



RATHKEALE COLLEGE

Wairarapa

# Rathkeale College Prospectus

Open Minds  
Open Spaces  
Open Futures

[rathkeale.school.nz](http://rathkeale.school.nz)



**Rathkeale College is a responsive,  
inclusive and diverse school,  
championing sustainable practices,  
inspiring everyone to achieve  
their potential, anchored by their  
Christian values.**



## Welcome to Rathkeale Kia ora koutou

It is a privilege and an honour to be Principal at Rathkeale College. Rathkeale is a unique school, set in one of the most beautiful school campuses in which you could ever hope to learn.

Our students set high and challenging goals and are supported in every way to achieve them. Their achievements are a constant source of pride and motivation for our staff.

For a small school, we compete and achieve consistently well on the regional and national stage in academia, sport and the performing arts. This is largely due to the 100% commitment of all boys to all aspects of school life.

We would love you and your son to become a part of our special school.

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Martin O'Grady JP – Principal**  
B.Agr, PGDipEdAdminLead, Dip. Tchg

## WHY CHOOSE RATHKEALE?

- When your family enters into a partnership with Rathkeale, our joint endeavour will be to deliver the optimum educational environment for your son.
- Rathkeale College is an integrated day and boarding school for boys from Years 9 to 13.
- Our College is known for its exceptionally beautiful campus, quality relationships and for the high accomplishments in academic, cultural and sporting endeavours.
- The Senior College is unique where St Matthew's girls join the boys on the Rathkeale campus for Year 12 and 13 classes. These classes are complemented by a programme of exciting extra-curricular activities aimed at broadening learning and developing social skills for the challenges of adult life.
- Rathkeale College belongs to a family known as the Trinity Schools which are affiliated to the Anglican Church.

## OUR VALUES

- Rathkeale places considerable importance on the development of character in its young men.
- During their time at Rathkeale, boys are encouraged to develop their personal values and standards including self-discipline, self-reliance and a strong moral compass.
- A culture which permeates all aspects of school life encourages boys to have a go at everything, strive to succeed to the best of their ability and learn to win with humility and lose with dignity.
- The boarding experience provides professional support, wide-ranging friendships and abundant opportunities to achieve and have fun in an unparalleled environment.
- Rathkeale's values are underpinned by the Four Pillars, which link with Kaupapa Māori principles.

Be at ease  
with your  
inner self

Tikanga  
Authenticity  
Self-respect  
Mindfulness  
Resilience  
Forgiveness

Have an  
awareness  
of those  
around you

Manākitanga  
Empathy  
Compassion  
Kindness  
Respect  
Generosity

Be prepared  
to step  
forward

Rangatiratanga  
Courage  
Responsibility  
Adaptability  
Leadership  
Commitment

Know that you  
stand on the  
shoulders of  
those that have  
gone before

Kaitiakitanga  
Gratitude  
Humility  
Continuity  
Innovation  
Legacy

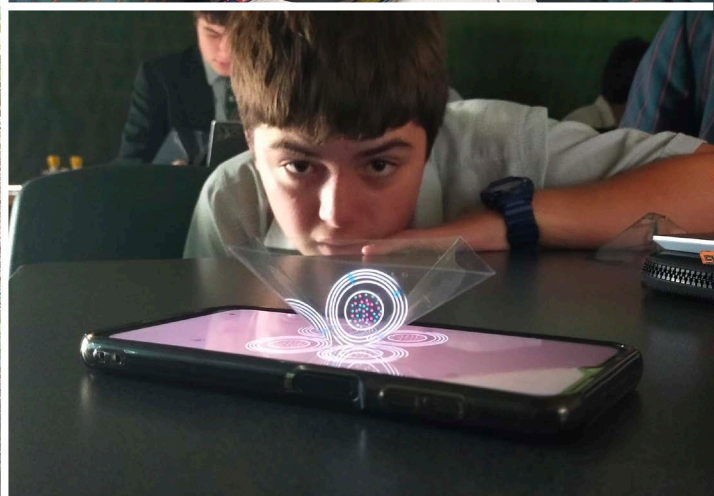


**There is a strong focus on academic excellence at Rathkeale College. All students are expected, assisted and encouraged to develop a passion for learning, to set personal goals and to monitor and evaluate their own progress.**

