

Te Kura Tuarua o Tūranga Wāhine



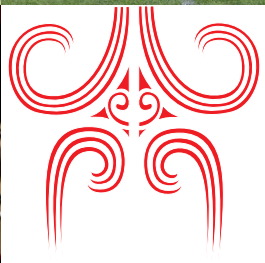
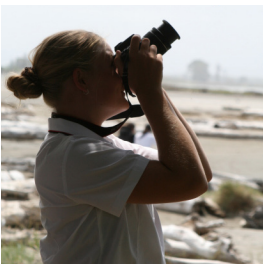
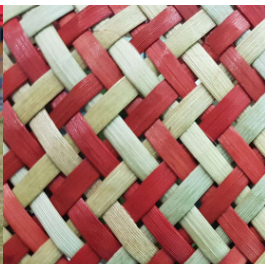
GISBORNE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL



prospectus
2027



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Welcome to our school

Every student, whānau, staff member, and visitor is welcomed and valued here.

Our vision — “Whāngaihia te āpōpō: Empowering rangatahi for life” — drives everything we do. It reminds us to put our students at the centre of learning, leadership and decision-making. Their voices shape our direction, and their aspirations inspire our purpose.

Our values guide our actions:

Manaakitanga – we uplift each other up, by maintaining our own mana and honouring everyone in our kura

Whakawhanaungatanga – we build strong, respectful relationships that help us thrive

Mana Motuhaketanga – we recognise and celebrate what makes each of us unique

Maiatanga – we step forward with courage, resilience and determination

These values guide how we learn, how we lead, and how we care for one another. They help shape a school culture where relationships matter, identity is celebrated, and students thrive.

At Gisborne Girls' High School, we honour our strong history as the foundation for our continued success, and focus on the future through creativity, innovation, and growth. We open doors to opportunity. We encourage success. We build confidence. Our students stride forward with the skills, knowledge, and self-belief to fulfil their potential, and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Our students shine in academic, sporting, cultural, and leadership roles. They represent us locally, nationally and internationally. Their NCEA results consistently exceed expectations. Behind every achievement stands high expectations, quality teaching, and a strong support network that helps each student aim high and reach their personal best.

We value our whānau and our wider community. Our partnerships strengthen our kura. We warmly invite you to engage with us and walk alongside us. Together, we can nurture our students to become confident, considerate, and capable.

So come and join us. Step into a school where students lead, learn, laugh, compete, create, question, grow, and succeed. Let us walk together into the future.

Nau mai, haere mai ki tō
tatōu kura



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 wharenui – 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.

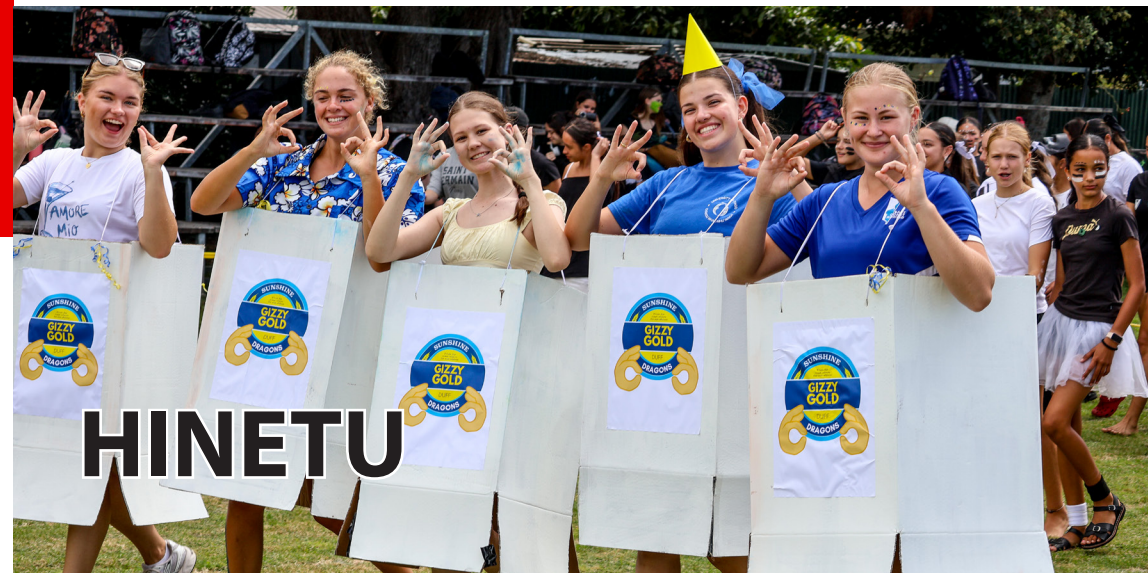
our vision

Te Kura Tuarua o Tūranga Wāhine
Vision: Empowering rangatahi for life

Gisborne Girls' High School
Whāngaihia te āpōpō

Hinetu Profile:

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



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

Bindy Hannah
Victoria West
Jayde Carroll
Alice Houkamau

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

Greg Roseman
Phil Matthews
Sally McLeod
Stu Barclay
Sterling Maxwell
Donna Williams
Tanya Waru
Ian Loffler
Celia Willoughby

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, tūmatakahoki, Learning Support Co-ordinator, and Director of International Students. A nurse is also available to students while at school.

