



CAMBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2026

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Welcome from the Principal

Haaro ki runga ki te tihi tapu nui o
Maungatautari

Taaheke iho ki te au o te awa o
Waikato e piko nei ki Te Uru

Kahukura ki runga, Kahukura ki raro,
Kahukura tiketike

Tahuti mai ki te kura tuarua o
Te Oko Horoi.

Teenaa koutou, teenaa koutou, teenaa
koutou katoa.

This welcome in Te Reo Maaori speaks of standing atop Maungatautari and looking out to the Waikato River as it snakes to the sea. It proudly locates us in the Waikato and welcomes you to our community, Te Oko Horoi (Cambridge). Established in 1883, Cambridge High School (CHS) has a proud tradition of meeting the educational needs of our local community. Our growing roll of 1800 enables us to offer our diverse school population a wide range of academic, cultural, and sporting opportunities. The school successfully combines modern facilities, a progressive education programme and high expectations for student achievement.

Our aim at CHS is to provide students with opportunities to reach their potential through an inspiring holistic education. In addition to academic achievement and qualifications, we highly value the development of the individual in a safe and positive learning environment. Our school motto "Fortiter et Recte" reminds us to have the 'courage to do what is right' and this is captured in our REACH values:

Realise your Potential

Engage with Purpose

Act with Integrity

Care for People and Places

Have Courage to Succeed.

We are proud to be an integral part of the Cambridge community school and value the support we receive in providing an excellent, well-rounded education. Our positive results in so many areas of school life reflect the combined effort of the students, staff, parents, and the school Board. Students graduate Cambridge High School well-prepared for life beyond school with choices, confidence, and a sense of purpose. We look forward to welcoming you into our school community and opening a new world of opportunities as you begin your learning journey with us.

Ngaa mihi nui

Greg Thornton - Principal



About our school

Cambridge High School is a co-educational state secondary school and is proud to be a major part of the Cambridge Community.

Our 8.5 hectares of grounds are attractively planted with shrubs and trees, and we have extensive playing fields, a swimming pool, gymnasium, and canteen.

Visitors to the school comment on the positive learning culture and co-operative atmosphere we enjoy. Students are lively, involved, and friendly, enjoying good relationships with each other and staff. Our Houses, with their vertical form classes, provide a sense of belonging and connection within a large school. Our Peer Support and Tutoring programmes, House Prefects and Captains, and the Junior Executive, provide leadership opportunities that foster care for others.

Purpose

To develop our learning community to best prepare students for life beyond school.

Vision

We provide an inspiring, holistic learning experience so students leave school with choices, confidence and a sense of purpose.



Strategic Priorities

- Personalised and Academic Excellence
- Sport, Culture and Well-being
- Leadership and Development
- Partnerships



Student hauora, wellbeing and connections

Cambridge High School is proud of its sense of community, where our students are well known and supported, fostering a sense of belonging. We offer a wide range of rich learning opportunities creating a vibrant experience for them to explore their potential.

The pastoral care of students is extremely important to us and is a focus of all members of staff:

- Our pastoral care specialists, including an International Dean, are all actively involved in supporting the wellbeing and academic needs of their students.
- All students are allocated to Form Classes. Our Form Teachers know their students well, tracking their academic progress, development of skills, and co-curricular participation.
- Students may opt into Whaanau Form Classes. These classes have a special Kaupapa to promote and celebrate Tikanga Maaori.
- Subject teachers understand the link between student wellbeing, motivation and the science of learning.
- Our guidance counsellors provide confidential advice and support.
- Our careers team helps students determine their positive future pathways.
- Our Senior Leadership Team are always there to listen and guide students.
- Our Principal has an open door for students, their parents and caregivers.
- The friendly office staff are always ready to help our students, their families and whaanau.
- The school nurses are available on the school premises each day.
- The 24/7 Youth Work Team work closely with a range of students, supporting students and the running of school activities.
- Our Peer Support Leaders (trained Year 12/13 students) are actively involved in helping students adapt to high school life.



