



Te Kura Tuarua o Tūranga Wāhine

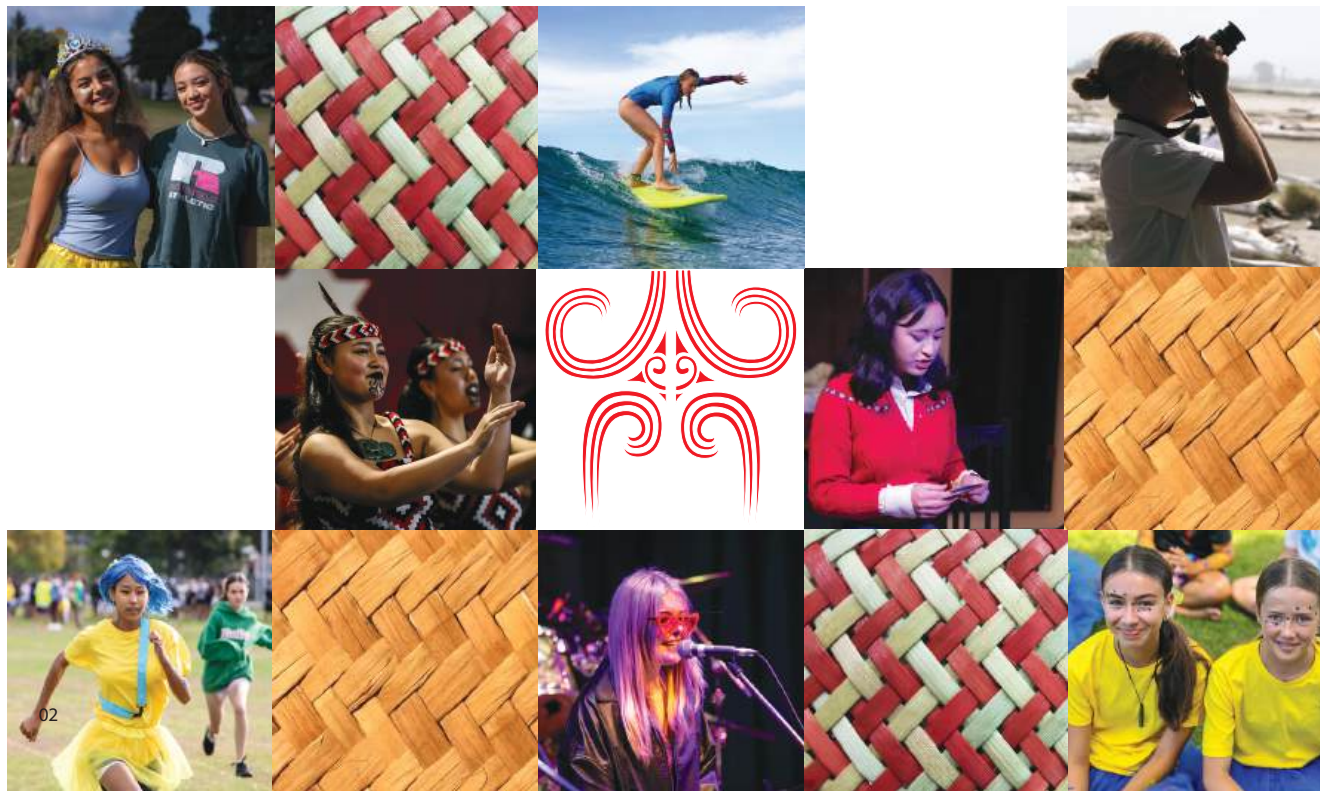
Gisborne Girls' High School

2026

prospectus



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introducing Gisborne Girls' High School

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Welcome to our school

Nau mai, haere mai ki tō tatōu kura

At our school we aim to educate the whole student and you will find opportunities to explore in sports, kapa haka, music, art, drama, leadership as well as a very broad range of academic subjects and career options. We do this in a supportive environment where the social and emotional learning of our students is as important as their academic studies.