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' school?

choose a



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.

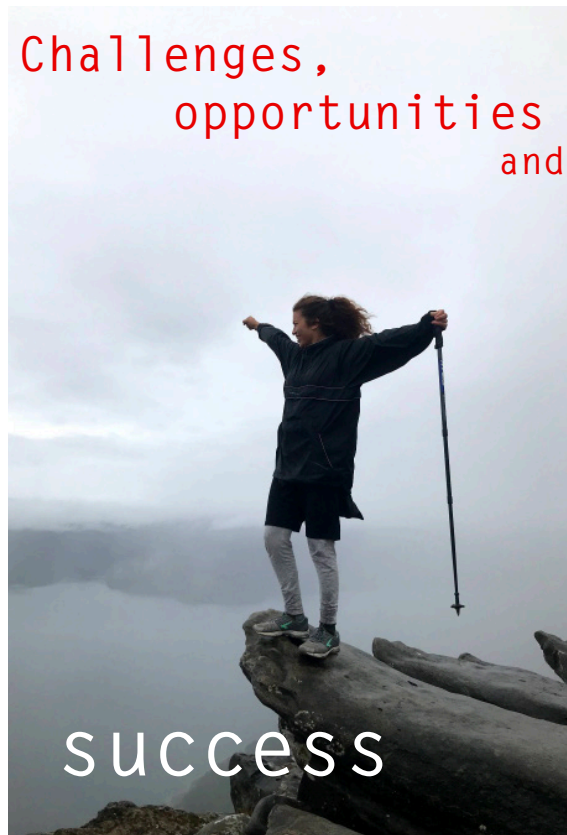
We foster talent in the performing and visual arts, reflecting our Maori, Pasifika and cultural heritage.

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 currently 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.

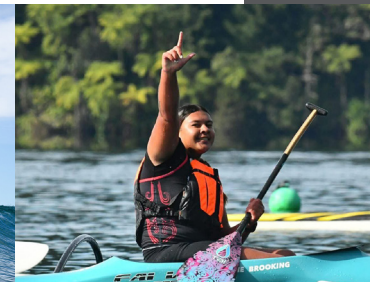
Opportunities and coaching are offered in the following sporting codes:

- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Cross country running
- Football
- Futsal
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Ki O Rahi
- Netball
- Pickleball
- 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





visual art

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 arts

music

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.



expressive



arts



drama

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.



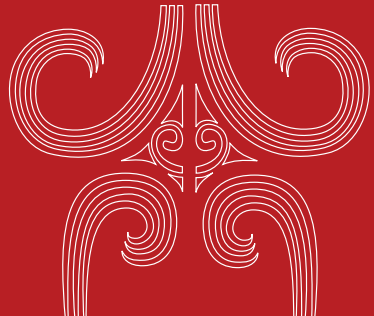
Kapa Haka



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

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

Te 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 (Yr10-13) 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, Product Design and 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



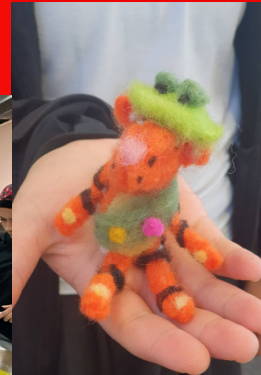
Textiles



Textiles Technology

Food Technology

Young Enterprise Scheme



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!"



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 that 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

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.



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.



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
- Diversity Council
- House Captains

student



The Student Governance Council (SGC) was established in 2021 by a group of students known as the "Dreamers Group." Working alongside Glenis Phillip-Barbara, they developed a student-led strategic plan that reflected our ākonga's aspirations and priorities. Through consultation with students and staff, they also created our school vision: Whāngaihia te āpōpō - Empowering rangatahi for life.

This Council is made up of representatives from Years 9–13 and works closely with the Board, the Senior Leadership Team, staff, and students to ensure that the voice of ākonga is heard and acted upon. Beyond representing student voice, the SGC develops future leaders by providing students with authentic experiences in governance, strategic planning, consultation, and decision-making.

In 2025, the Student Governance Council conducted a survey to better understand students' experiences and identify opportunities for improvement. The findings highlighted the importance of belonging and connection within our kura. This data was presented to the Senior Leadership and Board of Trustees. After consultation with the BOT, we wrote the 2026 -2029 Strategic Plan.

In 2026, the council's focus is on strengthening wellbeing, belonging, attendance, and engagement so that every student feels connected, supported, and empowered to thrive at Tūranga Wāhine. The strategic plan, created by the SGC, remains the foundation of our school's planning and development, ensuring that student voice is embedded in how we operate as a kura.