Providing an inspiring, holistic learning experience

Cambridge High School cultivates a progressive educational environment that empowers our students to thrive. We foster academic excellence and the essential skills needed to pursue their future aspirations with confidence. We nurture a culture of high achievement, where every student can establish and attain their own benchmarks of personal excellence, preparing them for future success.

We cater for and support a diverse range of learners by:

- Providing a rich and wide range of subjects that focus on the needs of our students.
- Offering multiple learning pathways to meet the needs of our community.
- Extending our most capable students through both enrichment and acceleration.
- Implementing a supported learning programme for students who require extra time and attention.
- Supporting students through targeted literacy and numeracy programmes.
- Assisting students to set meaningful goals for their learning and to monitor their own progress.
- Extensive learning support for students with additional learning needs.
- Supporting the development and evaluation of key competencies in all subjects.
- Focussing on skills development; communication, research, and subject specific skills.
- Developing research and presentation skills, as well as other technology applications through our blended e-learning approach as a BYOD school.
- Including opportunities for students to interact with employers, business people or community experts and see links between the curriculum and workplace settings.
- Offering an impressive range of opportunities to learn outside the classroom with trips and activities in many learning areas.
- Encouraging former students to visit and talk about their studies, career pathways and experiences since leaving Cambridge High School.

Curriculum

Cambridge High School offers a rich and varied range of subjects at all levels. Our broad curriculum provides each student access to a range of learning experiences.

The curriculum provides the best possible opportunities to prepare students for tertiary study and the workplace. We emphasise the development of key competencies as well as academic progress.

Year 9

All students study:

- English, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, and Health and Physical Education.
- A range of Technologies, Languages, and Arts.

Some students will participate in:

- The Extension Learning Programme.
- The Junior+ classes that undertake a long term passion project.
- Targeted Literacy and Numeracy classes.
- A specialist Home Room environment.

Year 10

All students study:

- English, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, and Health and Physical Education.

Some students will participate in:

- The Extension and Accelerated Programme.
- The Junior+ classes that undertake a long term passion project.

Students also choose options from:

- Health, Sport Science, Enterprise Studies, Media Studies, Agricultural and Horticultural Science.
- Art, Drama, Dance, Music, Art - Visual Design and Te Ao Haka.
- French, Japanese, Mandarin, and Te Reo Maaori.
- Technology contexts: Engineering, Digital, Electronics, Design and Visual Communication, Food, Wood, Fabrics, and Future Focused Technology.



Year 11, 12, 13

(NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3)

Subject choices include:

- **English:** English, and Media Studies.
- **Arts:** Art - Design, Dance, Drama, Music, Photography, Te Ao Haka, Art - Painting/Printmaking, and Music Audio Production and Songwriting.
- **Technology:** Automotive Engineering, Digital, Carpentry, Engineering, Textiles, Wood/Plastics, Food, Design and Visual Communication, and Catering and Hospitality.
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Science and Agricultural and Horticultural Science.
- **Social Sciences:** Classical Studies, Geography, History, Psychology, and Tourism and Law.
- **Mathematics:** Calculus, Mathematics, and Statistics.
- **Languages:** Te Reo Maaori, ESOL, French, and Japanese.
- **Commerce:** Commerce and Consumer Citizenship.
- **Health and Physical Education:** Outdoor Education, Physical Education, Sport Science, Fitness and Recreation, and Health.
- **Careers/Pathways:** Careers and Retail.