At Gisborne Girls' High School we recognise that a school is all about the future. It is about opportunity and success so that our students can stride into their futures with confidence and the skills to make it work for them and their communities. It is about celebrating and acknowledging our strong history as it rests as the foundation for our continued success. It is about valuing the importance of iwi partnership and actively promoting relationships with the community of Te Tairāwhiti. Most importantly it is about recognising and nurturing the individual strengths, talents and creativity of all our young rangatahi to build positive and focused futures. Our students continue to excel in a multitude of activities and we endeavour to open doors and encourage them to aim high. We have students competing on the local, national and international stage in many sporting and cultural fields and our NCEA results are well above expectation. An education at GGHS provides you with opportunity, high expectation, and high quality teaching supported by a wraparound guidance system.

Come and join us in 2026 and start your adventure with us.

Jan Kumar
Principal



welcome



The dignity and strength of the term 'Hinetu' comes from its association with our school marae ātea entitled Te Takapau o Hinetu. When the girls are formally called on to our school grounds at the pōwhiri, they traverse the "great woven mat of Hinetu" before entering the whareniui – Te Raukura. This welcome is a traditional process that forges connections between the past, present and future whereby the fabric of humanity is strengthened. It marks the beginning of the Hinetu pathway. Hinetu encompasses the living nature of our school values, school events, links between whānau and school, and connections to local and wider communities. These connections developed will strengthen the wairua of the students as they grow.

our vision

Te Kura Tuarua o Tūranga Wāhine
Empowering rangatahi for life

Gisborne Girls' High School
Whāngaihia te āpōpō

Hinetu Profile:

Hine tiaia ki kura rau!
Hine hokaia taumata rau!
We are Hinetū; strong in our identity and culture.
With courage and compassion,
we empower each other to thrive.
E tū e! Hinetū e



HINETU

Relational Practice @ GGHS

Gisborne Girls' High School uses Relational Practices to develop and enhance relationships between students, teachers, whanau and the wider community.

At GGHS we engage in Relational Practices where all participants take responsibility for whanaungatanga and connections that nurture relationships.

Relational Practice:

- * encourages students to appreciate the consequences of their actions for others.
- * enables students to make amends where their actions have harmed others.
- * requires students to be accountable for their actions.
- * encourages respect for all concerned.
- * encourages students to develop better understanding of, and empathy with, others.



Students perceive this approach as being 'firm, but fair'.



the
staff

Senior Leadership Team at
Gisborne Girls' High School

Principal
Deputy Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal

Faculty Leaders at
Gisborne Girls' High School

Careers
English
Health and Physical Education
Mathematics
Science
Social Science
Student Services
Technology
Te Reo Maori
Visual and Performing Arts

Board of Trustees at
Gisborne Girls' High School

Board of Trustees' Chairperson
Board of Trustees

Staff Representative
Student Representative

Jan Kumar
Bindy Hannah
Kristin McGill
Victoria West

Christine Bevan-Hutana
Steve Webb
Ingrid Meister
Jayde Carroll
Sam Mottart
Nic Taewa
Tineille Charteris
Sue Bristow
Morehu Nikora
Jane Egan

Phil Matthews
Greg Roseman
Sally McLeod
Adam Lynch
Tim Petro
Donna Williams
Jess Williams
Reremoana Maynard-Wilson

Student Support



10



While teaching and learning is our core task, the school places a strong emphasis on assisting students to be ready for learning by developing their personal and social skills. The guidance network ensures that every student feels they are a valued member of the organisation and that they are developing self esteem and getting on well with others. This network is comprehensive and includes form teachers, deans, counsellors, student support workers, student learning support teacher and Director of International Students. A wider team of health professionals is also available to students while at school, a sexual health nurse, a physiotherapist, Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour and Public Health nurses.

Gisborne Girls' High School operates a one stop shop approach to student health and wellbeing, allowing all students to access services on site on a free and confidential basis. All services are housed in the Student Services complex.



