

# Tauranga Girls' College

*The School of Choice*



# Prospectus

*"empowering learners to make a positive impact"*

# "We are the school of choice."

## "Nau mai, haere mai"

At Tauranga Girls' College we want every young person to be better than before, to feel valued, cared for and be given a diverse range of opportunities that allow them to foster a love of learning, to experience success and to develop dispositions such as empathy, resilience, adaptability, confidence and collaboration.

No matter their interest or passion, our aim is to encourage, grow and challenge our young people to be the best that they can be. At Tauranga Girls' College, our strategic intentions and values shape our learners and uphold high expectations of behaviour.

Tauranga Girls' College aims to reflect a school in which all learners are empowered to be confident, connected, community minded, proud of their identity, valuing difference and ready to face their future and that is why we want you to also make TGC the school you choose.

We look forward to your support.



“

Through my experiences at kura, I have found that the people are the heart of all our values and decisions, making Tauranga Girls' College a community I am proud to belong to.”

Ansh Dhot | Head Prefect



Tara Kanji | Tumuaki/Principal



# "We are focused on success for all."

Our learners strive for individual success and excellence in all that they do.

We offer different and innovative ways to learn; through our variety of subject choice, timetabled Flexi Lines for targeted specific learning, a deliberate focus on the process of learning, future focused skills in subject areas and the employing of the Design Thinking framework to tackle challenges and issues from a human centred perspective.

Our learners consistently excel in all levels of NCEA including scholarships.

We provide opportunities for learners to have real-world experiences and hands-on tasks as part of their learning.

## Pathways

Our Careers Advisor and Future Pathways Coordinator support our learners to explore learning and potential pathways beyond school. Whether via a tertiary institute, industry, the Future and Trades Academy or our Gateway programme, there's a pathway for everyone.

## Additional learning support

We offer supported learning in various ways where there's a need. We take care to make sure individualised support is offered.

This support is often offered through our Learning Hub/Te Manawa where we provide an inclusive learning environment and flexible learning programmes that cater to individual learner abilities, learning needs, and interests.



“

At TGC our commitment to learning goes beyond the classroom - we create a diverse and inclusive environment where every student is empowered to grow, succeed, and inspire one another.”

Ella Hill | Deputy Head Prefect - Learning

# "We value hānora and inclusion."

"He waka eke noa"  
"We are all in this together"

We believe our people are the most important thing. Because of this, we offer a caring, supportive environment for all learners.

There are many people in our team to support our learners. We focus on whanaungatanga by helping everyone develop strong relationships built on respect and care.

## **Pastoral care**

We take a holistic approach to pastoral care. This means we focus on looking after our learner as a whole person and not just parts; we are not just supporting learning but also social, mental and spiritual wellbeing. By doing this, we believe we are supporting everyone to be the best version of themselves.

We support this in many ways; through Whānau Class, Whānau Teacher, Deans, Deputy Principals, the Guidance Counsellors, the Youth Mentors and the Student Health Centre.

External support agencies are also available to support learners through these networks.

## **Equity support**

There are a number of avenues within the kura that address equity. Devices, uniform, lunch and sporting support are provided where need exists. We offer a Kickstart Breakfast Club and are also currently a part of the Ministry of Education donations scheme which significantly reduces many learning costs without compromising on curriculum choice.

"Immediately, I was provided with a sense of belonging that I had never quite felt before. Since then, every guided step along my educational pathway has been glittered with an inexpressible number of opportunities."

Kiarni Sperling | Deputy Head Prefect  
Communications & Publicity



# "We prioritise Te Ao Māori."

"Whāwhia te kete"

"Fill the basket with knowledge"

## Whanaungatanga focus

Our school year begins with a focus on the building of whanaungatanga; a sense of connectedness to one another, our school and our community.

Our Kaupapa Māori approach to our Māori Whānau rōpū immerses learners in Te Reo Māori me ōna Tikanga. These whānau build naturally occurring tuakana-teina relationships.

**Mātauranga Māori** is the embedding of Māori knowledge including traditions, values, concepts, philosophies, world views and understanding into our learning and teaching is a priority for us.

**Whānau Partnership** is valued at Tauranga Girls' College, we value our whānau partners and learn and share with one another through our whānau hui, our Māhere Ako (Māori Achievement Plan) mahi, building an understanding of NCEA, Te Ara Ako kōrero and sharing pānui from Iwi Education representatives.

**Te Whare o Mereaira** - our taonga and where Whanaungatanga begins. It's also where learners meet, share, learn and welcome others.