Developing our students through extension

We offer opportunities to challenge and stretch our students:

- Year 9 and 10 Extension and Accelerated Learning Programme – for students who need enrichment and /or acceleration in their areas of strength.
- Junior+ classes that complete a long-term passion project alongside their regular subjects.
- Senior Extension and Acceleration Programme – this provides opportunities for our top senior students to achieve NCEA Excellence endorsement and to gain Scholarship awards.
- Participation in University study for accelerated students.
- Participation in service-learning through involvement in community projects, service to our school, or to our local primary and middle schools.
- Opportunities to participate in a range of local and national academic competitions and examinations – Australasian Examinations, Waimaths, Junior and Senior Mathematics competitions, Kiwibots (robotics).
- Sportsmen and women who are performing at a national level are supported in their academic and sporting endeavours.

There are many opportunities for students to excel and be enriched:

Multiple leadership opportunities:

- Head Students.
- School Prefects.
- House Prefects (Student Executive).
- House Captains.
- Year 13 Committees.
- Maaori Leadership group – Te Hunga Taikaakaa.
- Junior Executive.
- Form Class Leaders.

Other Enrichment opportunities:

- Overseas trips related to academic subjects, cultural activities and sporting ventures.
- International student exchanges.
- Spirit of Adventure.
- Peer Support and Tutoring.
- Duke of Edinburgh.
- Year 9 and 10 camps.
- A wide and varied education outside the classroom programme across many subjects.



Students REACHING their potential through the co-curricular programme

Sporting opportunities

Cambridge High School offers a wide range of activities in Sports, the Arts and Cultural groups.

We have more than 30 different competitive and recreational teams providing extensive opportunities for our students' sporting needs and interests. The strength of our programme is built upon excellent community links and support, with skilled staff and friends of the school assisting students in all co-curricular sports. Our participation rates for sports are amongst the highest in the Waikato and from this strong base we achieve regional and national sporting success across several codes.

Our inter-house sports competitions (school athletics day, swimming sports and cross country) promote physical activity, encourage a sense of belonging and involvement, and provide the experience of being part of a team. Add this to our experienced and innovative Physical Education department, and you have a recipe for excellence, creativity and fun!

Opportunities in the Arts

Co-curricular Music at Cambridge High School includes opportunities such as the School Production, Ukulele Orchestra, Jazz Band, Concert Band, Vox (girls vocal ensemble), Guitar Ensemble, Brass Roots Ensemble, Rock Quest groups and more.

Our students have achieved enviable regional and national success in performance and songwriting.

Specialised music tuition by skilled teachers in a range of instruments is available during school hours, and our musicians regularly perform at lunchtime, for school occasions, and community groups.

Dance and drama activities include the School Production, Theatre Sports, Dance NZ Made, Dance Showcases, Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition, and our own "Cambridge High School's Got Talent". These opportunities also provide opportunities for set design and construction, back stage, sound, lighting and make-up.



Cultural opportunities

Our kapa haka group, 'Te Piringa Maaori o Taiuiwi' provides aakonga with opportunities to engage in Te Reo and Tikanga through a performance-based kaupapa. Aakonga will learn a range of Waikato anthems in line with the aspirations of our local hapuu and iwi.

Te Hunga Taikaakaa is a group of passionate leaders who support and manage various in-school and community Maaori initiatives. This leadership group has a strong presence in our school culture, building an understanding of Te Ao Maaori across all year levels. Some of the major events these leaders run are our: poowhiri, Whaanau Evenings, Year 9 Cultural Days, Kii-o-Rahi competitions, Matariki celebrations, Te Wiki oo Te Reo Māori workshops, Cambridge Schools' Kapa Haka Festival and the end of year prize giving celebrations - Te Poo Whakahirahira. For those interested in building self-confidence in their identity and/ or wish to pursue a future in kapa haka, we do offer an option subject - Te Ao Haka - in our curriculum.

Debating and public speaking opportunities are available to all students within the school, and through inter-school competitions.



Community and spirit

Visitors to Cambridge High School comment on the positive learning culture and co-operative atmosphere we enjoy. Students are lively, involved and friendly, enjoying good relationships with each other and staff. The Positive Culture for Learning (PC4L) programme ensures that students are acknowledged for doing the right thing.

