



RATHKEALE COLLEGE

Wairarapa, New Zealand

Rathkeale College Prospectus

International Students

Open **Minds**. Open **Spaces**. Open **Futures**.

October 2026

rathkeale.school.nz



Welcome to Rathkeale College

Open Minds. Open Spaces. Open Futures.

Rathkeale College is an Anglican, boarding and day secondary school, offering a government approved education for boys in Years 9 to 13. It is one of the three Trinity Schools in Masterton; the others being Hadlow Preparatory School and St Matthew's Collegiate School for Girls.

A unique feature is the Rathkeale/St Matthew's Senior College where the Year 12 and 13 boys are joined on the Rathkeale site by the girls from St Matthew's Collegiate, for all of their classes.

Rathkeale College has a long tradition of hosting International Students. The College prides itself on how it integrates these young men into the New Zealand way of life and its education system.

This is a small school which maintains its class sizes at an intimate and manageable level in order to ensure that individual students are well-known and cared for by the teachers, boarding housemasters and matrons.



International Students

International Student Support

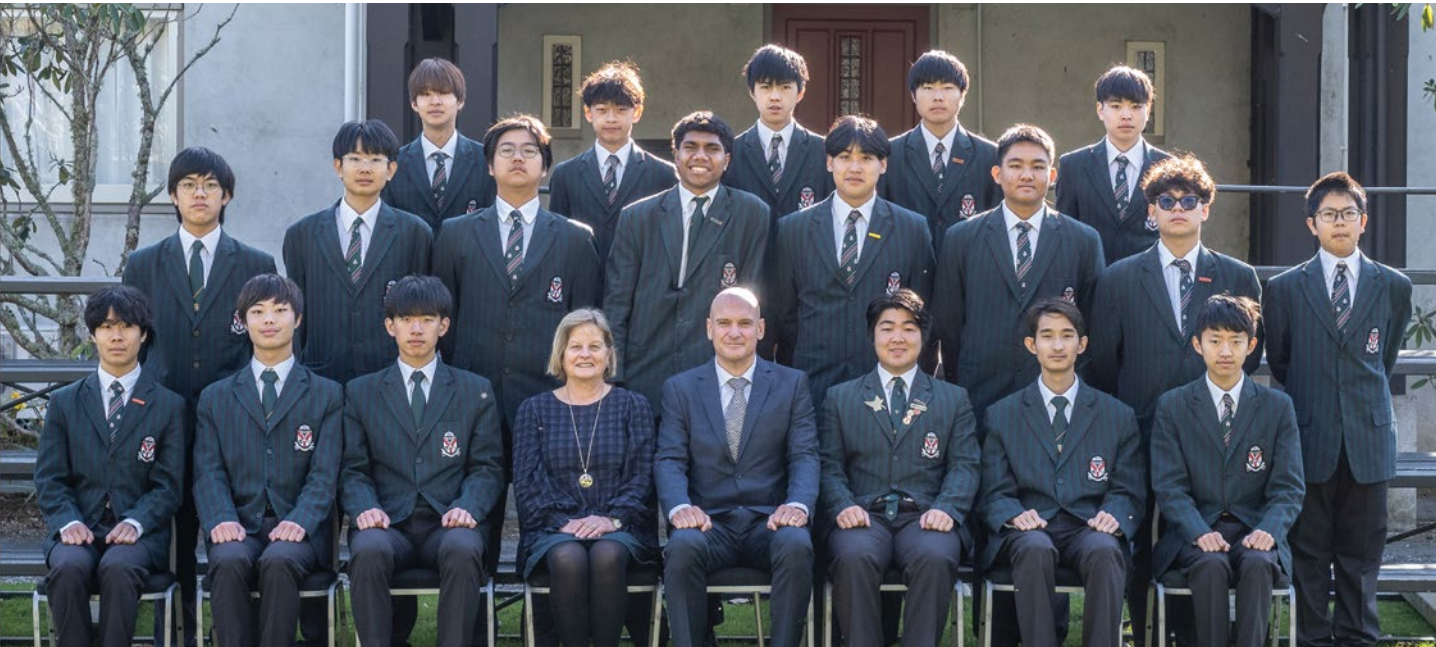
Overall care is provided by the Director of International Students who keeps in close contact with parents and assists with insurance, flights and other day to day issues.