The school has a proud academic record and is seeking to extend this in a stimulating learning environment which features:

- a conscious effort to limit class sizes (maximum 25, average 15)
- enthusiastic and highly qualified specialist teachers
- accelerated and extension programmes to provide academic challenge
- individual attention paid to specific learning needs
- ongoing monitoring and regular reporting of students' progress and performance.

Our subjects include: English, ESOL, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, Religious Education, Agriculture and Horticulture, Commerce, Te Reo Māori, French, Geography, Hard Materials Technology, Design and Visual Communication, Digital Technology, Drama, History, Music, Visual Art, Physical Education.



**Creative minds at Rathkeale are stimulated by the wide variety of artistic activities that we actively foster and encourage.**

Some of the opportunities include:

- whole school singing
- availability of music tutors to allow the boys to develop instrumental skills or receive vocal tuition
- inspirational House Music and haka performances involving all boys competing within their competition houses
- high level performance in the Battle of the Bands, Big Sing and ensemble competitions orchestra and small group opportunities
- small instrumental group opportunities
- highly successful Senior College drama and productions.







## SPORT

**Physical well-being is an integral part of a Rathkeale student's holistic education. All boys are required to participate in summer and winter sport. Rathkeale teams compete enthusiastically, and with great school spirit, in local, regional and national competitions as well as traditional interschool fixtures.**

Sporting options include:

### Summer

Athletics, Cricket, Golf, Mountain Biking, Powerlifting, Sevens, Swimming, Tennis and Volleyball

### Winter

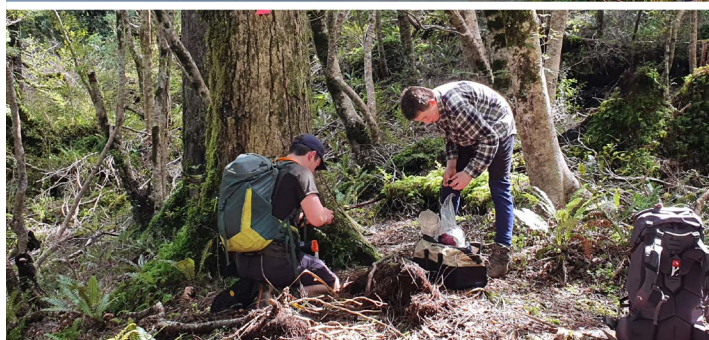
Badminton, Basketball, Cross country running, Football, Hockey, Mountain biking, Small bore rifle shooting, Rugby and Squash

A myriad of other sports reflecting student interest and staff expertise are catered for.

**Outdoor Pursuits has long been regarded as a feature of Rathkeale College. This is still the case with the provision of a variety of camps and activities throughout the year. More recently, the Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award and Tramping pursuits have added to the diversity of wider school life. This has allowed students to develop further independent and teamwork skills.**

Outdoor programmes include:

- New boarders' orientation activities
- Junior outdoor education camps and activities
- Maintaining the 5kms of paths through the native bush on Rathkeale's own eco-trail
- Working with DoC on their trapping programme in the Tararuas
- Year 12 and Year 13 field trips in Agriculture, Biology, Geography and PE, including the Tongariro Crossing
- A relationship being fostered with Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre, with their environment and ecology education centre only fifteen minutes' drive from Rathkeale College.





## The Rathkeale/St Matthew's Senior College, centred on the Rathkeale campus, offers special opportunities to Year 12 and 13 students from both schools.

