

Thames High School - Te Kura Tuarua o Hotereni



“Everyone belongs. Everyone matters. Everyone has potential” (THS parent).

1. Our Curriculum - Preparing for the Future

Students at Thames High School cover all learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum, in a combination of stand-alone subjects and real/authentic contexts.

At Thames High School we believe in preparing independent learners who are prepared for the future. Our curriculum takes the key learning from the New Zealand curriculum and allows students to learn in relevant, engaging ways that equip them with skills for the future.

Our community survey revealed that our students “receive a meaningful, holistic education that is relevant to the modern world” (THS parent).

2. Who are we?

Our Community Survey revealed three key strengths of our school:

1. Our exceptional staff.
2. Our inclusive culture.
3. Our willingness to change.

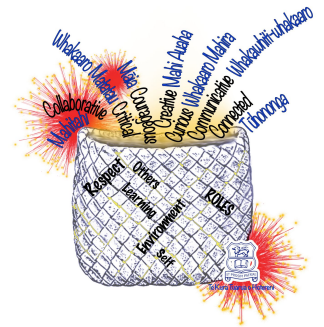
At Thames High School everyone belongs. We value the students as individuals. We value our relationships with students. Our Community Survey told us that “teachers develop strong relationships with students and personalise their learning”.

We are not a ‘one size fits all’ school. We believe in tailoring the learning to the needs of the individual students. Students are invited to ‘belong’, not to ‘fit in’.

We provide a safe and caring environment for students

Year 9 and 10 students are part of our Rōpū structure, offering support in learning and pastoral support. The Rōpū Kaitiaki (your child’s ‘key’ teacher) support student learning, support student well-being and provide a vital link between home and school. Each year level has a dedicated Dean who is available to all students and whānau. The Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and a Guidance Counsellor offer support for students as needed. We have a Student Support Officer and an Attendance Officer all offering support to students.

Our staff are approachable and caring, going above and beyond to support our young people.



3. What is it to be a Thames High School student?

We asked our students what it meant to be a Thames High Student. These were the key messages from them:

You Can Achieve Academically

At Thames High School we are proud of our academic results and encourage students to achieve to the best of their abilities.

We prepare students to continue gaining success, achieving their goals and seeking excellence well beyond their years at Thames High School.

NCEA has two types of assessment: internally and externally assessed. Students starting high school in 2020 will experience the revised NCEA systems (roll out in 2022). One of the changes is that 50% of all courses will be externally assessed.

At Thames High School we encourage our students to participate in external assessments and they do very well in these. These external assessments are a valuable measure of where our students are compared to the rest of the country. They are challenging and provide an indicator of how well prepared a student is for the learning challenges that life presents.

Our school has achieved exceptional external assessment results which are above the national average and compare very favourably with other schools in our area.

This is where many of our students excel and why so many of our students earn fantastic scholarships to attend further training and study.

In 2018, 35% of our Year 13 students gained significant monetary scholarships to support Tertiary study. The total value of these scholarships in 2018 exceeded \$180,000.

You can Achieve in Sport

We offer a full range of sporting opportunities from participation through to competitive, team and individual sports.

We are well known for our abilities in Adventure Racing having won the Hillary Challenge Competition in 2015 and have qualified for 16 consecutive years, to be involved in this competition.

Hillary Challenge - Top school in NZ in 2015. Currently rebuilding to reach this success again.

Top sports people (at NZ and International level) - Georgia Robcke & Alyssa Davy (squash), Jack Lees (swimming), Heather Underwood (Equestrian)



You can Achieve Culturally

We pride ourselves on offering a wide range of opportunities and experiences for all of our students. Some examples are:



Te Puna o Te Pito Mata Kapa Haka rōpū. Placed 1st overall at Hauraki Cultural Kapa Haka festival in 2018 and participated at the Tainui Regional Kapa Haka competitions earlier this year.



Thames High has the strongest debating tradition in the area with our senior team coming fourth this year in the Bay of Plenty regional competition. These skills have also supported mooting (legal argument within a court setting) and in 2018 our mooting team reached the national semi-finals.



Thames High School has a strong Instrumental Tuition Programme that covers a wide range of instruments. We also provide opportunities for students to participate in a range of music making activities, both formal and informal. Performance groups include the THS Jazz Band and THS Guitar Ensemble.

Student Led initiatives



Embrace it - reduce bullying and support students to embrace their differences.



THS students and their enviro-team are Kaitiaki o te Taiao; they are taking action leading our community into a cleaner and greener future.



International Food Festival gives everyone a chance to understand and learn more about other cultures from around the world.

Thames High School - Te Kura Tuarua o Hoterani: Who are we?

- A relevant, engaging curriculum that prepares students for the future
 - A school based on manaakitanga, respect and individuality
 - Excelling nationally academically, culturally and in sports



Tenā koutou katoa mo te haere mai ki tēnei pō.
Thank you for coming in to see what we do here.
We hope that you will choose Thames High School as your school of choice.

We have enrolment times available tonight from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the library.
We also have enrolment times available on Tuesday 27th August
3:15pm-5:30pm in the THS library.

Enrolments will be available at contributing schools for your convenience during this term. Dates and times will be arranged with your school. They will notify you of these.

If you would like further information or to discuss anything you have seen tonight, please contact us.

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