There are normally around twenty International Students boarding at Rathkeale at any one time. Recently there are students from Vietnam, China, Germany, Japan, Thailand, Korea, Hong Kong and Malaysia. We hope to be able to further diversify our international student body in the near future.

Enrolment

Rathkeale College accepts long and short-term enrolments throughout the year, with short-term visits tailored to suit families.

There is no formal examination for entry but students are asked to provide copies of their previous two years' school reports.



Why New Zealand?

New Zealand provides International students with a clean, beautiful, safe and friendly place to live and study. Its NCEA courses provide a broad perspective on most subjects and is recognised by universities both in New Zealand and abroad.

To find out more about the New Zealand syllabus please visit the following web site:
www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/



Boarding at Rathkeale

The International students stay in one of the three Boarding Houses on campus. This gives them the opportunity to meet and mingle with the local boys and assists in increasing their proficiency in the English language.

Boarding provides a wonderful first step away from home and towards the independence and self-discipline required to succeed at University.

For many students, opting to become more proficient in the English language in an English speaking environment, while learning the social skills necessary to succeed away from home,

is the right choice to make at an early stage in their education. Rathkeale College provides this opportunity for its international students.

Boarding Houses

Regular sport competitions between the houses take place in the evenings and include a variety of sports.

Matrons love to cook for and with the boys. Often small groups will be invited to cook a small treat in the evening.



English Support

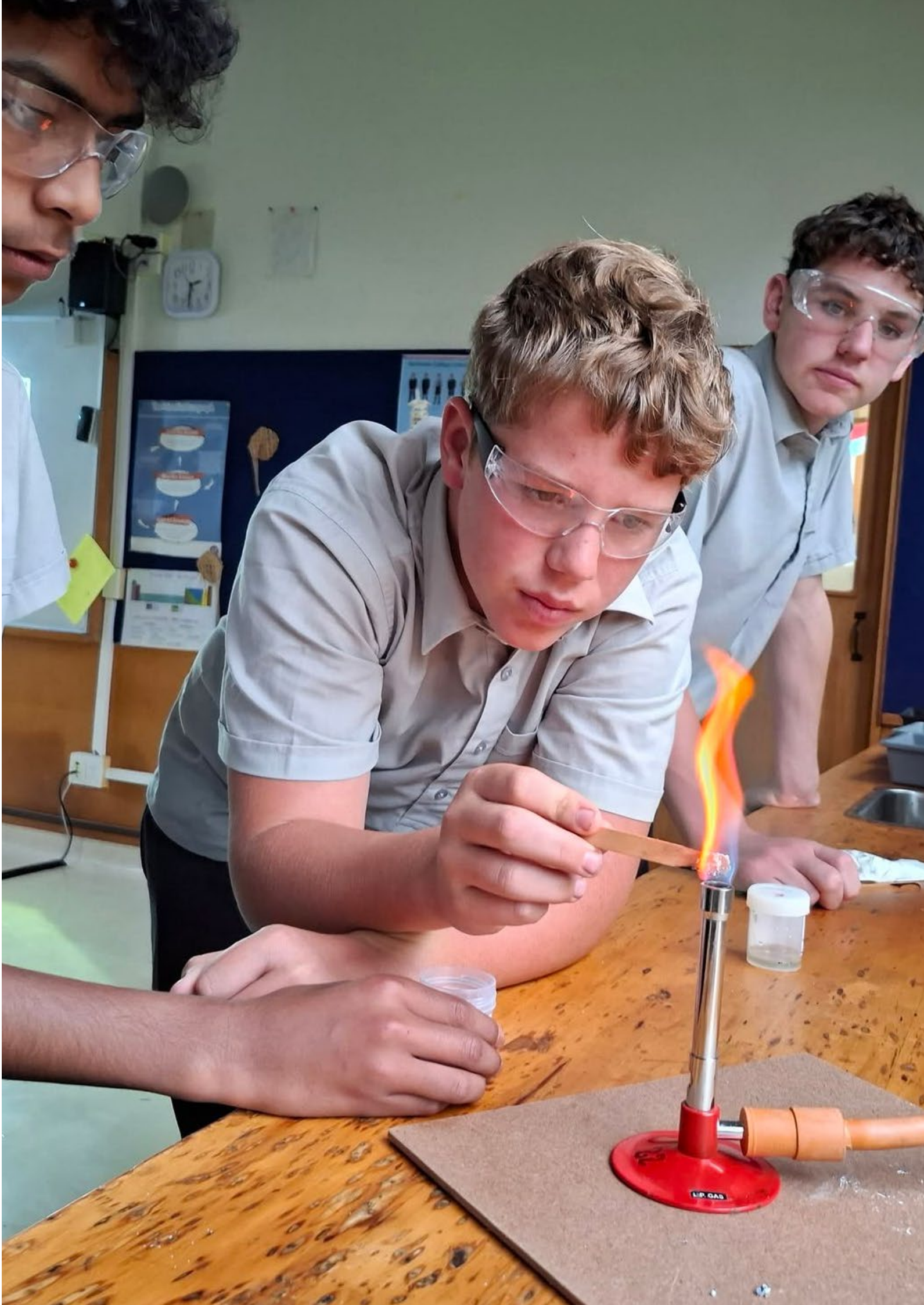
Many international students choose to take part in Rathkeale's ESOL programme, which delivers a curriculum specifically for international students.