Learning Support Centre



"Te Korowai Tautoko"

Gisborne Girls' High School's Te Korowai Tautoko, is staffed by a teacher in charge of the ORS student learning programme and a teacher aide team. The department provides speciality education for students with special needs and students who require ongoing support.

At the L.S.C. all students and whanau are supported through Individual Education Plans (IEP) and all programs are tailored to suit the students and their learning needs. Please feel free to contact the LSC on 068686092 Ext 876



making the right decision: why girls' choose a school?



Gisborne Girls' High School is focused on the best learning outcomes for girls. Research shows that girls achieve better, especially in mathematics and the sciences, in a single-sex school.

Leadership and accomplishment in every area of the school are in the hands of girls.

Sporting, cultural, leadership and academic opportunities can be pursued in a safe and supportive environment.

We foster talent in the performing and visual arts, reflecting our Maori, Pasifika and cultural heritage.

We offer coaching for participation in top level sports. Many students excel at national and international levels of sport.

We have a culture of pastoral care and learning support with strong links to our community, whānau, hapū and iwi.

Combining with GBHS to provide a wider range of subjects in the senior school also provides another opportunity to develop respectful relationships.

Challenges, opportunities and



success

Thinking outside
the
square.....

At Gisborne Girls' High School we believe that learning should be both challenging and enjoyable.

By achieving success in a range of activities students have the opportunity to develop positive attitudes that will encourage further studies, training, employment and lifelong learning.

We promote individual excellence by teaching to the highest academic standards. Our students receive an excellent preparation for tertiary education.

Support programmes are available for students who have additional learning needs.

Career pathways are promoted to junior students and tailored to the needs of individual senior students. We are extremely fortunate to have a committed and talented teaching staff whose goal is to provide each and every student with a sound learning foundation for their future needs.

opportunity



qualifications

National Certificate of Educational Achievement

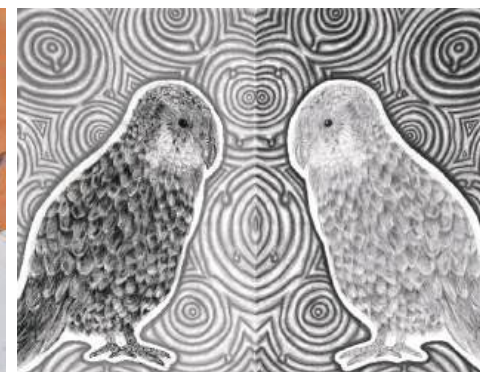
The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) is the main qualification for senior secondary students and includes external examinations and internal assessments. Subjects are assessed using Achievement Standards and Unit Standards. All standards contribute credits to an NCEA Certificate at Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. Students are also encouraged to gain University entrance in Year 13 to access tertiary education.

Multi-level learning

Each student's progress is monitored closely so we can quickly identify areas for improvement or areas where a student is excelling. This, coupled with flexibility for multi-level study, allows us to tailor programmes of learning to individual needs.

Learning is for life - Careers

Gisborne Girls' High School offers extensive Careers Education programmes to all students. With a diverse range of subject choices and flexible programming, students have access to many career building opportunities.





The school provides opportunities for all students to participate in sport and active recreation, regardless of their abilities or previous experience. They are coached and managed by dedicated volunteer staff, parents, senior students and members of the community.

We feel that sporting involvement complements curriculum based learning and is hugely influential in developing well rounded, healthy young women and a positive school environment.

We are focused on increasing and improving sporting opportunities through improved partnerships with community clubs and sports organisations.

The GGHS Sports Council provides a range of student-led physical activities for students at lunchtimes.