There are many opportunities for contributing to the sense of community including student-led initiatives:

- Inter and Intra-house activities and competitions.
- Raising thousands of dollars for charity – through non-uniform days, charity drives for worthy causes, and the 'Forty Hour Famine/World Vision' challenges.
- Our Year 13 committees build awareness and provide service opportunities through organising blood donations, anti-bullying campaigns, and activities that contribute to the wider community.

These committees work towards meaningful focuses on art and culture, academics, connections and wellbeing, spirit, the environment, Matariki and library during dedicated weeks.

- Each house has a regional and national charity they support through raising funds and volunteering.





Our house structure

Connections and relationships

Our house structure to strengthens the learning experience by enhancing the sense of belonging and connectedness with the school and our community. Our intention is simple - to create a smaller school feel through a vibrant house system that enables stronger relationships to build across the school.

The six houses are based on stories that go back 26 generations in Cambridge and are found nowhere else in the world. We are incredibly grateful to the mana whenua of our area, Ngaati Korokii Kahu-kura and Ngaati Hauaa, for sharing this legacy with us. By inviting us to share in their past we are becoming a part of the ongoing story of the area, and can look forward to being part of the future of Cambridge.

Within each house, there are vertical form classes, with approximately six students from each year level. This provides a balance of students connecting both within their year level and with other year levels. This gives students support from across the school and encourages effective role modelling. Students we interview for leadership positions point to a significant student who they aspired to be when they were in Year 9. The Form Class has the same Form Teacher over their time at Cambridge High School so that they develop a significant and supportive relationship and navigate successfully through school.

This house structure also provides our students with many leadership opportunities. We have incredibly capable students who are passionate about their school. The house system provides an increased opportunity to take ownership of their school and to be positive role models for the next generation of students.

Our houses - our stories

The stories can be found in full on the school website. They are stories gifted to us by Mana Whenua (Ngaati Korokii Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa). They are unique to Cambridge, and found nowhere else in the world. These stories will always connect you to Cambridge, New Zealand, no matter where life takes you next.



Te Koopu Maania

is the name given to an area well known for garden cultivation, agricultural activity and food supply for the whole Hamilton (Kirikiriroa) region.



Te Koo Utu

is the name of the lake in the centre of Cambridge. Koo utu means to scoop water, as in washing one's face referencing the way King Taawhiao (the second Maaori king) would use the water for its cleansing properties.



Pukeroro

was the name of a chief who resided on this paa site. It was known in the region for its food cultivation and as a kura waananga (place of learning).



Horotiu

refers to a paa site occupied by tupuna (ancestors) in the Karaapiro gully through to Carters Flat from before the 1300s. The name Horotiu is one of the early names given the Waikato river.



Te Oko Horoi

means the "washbowl" and comes from King Taawhiao's proverb in which he describes Cambridge as his "washbowl of sorrow" during the time of land confiscations.



Parawhau

means defence and protection. The Parawhau paa, near Swayne Road, was the fortified paa site for the region and the last settlement of Ngaati Hauaa in Cambridge.



Bring your own device (BYOD)

Our Digital Learning Strategy encourages students to use their own laptops, ensuring that they can engage with educational content and resources at school and from home, making learning more flexible and accessible.

New and evolving technologies provide positive educational benefits for learning and teaching. The BYOD approach is well established at Cambridge High School in all classes.

Devices will be used in core subject lessons (English, Maths, Social Studies, Science and Health/PE) and most option subjects, where appropriate.

The devices will be used to access resources on their class Teams and OneNotes, complete tasks and respond to questions, craft essays, mind map, access the Internet to research topics, collate data in spreadsheets, create PowerPoint and other presentations, work co-operatively and collaboratively with other students, and get feedback from peers and teachers. Our approach is a blended approach where traditional methods of teaching and learning will be enhanced by the use of ICT/technology including the responsible application of Generative AI. These are NOT digital classes where all work is completed on a device.