**The Deputy Head Prefect Te Ao Māori**, alongside the Prefects of Kaupapa Māori and Tikanga, lead the knowledge building of learners from a Te Ao Māori perspective.

**Te Ao Māori** is our Year 9 course designed to build and grow a foundation of Mātauranga Māori - Māori knowledge. We explore uara (values), tuakiritanga (identity), a place-based curriculum about Tauranga Moana, Māori tikanga (methods) and hauora (health). This is a half year course and is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all Year 9 students.

**Ngā Kohine o Mereiara**, our performance rōpū, are our kaitiaki of Te Whare o Mereaira, tikanga leaders and cultural ambassadors of the kura. They manaaki manuhiri, tautoko special events and celebrate Te Ao Māori in the kura.

**Te Tauranga o Ngā Waka**, our Tauranga Girls' and Tauranga Boys' Colleges kapa haka rōpu, continues to excel and work towards their aspirations of continuing to compete at National level.

**Ngā Manu Kōrero** speech competitions celebrate and promote the use of Te Reo Māori and Kaupapa Māori.



“

Being named Deputy Head Prefect for Te Ao Māori reignited my school journey, and I was so grateful and honoured for the opportunity - and since then I have strived to be a voice for our Māori students.”

Kavaana Thompson | Deputy Head Prefect - Te Ao Māori



# "We grow service and leadership."

We're committed to providing our learners with the skills they need to have an impact in their communities.

We believe leadership can be explored and fostered in many ways. We value and support giving our junior and senior learners the opportunity to build their leadership capabilities.

Everyone at our school is encouraged to be part of something "bigger than themselves" and to display this by giving their time, skills and talents to support others, both within our school and wider community.

Learners can do this in a number of ways; by either joining committees and groups within school or by giving their time outside of school.

Some examples of this are our Student Volunteer Army, voluntary librarians, student tutors, our Kaitiakitanga committee, supporting the BOP Coastal Care programme and volunteering at the Tauranga Riding for the Disabled.

There are many committees learners can join also. Some of these are:

Communications and Publicity, Performing Arts, Community, School Wide Diversity, House Spirit, Sports, International, Student Wellbeing, Kaitiakitanga, Technology, Kaupapa Māori, Tikanga, Media and Publication, Visual Arts, Pasifika.

Formalised leadership exists for students who are recognised as important role models.

Pictured here (left to right) are Lute Takau (Deputy Head Prefect - Diversity), Ella Hill (Deputy Head Prefect - Learning), Kiarni Sperling (Deputy Head Prefect - Communications & Publicity), Taimana Randall (Deputy Head Prefect - School Spirit), Ansh Dhot (Head Prefect), Niamh Manning (Deputy Head Prefect - Sports), Kavaana Thompson (Deputy Head Prefect - Te Ao Māori), Grace Billingham (Deputy Head Prefect - Arts)



# "We enable innovation."

## *Creatively and critically designed outcomes*

We offer learners the opportunity to choose from a wide range of Industry and Innovation subjects including Design and Visual Communication, Food and Nutrition, Food Development, Hospitality, Textile Design, Fashion Design, Information Technology and Digital Technology.

We want our learners to experience designing and making products, the freedom to choose the skills they need to develop and learning to collaborate with others during the technology process.

The Design Thinking framework is used to explore real-life situations, problems and projects in our local community.

We aim to have learners see that technologies we use everyday are the result of deliberate human intervention.

Our learners can get involved in:

- BCITO co-curricular programmes
- EPro8 challenge
- Game and website development
- Gaming and eSports
- Hospitality
- Innovator/Technologist of the Term
- Pin'd Competition
- Robotics
- Tech Week
- Visit to Fashion Design Schools and Fashion Industry in Auckland
- Young Innovator Awards
- 3D modelling, printing and laser cutting processes



# "We are creative."

## Celebrate your creativity and artistic expression

We are proud of the opportunities we offer our learners in the Arts. Whether performing, producing art for public performances or exhibitions, or simply exploring and developing hidden talents, we believe the Arts are a vital part of our learners education.

Learners are offered the chance to explore through visits to, or by dance and theatre companies, writer's workshops and art exhibitions in the school. On stage, in lights or back stage, there's an arts and culture opportunity for everyone.

Our many music groups are acclaimed nationally as are our drama and dance groups. Itinerant music lessons also enable our students to discover or enhance a musical talent.

Our own artists creations adorn our walls, are regularly exhibited publicly and demonstrate the strength of the Visual Arts in our school.

