural opportunities.
- An education that prepares students for high school and beyond.





WAIRARAPA

**COBHAM**  
Intermediate

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