Nau mai, haere mai
Welcome to Tūranga Wahine, Gisborne Girls' High School.

It is my privilege to welcome you to our kura, a place where all rangatahi are empowered to grow with confidence and a strong sense of identity.

Whāngaihia te Āpōpō - Empowering Rangatahi for Life is more than our purpose; it is the heartbeat of our kura. It shapes the opportunities we create, the relationships we nurture, and the aspirations we hold for every student who joins our community.

Our values are central to our collective identity as Hinetū, the richness of our community; the spirit we actively cultivate, where students feel a strong sense of connection, purpose, and pride.

At GGHS, our students are encouraged to reflect and learn from our inspirational Hinetū (alumni) at our weekly assemblies through hearing about their experiences through challenge and success after leaving kura; this allows our ākonga to reflect on who they are and who they can become. We encourage our ākonga to discover who they are, embrace where they come from, ultimately enabling them to become courageous individuals who realise their potential and positively contribute to the world around them, harnessing the strength of the wāhine who came before.

We understand that learning extends beyond the classroom. Whether through academic achievement, sport, culture, leadership, service, or the arts, our students are encouraged to pursue opportunities that challenge and inspire us to grow. We see great participation and success in many facets, such as Kapa Haka, Debating, Waka Ama, Volleyball, Student Councils, Rockquest and many more. We are supported to take risks, discover new passions, and develop the skills and resilience needed to navigate an ever-changing world.

We know that our ākonga achieve their best when they feel safe, valued, and supported to shine. Through strong relationships with teachers, peers, whānau, and the wider community, every student is encouraged to flourish academically, socially, and personally. We uplift our students, adjusting support over their five years to better set them up for their exciting futures; empowering them to thrive.

I warmly invite you to join our story and become a part of our community, committed to Whāngaihia te Āpōpō, Empowering Rangatahi for Life.



Quinn Haughey
Head Prefect

comparative academic statistics

Percentage Pass Rates NCEA 2025

Qualification	National	GGHS
Level 1	73.5	75.2
Level 2	86.3	73.6
Level 3	71.6	71.5
UE	60.2	52



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. Free lunches are available to all students 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 2027

Proposed term dates:

Term 1 - 2nd February - 9th April

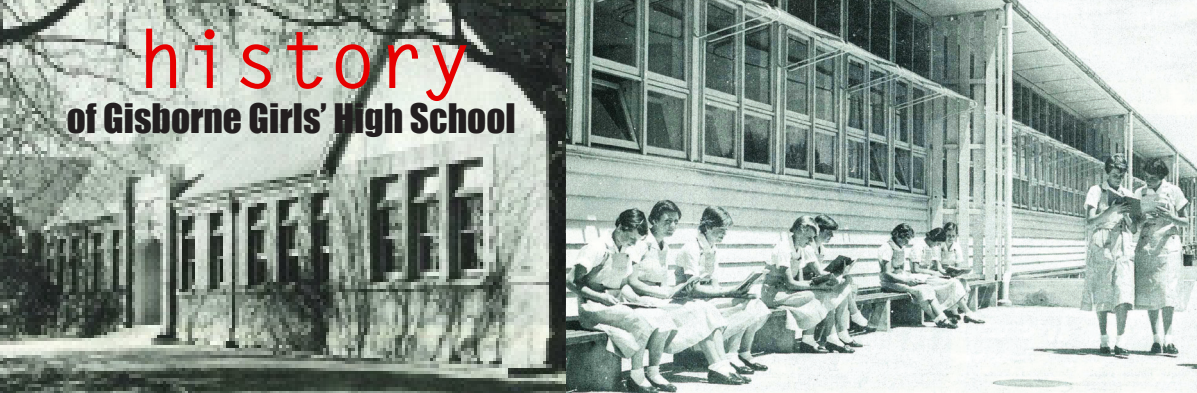
Term 2 - 27th April- 2nd July

Term 3 - 19th July- 24th September

Term 4 - 11th October - 10th 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 70 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.

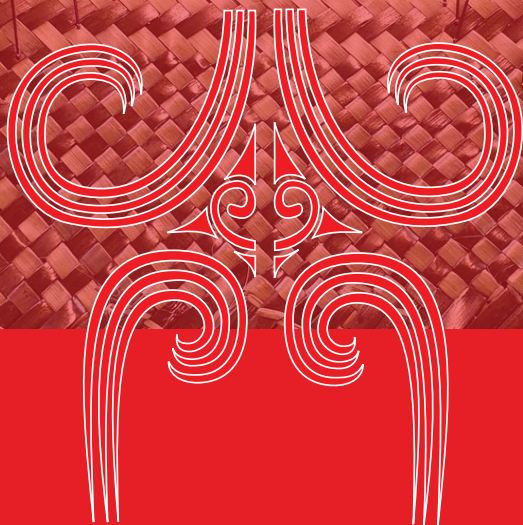
Manaakitanga

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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