The programme provides students with a broad exposure to the English language in spoken and written forms and in comprehension. It is designed to help students achieve the English qualifications required to attend university in New Zealand, Australia or elsewhere.

Academic Success

Rathkeale College is justifiably proud of its students' academic success. With a teacher to student ratio of 1:14 and a maximum class size of just 25, our students are assured of individual attention from the highly skilled and motivated staff. Rathkeale College provides a dedicated ESOL teacher with an average class size of 5 students.

	Rathkeale College	National Average
Year 11 Level 1	93.8	45.0
Literacy	100	88.3
Numeracy	100	86.8
Year 12 Level 2	94.5	71.4
Year 13 Level 3	92.6	67.1
Year 13 University Entrance	75.9	49.5



Facilities

Rathkeale College is set on over 66 hectares with a river boundary, native forest and its own farm. This unique setting provides our boys with an exceptional range of opportunities both on and off the field.

After school and at weekends, boarders have access to a wide range of school facilities, including the basketball gym, weights room, squash court, astro turf, floodlit tennis courts and swimming pool, as well as the music and art suites and instruments.

The grounds offer plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, with extensive playing fields and native bush to explore. The river provides opportunities for recreational swimming and trout fishing, a favourite after-school activity for many of the boys.

Our 750-seat auditorium provides a spectacular venue for assemblies, performances and productions, further enriching the experience beyond the classroom.



Sport

Sport is compulsory at Rathkeale. All students must participate in a summer sport and a winter sport.

In summer, students can choose from the available options. If a student selects a sport with limited spaces, they will need to select a second option in case they are not successful with their first choice.

In winter, all boys must participate in a main team sport. Students may participate in a second sport in addition to their main team sport if they wish.

Students can participate in sport outside school, but must still participate in school sport.

Tier One Sports

These are sports which traditionally have high participation, and which can give students the opportunity to participate at different levels. We provide coaching, have good facilities and provide a pathway for development.

Our Tier One sports are:

- Rugby
- Football
- Hockey
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Tennis

Tier Two Sports and Tier Three sports are available on demand.



Summer Sports

Ag Sports (Limited Numbers)

Wednesday afternoon (to allow boys to participate in other sports). A hands-on programme focused on: fencing skills, handpiece skills and water reticulation. Includes visits to farms and competitions. Exit routes to education and farm work.