The girls attending Senior College bring a fresh perspective into the classroom. The learning environment is purposely timed to foster social skills and self-directed learning. By Year 12, an enhanced level of maturity allows boys to be more responsive to the ethos the Senior College sets out to provide.

The presence of Senior College girls allows a unique calendar of combined extra-curricular activities to be offered, whilst maintaining respective individual school identities.





**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.**

There is a small but highly valued group of International students boarding at Rathkeale at any one time, who are drawn from a range of Pacific Rim countries. Presently, there are students from Thailand, Hong Kong, China, Korea, and Japan.

A specific curriculum for those with English as a Second Language is provided by a specialist teacher, and overall care is provided by the Director of International students.

International students have homestay opportunities with local families to experience the New Zealand lifestyle as well as participating in boarding activities and trips. In addition, special events are planned including tourist ventures, dinners and sporting challenges.







## BOARDING AT RATHKEALE

**Boarding at Rathkeale provides a unique opportunity for your son to extend himself in an environment that fosters independence and self-discipline.**

Year 9 boarders spend the first year together in Rugby House before dividing into the multi-level Cranleigh and Repton Houses.

Sharing living space with students of the same age but often very different backgrounds will challenge the boys' ability to be sensitive and tolerant towards their peers while learning to respect differences and take pride in their own uniqueness. It is in this environment that students can develop leadership skills, a sense of pride and responsibility as well as teamwork. The friendships and the fun had in boarding remain a key highlight for many Rathkeale Old Boys.

Boarding life includes:

- a programme of organised activities for boarders designed to utilise and maximise the magnificent and unique environments of Rathkeale and the Wairarapa Valley
- warm, secure, modern and upgraded boarding houses
- the presence of a Director of Boarding
- access to expansive sports grounds and recreational facilities
- nutritional and varied meals where special dietary needs are catered for
- natural recreation facilities including native bush and the river for trout fishing
- flexible boarding options to fit in with family needs.











## CURRICULUM OPPORTUNITIES

Core Subjects	Code	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
English	ENG	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mathematics	MAT	✓	✓	✓		
Physical Education	PED	✓	✓			
Religious Education	RE	✓	✓	✓		
Science	SCI	✓	✓	✓		
Social Science	SOC	✓	✓			

Rotation Subjects	Code	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Art	ART	✓				
Digital Technology	DGT	✓				
Drama	DRA	✓				
DVC	DVC	✓				
French	FRE	✓				
Foundation Skills	STS	✓	✓			
Hard Materials Technology	HMT	✓				
Music	MUS	✓				
Te Reo Māori	TER	✓				

Optional Subjects	Code	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Agribusiness	ABU				✓	✓
Agriculture	AGR		✓	✓	✓	✓
Art Design	ARD				✓	✓
Art	ART		✓	✓		
Art Painting	ART				✓	✓
Biology	BIO				✓	✓
Business Studies	BUS				✓	✓
Chemistry	CHE				✓	✓
Classics	CLA				✓	✓
Commerce	COM			✓		
Digital Technology	DGT		✓	✓	✓	✓
Drama	DRA		✓	✓	✓	✓
DVC	DVC		✓	✓	✓	✓
Economics	ECO				✓	✓
English	ENG					✓
English 2 (ESOL)	ENG2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Technology	FAS				✓	✓
Food and Nutrition	FOO				✓	✓
French	FRE		✓	✓	✓	✓
Geography	GEO			✓	✓	✓
Hard Materials Technology	HMT		✓	✓	✓	✓
Health	HEA				✓	✓
History	HIS			✓	✓	✓
Mathematics with Calculus	CAL				✓	✓
Mathematics with Statistics	MAS				✓	✓
Music	MUS		✓	✓	✓	✓
Photography	PHO				✓	✓
Physical Education	PED			✓	✓	✓
Physics	PHY				✓	✓
Te Reo Māori	TER	✓	✓			
Tourism	TOU				✓	✓
Transition	TRA				✓	✓





March 2024

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