Further information, recommended devices and our Cyber Safety Agreement can be found on www.camhigh.school.nz/byod/.

Office 365 is free to all Cambridge High School students. The full version will be downloaded on to student devices during the Year 9 orientation programme early in the year. All students new to other year levels will have an ICT orientation tutorial.

School uniform

Cambridge High School is a uniform school and students are required to wear their uniform neatly and completely.

The school will take action when appearance and dress are unsatisfactory. Please note the following.

- The wearing of incorrect uniform will result in disciplinary action including possible confiscation of the incorrect article, or the student being sent home to return with the correct uniform.
 - Hoodies are not to be worn at any time, this includes Cambridge High School sports hoodies.
 - In winter months, a thermal may be worn beneath a shirt however it must be the same colour as the shirt, plain with no branding on the sleeves.
 - Winter uniform is also the formal uniform (to be worn when required).
 - Sandals must be plain black or brown roman-style sandals (no socks with sandals). Sandals must have a strap over the front of the foot and around the ankle. Sandals are to be worn properly and kept tidy at all times. Sandals are not permitted in terms 2 and 3.
 - Shoes must be black leather-look lace-up school shoes only (not boots, canvas, sports shoes, slip-ons, suede or patent, no raised heel). Shoes are to be worn properly and kept tidy at all times.
 - Socks for boys are CHS socks only. Girls socks are plain white ankle socks. Black/navy pantihose are worn with the tartan skirt in Winter.
 - Boys are to be clean shaven.
 - Hair must be kept clean and tidy. Extreme hairstyles/colours are not permitted at school.
 - Limited jewellery is permitted, for example, sleepers or plain studs (up to three per ear), a watch, a bracelet, a small discreet ring, a culturally significant item such as a taonga worn around the neck. Other body piercings are not permitted. This includes nose, eyebrow or facial piercings.
 - Only neutral make-up and nail polish may be worn. Nails are to be kept short adhering to health and safety guidelines. Acrylic and gel nails are not permitted.
 - No facial hair is permitted. Where exceptions have been made for cultural reasons, this must be kept clean and tidy, adhering to health and safety guidelines.
 - Plain navy blue, black or white scarf.
 - A raincoat can be worn (over full school uniform) to and from school and between classes. It must be predominantly navy blue or black.
 - Any headbands/ties must be white, black or navy blue.
 - Only approved CHS branded hats may be worn:
 - Caps - available online as above.
 - Beanies - available online as above, may be worn as part of winter uniform.
 - Bucket Hats - available for purchase at our school office.
 - All shirts and blouses are designed to be worn out, not tucked in.
 - Clothing is to be named.
- To view further details of our uniform please visit the uniform section on our website www.camhigh.school.nz/uniform**

Ordering the school uniform

SAS are our official uniform suppliers through their outlet The Uniform Shoppe. For orders and enquiries, go to www.theuniformshoppe.co.nz/location/cambridge/cambridge-high-school/. This online outlet is supported by a shop in Cambridge. Alternatively you can visit the store in Cambridge, follow the QR code for more information.



The Uniform Shoppe is one of the country's oldest school uniform suppliers, with over 50 years of experience and knowledge in supplying bespoke solutions to more than 150 New Zealand schools.

Measuring your student to ensure the correct size is selected is critical as sizes vary from garment to garment, and uniform sizes often differ from retail clothing brand sizes.

[illegible]

Enrolment scheme

This is a Ministry of Education enforced enrolment scheme and is therefore subject to their policies.
To check the zoning status of your place of residence, visit www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-school.

Home Zone

All students who live within the home zone described below* (and shown on the attached map) shall be entitled to enrol at the school.