Annually, Tauranga Girls' College collaborate with Tauranga Boys' College on a production. The opportunity to perform for a public audience gives learners the chance to practice, hone and exhibit the skills they are learning in our classrooms.

We offer a range of Performing and Visual Arts opportunities, some of which are:

- Artsfest
- Big Bands
- Chorale
- Creative Writing
- Dance NZ Made
- Debating
- Drama Productions
- Jazz Band
- Jazz Combo
- Mooting
- Oratory
- Rock Bands
- Showquest
- Symphonic Band
- Barbershop Chorus
- Chamber Ensembles
- Combined Productions
- Dance Competitions
- Dance Troupes
- Drama Club
- Film Festival
- Jazz Choir
- Luminosa Armonia Chorale
- NZ Young Designers
- Percussion Ensemble
- Sheilah Winn
- String Orchestra



“

The first time I saw the Music and Drama departments I knew I had found my calling within the school.

Not only did everyone welcome me with open arms but they began to push me out of my comfort zone to see what I was truly capable of.”

Grace Billingham | Deputy Head Prefect Arts





# "We are passionate about sports."

## Growing, connecting and succeeding in sport

We are committed to fostering and encouraging participation, wellbeing and excellence in sport.

We have an impressive record of success in sporting competitions at local, regional and national levels, and a proud history of New Zealand Representative titles for both individual sportswomen and teams.

We're proud of the outstanding facilities we have to support learners in sport. These include two gymnasiums, a dance studio, a heated swimming pool, a multi-purpose artificial sports turf, two high quality hard surface courts, an asphalt basketball court, a fitness centre and sports fields.

We enjoy annual sports exchanges with Hamilton Girls' High, Napier Girls' High and Rotorua Girls' High.

Our student leaders work to promote participation and enjoyment through a wide range of lunchtime activities and opportunities to participate in inter-House challenges.

There's an extensive selection of sporting opportunities at our school including:

- Archery
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Beach Volleyball
- Bowls
- Cross Country
- Duathlon
- Equestrian
- Football
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Kayaking
- Multisport
- Netball
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Rugby 7s
- Sailing
- Skiing / Snowboarding
- Sport Climbing
- Squash
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Touch Rugby
- Triathlon
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Underwater Hockey
- Volleyball
- Waka Ama
- Waterpolo



“ Throughout my time at TGC I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved in a range of sports - sport has provided an amazing way to get out of my comfort zone, meet new people and get involved.”

Niamh Manning | Deputy Head Prefect Sport



# "We build whanaungatanga and have fun!"

School Spirit unites us all.

It encourages us all to work together, be adventurous, be creative, proud of our identity, and to have fun!

Our House structure gives learners a sense of belonging. A strong focus is placed on our values: Manaakitanga (Respect), Mahi Tahi (Participation) and Mana Motuhake (Pride).

Our school boasts five houses named after wahine whose qualities we all aim to reflect: (Jean) Batten, (Katherine) Mansfield, (Kate) Sheppard, Te Auetu (Harata Hall nee Paraone) and Whina (Cooper).

Inter-House competitions, with an emphasis on school and house spirit, are held throughout the year. There are a variety of events aimed at building school spirit, positive relationships between our seniors and juniors and enjoyment. These may be service, sporting, cultural and art focused events.

We're proud of our whanaungatanga enhancing and fun House spirit.

**“School spirit is a big part of what I believe makes TGC what it is today, and I want to see everyone get involved even if it's not your crowd. Within this role, I am not only hoping to pursue your house to reach for that top spot, or get involved, I want you to branch out and do something you haven't done before.**

**Because through my experiences, this kura has shaped me into the person I am today. So come along and see what we have to offer and I'm confident you will find something you will love.”**

**Taimana Randall | Deputy Head Prefect School Spirit**



*"We live by our values."*



*Mahi Tahī (Participation)*  
Working together collaboratively, sharing ideas, participating and cooperating with others while showing leadership and unity.

*Mana Motuhake (Pride)*  
Celebrating one's unique tuakiritanga (identity), independence and control of one's future through autonomy, responsibility and resilience.

*Manaakitanga (Respect)*  
Taking care of people through kindness, support and hospitality while showing respect, inclusion and generosity.

*"Enrolling at TGC means you agree to support our values too."*

*"empowering learners to make a positive impact"*

930 Cameron Rd Tauranga New Zealand | P. 07 578 8114 | [www.tgc.school.nz](http://www.tgc.school.nz) | [enrolment@tgc.school.nz](mailto:enrolment@tgc.school.nz)