Athletics

Train Tuesday and Thursday, learning and developing a range of athletic skills. Exit routes – to local clubs where boys can compete regularly if they wish.

Cricket (Tier One Sport)

Practice Tuesday and Thursday. Six teams in 2026, offering social and competitive cricket at a range of levels. Off-season specialist coaching available. The 1st XI Cricket toured Sri Lanka in 2026.

Golf (Limited Numbers)

Practice Tuesday and Thursday, all golfers must have their own clubs and join Lansdowne Golf Club. Basic coaching provided and some competitions. Exit routes – local club, coaching and competitions.



Gym (Limited Numbers)

Train at the school gym on Tuesday and Thursday (access available at other times). Students will learn to train safely and effectively. Exit routes to local gyms and competitions where available.

Mountain Biking (Limited Numbers)

Tuesday and Thursday, a mixture of riding, bike maintenance, trail making and upkeep. Trips to Rivenrock MTB park and other trails. Social riding and competitive opportunities. Exit routes to MTB clubs and wider competitive opportunities.

Outdoor Skills (Limited Numbers)

Tuesday and Thursday, a mix of outdoor skills to grow confidence, competency, and safety in wild New Zealand, supporting Duke of Edinburgh and leading to outdoor sporting and leisure activities. Students enrolled in DoE have preference (students can participate in DoE without taking this Outdoor Skills option).

Touch

Tuesday and Thursday training, working on basic rugby skills, fitness and touch specific skills. Entry into local and regional competitions where available.



Tennis (Tier One Sport)

Rathkeale Racquet Club – This programme is for students wanting to improve their tennis. Sessions include a range of drills and game play, to allow students the opportunity to play tennis in a structured environment while maintaining the freedom to play and learn through experience.

Competitive Group – Open to any player who is actively competing in interclub Tennis. Sessions will be focused on refining technique, developing better tactical awareness and learning key playing patterns. There will be a strength and conditioning component and players will be held to a high standard.

Volleyball

Tuesday practice plus competition days. We offer the opportunity for students to enjoy playing volleyball, sharing a fun experience with friends and playing in the local schools' competition.

3 on 3 Basketball

An opportunity for keen basketballers to work on their basketball skills and technical knowledge in the more compact format of 3x3. Some competition will be available, but the main focus is player development.



Winter Sport Information

Rugby (Tier One Sport)

Training Tuesday and Thursday, game days vary but usually Saturday Colts, Wednesday 2nd XV and Development XV, Saturday 1st XV. Playing opportunities across various levels, supported by an experienced coaching team led by Robbie Robinson. Colts play during Tournament Week, 1st XV toured South Africa in 2025.

Football (Tier One Sport)

Training Tuesday and Thursday, plus Wednesday for the wider 1st XI squad. Playing opportunities from 'In-House', social and competitive levels (6 teams in 2026). Experienced coaching team led by Paul Ifill, including specialist goalkeeping training by New Zealand Goal Keeping Coach, Alex Britton. 1st XI toured Australia in 2026.

Hockey (Tier One Sport)

Training and game times vary based on access to the Clareville turf facility. Coaching and playing opportunities from local social to regional and national level. Coaching team led Willie Schaefer (former New Zealand Age Group Coach).



Basketball (Tier One Sport)

Training is based on gym availability, but generally Tuesday and Thursday. Teams play in the local school's competition with the Senior A team playing during Tournament Week. Coaching team led by Phil Roach.

Badminton (Secondary Sport – must also play one of the main team sports) (Limited Numbers)

Training times 3 – 4 pm Monday and Wednesday. Teams play in the local schools' competition in Term 2 and selected tournaments. Exit routes to local clubs and other competitions.



Shooting (Secondary Sport – must also play one of the main team sports) (Limited Numbers)
Cost per session based on ammunition used.
Sessions at the Masterton Gun Club held on Tuesday evening. Individuals and teams can enter a number of competitions. Exit routes to clubs.



Activities

Sport and cultural activities play a major part in Rathkeale's curriculum.