Opportunities and coaching are offered in the following sporting codes:

- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Cross country running
- Football
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Ki O Rahi
- Netball
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Softball
- Swimming
- Squash
- Surfing
- Touch Rugby
- Volleyball
- Waka Ama

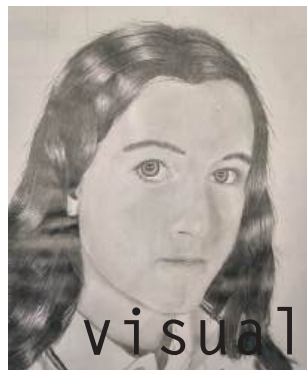


Gisborne Girls' High School provides quality sport and physical activity programmes. Our sports teams and individuals achieve considerable success at local, regional, national and international levels.

co-curricular

sport





THE VISUAL ART DEPARTMENT is a large department that provides a range of artistic experiences that include Painting, Sculpture, Computer Design and Digital Photography. Outward manifestations of the contribution that Art students make to the life and wellbeing of the school can be found in the numerous environmental sculptures and mural projects that grace the grounds and corridors of the school.



THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT provides students with the opportunity to develop musical skills, self-expression and creativity through participation in a wide variety of musical activities, from classical to contemporary. The department provides tuition in a range of instruments as well as teaching skills in public address and recording technology, theory, music appreciation, composition and knowledge of the music industry. Students also have the opportunity to participate in all genre of music from classical to contemporary in Rockquest and Tangata Beats, Chamber Music, Orchestra and Choir as well as many song writing competitions.



THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT runs a vibrant and fun programme that develops team work, confidence, performance techniques, problem solving, creativity, script work and creating original pieces. It covers various dramatic forms including Introduction to Shakespeare, Maori Myths and Legends and Masks. Performance technologies such as: make-up, prop making, lighting and costume are integrated into the programmes. In this safe and motivating environment students quickly develop confidence.



Kapa Haka



“Ko te mata tēnei o Tūranga Wahine, o Tūranga Tāne!”

This is the face of Tūranga Wahine, o Tūranga Tāne!

The Tairāwhiti has a proud history of Kapahaka that has been maintained through the efforts of many over the generations. We uphold this legacy of excellence through regular representation at both local and national levels of competition.



Te Whare Mātauranga

“Tōku reo, tōku kuru pounamu!”
My language is a precious greenstone gem

“Tuia te muka tangata ki te raukura e tū ake nei!”
“Unity through strong leadership”

Our Whare is the gateway to learning, understanding and practicing the core values of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga. All students get to experience and grow in an environment that nurtures mana whenua (reverence for the land and its caregivers), mana wahine (reverence for one's own being and sense of place in the world as young women), and mana mātauranga (reverence for knowledge both contemporary and traditional; worldviews including Māori and others).

Courses are offered in Te Reo Māori Yr9-Yr13, Te Reo Rangatira Yr12-13, Te Ao Haka and Tikanga Māori Yr9-Yr11

Ngā Manu Tangiata

This is a specialised programme of learning for (Yr10-12) students who wish to improve their proficiency in the Māori language, and grow their knowledge and understanding of tikanga Māori

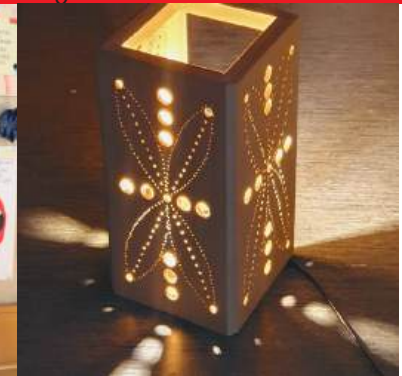
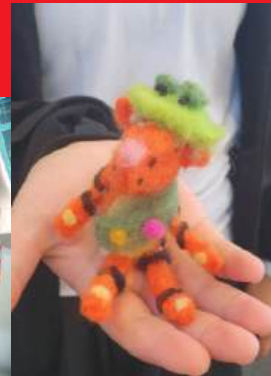
Te Ao Haka - Māori Performing Arts

what is technology?

Technology challenges students in ways unlike any other subject. At Gisborne Girls' High School we offer a range of Technology subjects in Textiles, Food, Digital and Product Design. These subjects offer students the opportunity to be innovative, creative and show initiative. The students learn teamwork and communication skills. Technology education also provides skills useful in a variety of tertiary courses and paves the way to exciting career opportunities as creators, not just users of technology.