** The 'home zone' boundary commences at the Airport Road/Tauwhare Road/SH1 intersection. Travel east along Tauwhare Road to the Tahuroa Road/Tauwhare Road intersection (includes both sides of Tauwhare Road, but excludes all side roads entering from the northern side of the road).*

Turn right into Tahuroa Road and travel through to where it intersects with Nicholls Road. Turn right into Nicholls Road and follow it through to its end. From this location take a direct line to the end of Gray Road and then a direct line to the Te Miro Road/Waterworks Road intersection. From the Te Miro Road/Waterworks Road intersection take a direct line to the end of Mathieson Road and travel along Mathieson Road to the intersection with Buckland Road. From this intersection take a direct line to No 623 Taotaoroa Road and then a direct line to No 2415 Tirau Road (SH1) and on to a point opposite on the western side of the Waikato River.

Follow the Waikato River south to a point opposite the end of Westlea Road and travel along Westlea Road to the intersection with Oreipunga Road. From this intersection take direct lines to the ends of Roberts Road, Hicks Road, Luck At Last Road, Rahiri Road, Griggs Road, Kairangi Road, and Grice Road, then through to the Roto-o-rangi Road/Chamberlain Road intersection. Turn right into Roto-o-rangi

Road and follow it through to the intersection with Cox Road. Turn left into Cox Road and travel through to the intersection with Cambridge Road. From this intersection take a direct line to the Jary Road/Wallace Road intersection (excludes Jary Road and Wallace Road addresses west of this intersection). From the Jary Road/Wallace Road intersection take a direct line to the end of Kite Road.

Travel along Kite Road to the intersection with Lynd Road, then turn right into Lynd Road and travel through to the intersection with Kaipaki Road. Turn right into Kaipaki Road then travel through to the intersection with Tarr Road. Turn left into Tarr Road and travel to its end. From the end of Tarr Road take a direct line to the Mystery Creek Road/Airport Road intersection. Turn right into Airport Road and travel through to where the zone boundary commenced at the Airport Road/Tauwhare Road/ SH1 intersection (includes southern side of Airport Road only).

(Both sides of all roads are included unless otherwise stated).

Proof of residence within the home zone will be required.

NOTE: Not all areas within the zone are covered by the Cambridge High School rural bus service. In this situation, parents will be required to transport students to the nearest Cambridge High School bus stop.

Out of Zone Enrolments

Applications for enrolment will be processed in the following order of priority:

First Priority

must be given to any applicant who is the sibling of a current student of the school.

Second Priority

must be given to any student who is the sibling of a former student of the school.

Third Priority

must be given to any applicant who is a child of a former student of the school.

Fourth Priority

must be given to any applicant who is either a child of an employee of the board of the school, or a child of a member of the board of the school.

Fifth Priority

must be given to all other applicants.

If there are more applicants in the first, second, third, fourth or fifth priority groups than there are places available, selection within the priority group must be by ballot conducted in accordance with instructions issued by the Secretary under Section 11G(1) of the Education Act 1989. Parents will be informed of the date of any ballot by notice in a daily or community newspaper circulating in the area served by the school.



Realise Your Potential

Me moohio ki too pito mata

We:

- Are solution focused and seek appropriate pathways forward
- Strive towards our goals
- Positively extend ourselves

Engage With Purpose

Kia uu ki te kaupapa

We:

- Are punctual and prepared
- Reflect and appropriately act upon feedback
- Are actively present
- Give everything a go
- Are resilient and keep trying

Act With Integrity

Mahia ki te tika me te pono

We:

- Comply with school rules and routines
- Are honest in our intentions and actions
- Endeavour to do the right thing
- Are accountable for our actions
- Are proud of our personal presentation
 - Correct uniform and appearance
 - Language
- Are respectful of the occasion
- Give everything a go
- Are resilient and keep trying

Care For People & Places

Manaakitia ngaa taangata me ngaa waahi

We:

- Practice manaakitanga
- Practice kaitiakitanga towards our school property, community and environment

Have Courage To Succeed

E riwha ai me niwha

We:

- Fortiter et recte – go forward boldly and rightly



Tuu Maia kia Tika

Cambridge High School Expectations
At ALL Times





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