Music

All students participate in singing and have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. More than 30% of students take extra lessons for music instruments.

Over 80 boys are in the boys run boys' choir and there are a variety of other bands and choirs they can be part of such as the concert or rock bands that offer the ability to perform in and out of school.



House Competition

Every boy is allocated a school competition house Halberg Hillary or Blake. Throughout the year they have regular competition for House points.

Term 1

- School Athletics (Compulsory)
- Swimming Sports (Compulsory)
- Interhouse Summer Sports
- Haka competition (Compulsory)

Term 2

- Cross Country (Compulsory)

Term 3

- Interhouse Winter Sports
- House Music competition (Compulsory)

Fun events include the spelling and paper plane competitions.



Weekend Activities

In addition to weekend sport activities which usually take the form of competition games, the full boarders also have the opportunity to participate in weekend activities. Recently these have included rafting, caving, camping, karts and paintball.

International students stay with host families for Exeat weekends when they are required to leave the Boarding House twice each term.

During the holidays they can go to English language schools with other International Students or even go on one of the Discover New Zealand trips that are organised by companies in New Zealand specifically for students from overseas.

Physical Education

PE is compulsory in Year 9 and 10 but becomes an option in Year 11 to 13.

Year 11 does a mountain bike unit and camp, in Year 12 they have a skiing camp and learn to instruct at high and low ropes courses in Year 13 they study Golf and train then compete in the Tough Mudda event.

Ngatahi

Is our cultural group which is open to all students to develop an understanding about our indigenous culture and do performances.



Camps

Year 9 and 10 camps at the end of the year include fishing, surfing, mountain biking, tramping and city visits.



Duke of Edinburgh

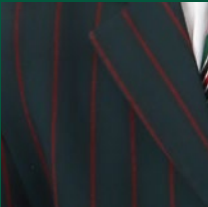
This award is open to students and there are a number of tramps that they can take part in throughout the year.



Rathkeale College Uniform

Formal

Key Details



Green and red striped blazer



Rathkeale College Crest



Green and red striped tie



Black Leather Shoes

Uniform Options



Blazer



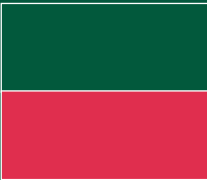
White Shirt



Trousers



Our Colours

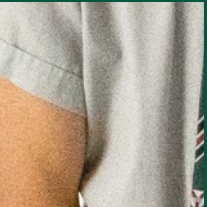


Summer

Key Details



Green and red striped tie



Grey short sleeve shirt

Rathkeale Pride

Rathkeale College students wear their uniform with pride. It is a reflection of our values, our community, and the school we call home.

Uniform Options



Grey Shirt



Shorts



Socks

Subject Information

Subjects Available

Rathkeale College			
Year 9	Core Subjects	- English/ESOL - Mathematics - Science - Social Sciences - Religious Education - Physical Education - Health.	
	Rotation Subjects	- Art - Drama - Design and Visual Communication - Digital Technology - French - Hard Materials Technology - Music - Te Reo Māori.	
Year 10	Core Subjects	- English/ESOL - Mathematics - Science - Social Sciences - Religious Education - Physical Education - Health.	
	Option Subjects	- Agriculture - Art - Design and Visual Communication - Drama - Digital Technology - Hard Materials Technology - French - Music - Te Reo Māori.	
Year 11 (NCEA Level 1)	Core Subjects	- English/ESOL - Mathematics - Science - Religious Education.	
	Option Subjects	Choose three: - Agriculture - Commerce - Design & Visual Communication - Digital Technology - Drama - French - Geography - Hard Materials Technology - History - Music - Physical Education - Visual Art - Te Reo Māori.	



All students are encouraged to choose a course appropriate to their ability so study at different levels is supported, particularly in the senior school.