Cookery



Textiles
Technology
Food
Technology

Product Design
and
Digital Technologies

International

Gisborne Girls' High School currently offers students the opportunity to learn Spanish. Students are immersed as far as is possible in the language and culture of the hispanic world, creating "families" and weaving their own stories. Students work to build confidence communicating about everything from themselves to world issues from learning Salsa and Flamenco to making guacamole. Another language empowers you. ¡Olé!

Language



We have an active Pasifika Group at GGHS. This group includes students from all year groups and offers the opportunity for students to support each other and for their families to meet and discuss issues particularly important to our Pasifika students. Our Pasifika students join with students at GBHS to perform regularly at school and community events.



international students

student view:

"Living in an unknown country and away from my friends and my family was not easy but it has been a wonderful experience. I enjoyed meeting people, discovering a new culture, travelling around this beautiful country, learning another language, trying new food... It was just a year full of new experiences and I have grown so much!"



The staff and students of Gisborne Girls' High School welcome students from all around the world as

- Private fee paying students
- Exchange programme students

We firmly believe that interaction between different cultures enriches the academic, cultural and social experience of our school community.

Gisborne Girls' High School provides

- Full NCEA Levels 1, 2, 3 and scholarship classes
- Quality pastoral care
- A safe, friendly environment
- Low numbers of International Students
- English as a second language classes
- Beautiful grounds and modern, well- resourced classrooms
- Careers advice and liaison with tertiary institutions
- Sporting and cultural activities



Gisborne is located on the East Coast of the North Island of New Zealand. We are famous for our warm sunny weather and beautiful beaches. Gisborne is a one hour flight from Auckland.

Gisborne Girls' High School is registered with the Ministry of Education (registration no. 516) and is bound by the **Code of Practice** for the pastoral care of International Students. We have been caring for International Students since 1991.

For more information e mail international@gghs.school.nz



education outside the classroom

OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- Year 10 Bushcraft specialist subject option
- Year 11- 13 Senior Outdoor Education

Activities on offer: Mountain Biking, Day tramping, Multi Day Tramping, Surfing, Kayaking, River Crossing Skills, Survival Skills, Snorkelling, Introduction to Pest Trapping and Management, Orienteering, Rogaine, High and low Ropes and Overnight Camps.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION is an integral part of the curriculum in that it provides valuable learning experiences beyond the school grounds.

The aims of Outdoor Education are:

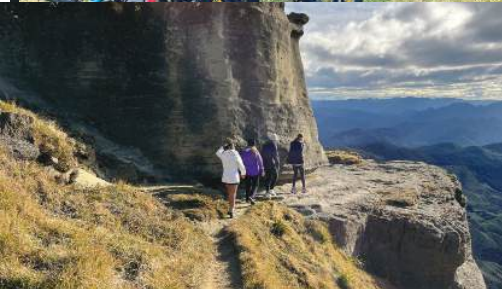
- developing competence and confidence in outdoor situations
- developing resilience, empathy and problem solving skills as students undertake challenges individually and in teams.
- develop an understanding of the fragile nature of the physical environment and the responsibility people have in appreciating, using and protecting natural ecosystems.

The skills learned are fully transferable to all aspects of a Student's Hauora as representing the profile of a well-rounded student and well-grounded citizen.

OTHER EOTC OPPORTUNITIES:

GGHS is offering the Duke Of Edinburgh award for students. This is organised as an extracurricular activity and teachers will support students who choose to be involved.

The school has places available at Outward Bound for two year 12 scholarships.





careers



Our goal is to create an inclusive environment that fosters diverse learning opportunities and experiences. Site visits can be arranged for students who are interested in learning more about a particular sector.

Yr 12 and 13 students are able to attend Tertiary trips including open days at Universities. A wide range of visitors support the work of the Careers team to inform students about courses, financial planning, accommodation and scholarships.