Rathkeale & St Matthew's Senior College			
Year 12 (NCEA Level 2)	Core Subjects	English/ESOL.	
	Option Subjects	Choose five: - Agribusiness - Agriculture & Horticulture - Biology - Building Construction (BCAT) - Business Studies - Chemistry - Classical Studies - Design & Visual Communication - Digital Technology - Dance - Drama - Economics - Fashion - Food & Nutrition - French - Geography - Health - History - Mathematics with Calculus - Mathematics with Statistics - Music - Physical Education - Physics - Te Reo Māori - Tourism - Transition - Visual Art Design - Visual Art Painting - Visual Art Photography.	
Year 13 (NCEA Level 3 & Scholarship)	Option Subjects	Choose five: - Agribusiness - Agriculture & Horticulture - Biology - Building Construction (BCAT) - Business Studies - Chemistry - Classical Studies - Design & Visual Communication - Digital Technology - Drama - Economics - English OR ESOL - Fashion - Food & Nutrition - French - Geography - Health - History - Mathematics with Calculus - Mathematics with Statistics - Music - Physical Education - Physics - Tourism - Transition - Visual Art Design - Visual Art Painting - Visual Art Photography.	

Rathkeale Boys Compared To Boys' Schools Nationally

NCEA Level 1, 2, 3 and University Entrance

2025 NCEA	Rathkeale Boys	Boys' National Average
Year 11 Level 1	95.4	50.0
Literacy	100	63.9
Numeracy	96.9	60.9
Year 12 Level 2	93.8	78.8
Year 13 Level 3	87.1	75.9
Year 13 University Entrance	67.7	55.7

2024 NCEA	Rathkeale Boys	Boys' National Average
Year 11 Level 1	93.8	45.0
Literacy	100	62.4
Numeracy	98.5	55.9
Year 12 Level 2	94.5	71.4
Year 13 Level 3	92.6	67.1
Year 13 University Entrance	75.9	49.5

2023 NCEA	Rathkeale Boys	Boys' National Average
Year 11 Level 1	98.68	62.9
Literacy	100	79.9
Numeracy	98.6	77.8
Year 12 Level 2	95.0	73.7
Year 13 Level 3	92.6	69.6
Year 13 University Entrance	61.7	50.9

2022 NCEA	Rathkeale Boys	Boys' National Average
Year 11 Level 1	91.2	74.3
Literacy	97.1	79.6
Numeracy	97.1	79.3
Year 12 Level 2	100	82.2
Year 13 Level 3	90.9	74
Year 13 University Entrance	78.8	56

2021 NCEA	Rathkeale Boys	Boys' National Average
Year 11 Level 1	94.8	67.0
Literacy	100	81.9
Numeracy	100	89.3
Year 12 Level 2	91.5	83.3
Year 13 Level 3	96.6	74.4
Year 13 University Entrance	78.1	45.5

International Students

Schedule Of Fees 2027

	Years 9 & 10	Years 11 & 13
Tuition Fees		
Annual Tuition Fee	\$28,675	\$29,850
The tuition fee covers all course fees and the majority of textbooks which are on loan for the period of study.		
Accommodation Fees		
Boarding Fee (38 Weeks)	\$21,665	\$22,750
Homestay Accommodation as required		
Homestay accommodation will be organised for exeat weekends and school holiday periods. Homestay accommodation is charged to the student's disbursements account at NZ\$55 per night.		
Administration & Pastoral Care	\$2,270	\$2,360
Enrolment Deposit*	\$1,000	\$1,000
Refundable if all accounts have been paid at the end of the student's time with us. *for new enrolments ONLY		
Total Payable on Enrolment	NZ\$ 53,610	NZ\$ 55,960

Additional Costs Estimates

These costs will vary from student to student and may include:

- * Duvet & cover

* Stationery

* Doctors' visits

* School & sporting trips
- * School camps

* Music & vocal tuition

* Local travel
- * Visa applications

* Weekend trips

* Holiday fares

Homestay Accommodation	\$3,800
Homestay accommodation will be organised as required for exeat weekends and school holiday periods. Homestay accommodation is charged to the student's disbursement account at the rate of \$55 per night.	
Uniform Costs for New Students	\$1,700
This is the estimated cost of new uniform. The uniform may be sold back to the College when the student leaves. There may be an option to buy second-hand.	
External Examination Fees (Years 11 – 13)	\$385
External examination fees will be charged with annual fees on enrolment for students in Years 11 to 13.	
Insurance	\$725
The College can arrange medical insurance, as required under NZ law.	
Payment Terms - Fees	
Fee invoices are sent to parents in October for the following school year. It is recommended that fees are paid by the middle of November to allow time for the processing of visas and other documentation. Payment is required before an "Offer of a Place for International Student" form can be completed.	

Bank Account Details For Fees Only

Bank	ASB Masterton
Branch	Masterton, New Zealand
Account Name	Rathkeale College Board of Trustees
Account Number	12 3400 0006122 00
Swift code	ASBBNZ2A

Additional Charges

Additional charges are recovered from parents by means of a disbursement account. This account will itemise details of all charges and should be paid to the College by the 20th of the month following invoice.

There are various means by which payment may be made:

1. By Credit Card – you should contact the school office to provide card details
2. Electronic payment may be made directly to the College's bank account below, referencing the student's name.
3. Students can open a local bank account to enable the College accounts to be paid on a regular basis.
4. Parents can deposit a lump sum with the College at the beginning of the year, to cover disbursements during the year. This should be in the order of \$5,000 to \$8,000 depending on the student's year level.

Additional charges should be paid directly into the following bank account, referencing the student's name.

Bank	ASB Masterton
Branch	Masterton, New Zealand
Account Name	Trinity Schools Trust Board
Account Number	12 3400 0005875 08
Swift code	ASBBNZ2A

Please note that bank charges are your responsibility.



International Student Director

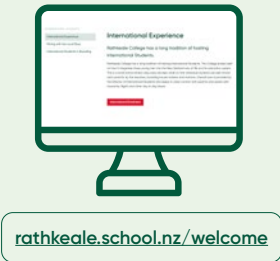
If you have any further queries regarding fees and other charges, please contact the International Student Director, Mr Glenn McIntosh.

international@rathkeale.school.nz

Your Application Journey

Four Simple steps to Rathkeale College

1



Apply Online

Complete the online application and provide:

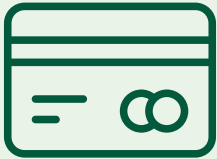
- ☒ Student and agency details
- ☒ Parent/guardian information
- ☒ Travel and accommodation requirements
- ☒ Medical, insurance and emergency contacts
- ☒ Course preferences
- ☒ Passport and supporting documents
- ☒ Digital Consent and declaration

☒ Submit your application



Have your passport and documents ready to upload.

2



Payment & Student Visa

- ☒ Once accepted , you will receive and **Offer of Place** and an **Invoice**.
- ☒ After payment is received, we issue a **Receipt of Payment**.
- ☒ Use your Offer of Place and receipt of Payment to apply for your **New Zealand Student Visa**.



Apply online through **Immigration New Zealand (INZ)**



Create a **RealMe** account to begin your visa application.



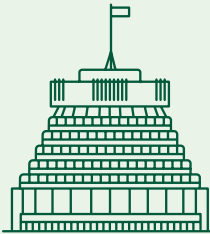
Watch our helpful video on the visa application process.

3



Flights

Book your flights to **Wellington**.



4



Arrival

- ☒ A Rathkeale College staff member, will meet you at Wellington Airport.
- ☒ If arriving into Auckland International Airport you can either take the free airport bus or take the 10 minute walk (following the green line on the pathway) to board your 45 minute flight to Wellington.
- ☒ In your first days at school you will take part in an orientation program where you will learn everything about school, living in Masterton, and meet all the wonderful people who will support your amazing learning adventure.



Homestay Accomodation

Although all our international students are full boarders, when there is a term holiday or an exeat weekend our homestay coordinator will place students in homestay accommodation based in Masterton or Wellington.

Open Minds.
Open Spaces.
Open Futures.