The Gateway Programme is to strengthen pathways for senior students from school to further education, training or employment. Gateway provides valuable learning and employment opportunities. Students can gain specific vocational skills leading to future employment and benefit from making significant progress towards qualifications.

It builds on existing partnerships to develop new relationships among schools, industry training organisations and employers.

STAR (Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource)

STAR enables our school to allocate funds to support Year 11 to Year 13 students in gaining qualifications and experiences beyond conventional subjects and programmes offered in school.

Trades Academy

The purpose of the Trades Academy is to motivate students to stay engaged in learning and training by providing them with a greater number of options for study and to provide an understanding of post-school pathways within our region. Students can get a taste of what a job may be like and get hands-on experience. Students can obtain credits towards NCEA and gain valuable real life experiences.

Career Education and Guidance is provided through specific programmes for all year levels with the aim of developing student career management competencies. These include the three main concepts of know yourself, know the world of work and career decision making.

The Careers Team strengthens links between school and a wide range of community groups including tertiary providers, training organisations and businesses to help ensure successful transitions from school. Current career information is readily accessible for all our students and their whānau to support them with exploring career pathways and making informed decisions for the future.



student Leadership

All Year 13 students are considered to be student leaders. In addition, each year, staff and students select a Head Prefect, Deputy Head Prefects and a team of school Prefects. These students provide leadership and act as positive role models for other students. Along with these roles there are several other leadership opportunities available to all year levels. Our student leaders are involved in many school matters, such as:



- Fundraising for charitable causes
- Organising and conducting assemblies
- Participating in the Anzac Day Parade
- Board of Trustees' Representative
- Student Governance Council
- Arts Council
- Sports Council
- Supporting Junior students
- Supporting International students
- Addressing public gatherings
- Senior Mentors
- Hauora Councils
- Class and Level Representatives
- Cultural Council
- Academic Council
- Events Council
- Environmental Council

student



The Student Governance Council came about through the work done in 2021 by "The Dreamers Group" who worked alongside Glenis Philip-Barbara on developing a student-led strategic plan. With staff and student consultation they developed the school's new vision - Whāngaihia te āpōpō, Empowering rangatahi for life. They also developed the four key strategic priorities and made changes to the school's values.

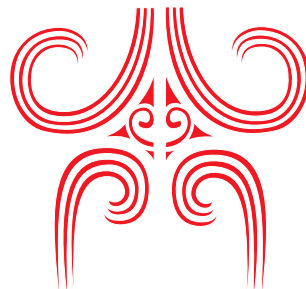
In 2024, the SGC created the 'token tracker' initiative after determining that overall school attendance needed to be improved. This initiative increased the overall attendance percentile by 10%, while also getting students more involved in house spirit.

This year, the SGC is made up of students from year 9 to year 12, with their main focus being reviewing the school's previous strategic plan and goals. With the help of Ngahua Mita they plan to remodel this previous plan, creating the new priorities on which we base our school and its values. It will be a long process, but the SGC is prepared to work hard in order to positively impact our kura and all decisions made in the future. One of their members also represents our kura on the board of trustees, and twice a term, presents student voice, helping to create an environment where our issues are raised, and opinions are heard. In future, the SGC plans to continue their work on improving student attendance and motivation, determined to ensure our rangatahi are nurtured and encouraged throughout their GGHS journey.

At Tūranga Wāhine, we are committed to providing a space for all rangatahi to grow. GGHS creates an environment where young rangatahi are encouraged to grow into their full potential. With our values of care and respect - Manaakitanga, confidence and courage - Māiātanga, self-determination - Mana Motuhaketanga, and connection with others - Whakawhanaungatanga, GGHS students thrive. Our senior leadership and staff live these values. Creating strong relationships with students and always encouraging them to develop further. There is not only support from staff but also from our students. High school can be a scary new place for many, and you want to select a school that will support and encourage you throughout your five years. Trusting Gisborne Girls' High School to foster your choices and your future is something that you can feel confident in. This is shown through the success of our past and present students.

Whether it's through sport, arts, cultural activities, and academics, or the many other opportunities offered by GGHS, there is something to explore. These opportunities could include, for you, a sports team, performing in kapa haka or the school production, competing in academic challenges, or discovering a passion for visual arts and music. There is always something for everyone. Throughout my time at GGHS, I've had countless opportunities to explore my interests and develop new skills, both inside and outside the classroom.

Our kura is also a place that recognises and encourages diversity. With many different cultures, ethnicities, and identities, we embrace every individual here. GGHS is a place for young rangatahi to be empowered. A new school comes with many challenges for every individual, but we embrace those and grow from them. I have faced many challenges through my years at high school, but through the rich culture of GGHS, I was able to build the skills and relationships that have brought me here today. Attending Girls' High has been a great experience for me, and I hope it can be the same for others.



Head Prefect for 2025 Izzy Robertson



comparative

academic

statistics

Percentage Pass Rates NCEA 2024

Qualification	National	GGHS
Level 1	45.9	74.8
Level 2	73.6	79.3
Level 3	69.4	64.0
UE	50.6	53.2



general information

REPORTING TO PARENTS & KAMAR PORTAL

- Detailed reports will be sent home to parents throughout the year. Student - whanau- teacher conferences are held in Terms 1 & 3.
- Parents are welcome to discuss their student's needs with the Principal and staff at any time.
- All parents are given access to attendance and achievement information stored on the school's Kamar Student Management System through the Kamar portal.

HOMEWORK

- Homework has an important place in secondary education. It develops the habit of individual work and consolidates classroom learning. Homework should be regular but not excessive to be of value.
- Parents can help by ensuring conditions at home are favourable for homework and by regularly checking on that work.

CHROMEBOOKS

- The school can loan a digital device (chromebook) to any student who needs one at no charge.

LUNCHES

- The school is part of the Ka Ora Ka Ako/ Healthy School Lunches programme. All students will be provided with a free school lunch everyday.

PERIOD PRODUCTS

- All students can receive free period products as needed through the Ikura | Manaakitia te whare tangata programme.

KAITI BUS SCHEME

- Students who live in the Kaiti area are eligible for a free bus card courtesy of the Gisborne District Council.

COURSE COST DONATIONS & SPORTS FEES

GGHS has joined the Donations Scheme, whereby the government provides the school \$150 per student to cover activities usually covered by the school donation. In accordance with this scheme we can only request a contribution for an activity that involves an overnight stay. These are called course cost contributions.

There may be charges for optional activities and trips that students choose to take part in.

- Students participating in sport teams affiliated to outside sporting organisations will be expected to pay a subscription to offset costs.



SCHOOL YEAR 2026

Proposed term dates:

Term 1 Tuesday 27th January-Thursday 2nd April

Term 2 Monday 20th April- Friday 3rd July

Term 3 Monday 20th July- Friday 25th September

Term 4 Monday 12th October -Monday 7th December

history

of Gisborne Girls' High School



Student View: "Your school gave me a lot, taught me a lot. You provided me with an excellent education that I believe is second to none, of the schools in New Zealand. I am very proud to come out of your school. I'm an enthusiastic Gisborne Girls' High School old girl."



Gisborne High School was established in 1907. It was co-educational and the only secondary school in the city. After World War II the school roll grew rapidly. This roll increase resulted in the creation of two separate schools in 1956. Gisborne Girls' High School opened in 1956 with a roll of just over 500 students. Since then it has grown to a roll of over 800, including international fee paying students.

Over the last 60 years the buildings and grounds have been continually improved to meet the changing needs of education.

We aim to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students.

Our vision:
Whāngaihia te āpōpō
Empowering rangatahi for life

Our values:
Whakawhanaungatanga
Taking time to build respectful relationships through relating to others.

Mana Motuhaketanga
The recognition and respect of one's own as well as others' uniqueness.

Manaakitanga
The practice of uplifting someone's mana while maintaining your own.

Maiatanga
Having the resilience and courage to overcome challenges





Gisborne Girls' High School

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