



Working at Garin College - Kārete o Garin

Catholic School context

Garin College was established with a vision of helping the Catholic young people of the Te Taihū (top-of-the-south) become the adults they were created to be. Opened in 2002, the school also attracts many young people who are not Catholic who share in the holistic vision of a college where each student is enabled to reach their potential in a wide range of areas. We have a roll including our boarders and international students of approximately 650 pupils. Our boarders are housed in two modern homes, Mother Teresa House (Girls) and Francis Douglas House (Boys) which are found in close proximity to the school.

Garin is an Integrated Co-Educational College, with many new, exciting and innovative practices that promote outstanding student leadership and engagement including BYOD for all years. With supportive pastoral care initiatives and excellence in teaching, mentoring and coaching, Garin College enables students to achieve academically and in a wide range of arts, sporting, and leadership endeavours. Our extensive grounds and modern buildings create an enabling learning environment.

Our Vision

Garin College is a Catholic College where students reach their potential in a wide range of areas. Academic opportunity and achievement are central to our students' balanced development. Our graduates are young Christian women and men of faith, hope and integrity – people who have strong clear values, and a sense of their responsibility to make a difference. We make a particular effort to support marginalised students and those at risk of not succeeding. Garin College is taking responsibility for Te Tiriti o Waitangi through embedding Mātauranga Māori, Mana Ōriti, Tikanga Māori, kaupapa Māori, Te reo – Ngā Kawatau me ngā Tūmanakotanga o Te Taihū – The Aspirations and Expectations of Te Taihū

Our Motto

Faith and Wisdom - *Ko te whakapono, ko te mātauranga, ko te ātua*

Our Mission Statement

We are a Catholic community striving to grow as a centre of excellence for Catholic Education and faith development in New Zealand.

Vision – Our graduate students will be Christ-centred people of faith who action this through love and wisdom within their community

Our Values

Our culture is Catholic-and we stand for Gospel values. Therefore as a community we express our faith in God by living out the teachings of Christ brought to us through the Gospels.

We Stand for:

- Generosity
- Aroha
- Rangimarie
- Integrity
- New Life

Garin College is named after Father Garin who as a servant leader, established Catholic Schooling in the Nelson region. Our four houses are named after the inspirational Catholic religious persons, Suzanne Aubert, Catherine McAuley, Saint Mary MacKillop and Euphrasie Barbier.

Our Values and the NZ Curriculum

From the New Zealand Curriculum we adopt other qualities and competencies to foster. These are compatible with the Catholic Special Character of our school. Such qualities as, communication, creative problem solving, self-management, adaptability, constructive approach to challenge, self-discipline, integrity, social skills, trustworthiness, reliability, fairness, diligence, citizenship, respect for the law, and honesty.

The key “Catholic” things in an Educational sense

The special character of a Catholic school is defined in the Integration Agreement: The school is a Roman Catholic School in which the whole school community, through the general school programme and in its religious instructions and observances, exercises the right to live and teach the values of Jesus Christ. These values are as expressed in the Scriptures and in the practices, worship and doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church.

Staff who are Catholic, and those who are not, must support the Catholic ethos of the school. We actively seek staff with a range of beliefs, philosophies and life experiences. All staff will respect and foster the special character of the school.

- ☐ Because we know God created each one of us, we try to respect each person
- ☐ We educate the whole person God created: academic, physical, spiritual, emotional, moral and creative. We find ways to develop leadership, confidence, and community spirit. We want our children to have the very best chance of a happy life. We want them to have the qualifications they need, the healthy bodies they need, and the ability to form faithful, loving relationships.
- ☐ We exercise restorative justice practices in resolving conflict when managing discipline issues.
- ☐ We have a broad vision of pastoral care that involves building a partnership with parents in the development of their child into a positive and productive adult (disciplined, good at relationships, prepared for a career and life-long education, an ethical and moral citizen, someone with a sense of their responsibility to make a positive difference in their world).
- ☐ We work out ways to help each person discover what is right and wrong – and then to act on that. Our standard is the teaching and action of Jesus in the Bible.
- ☐ We expect each person to think for themselves and to take responsibility for themselves: for their actions, for their development, and for their own happiness.
- ☐ We foster the sensitivities, values, and sense of responsibility our students will need to lead worthwhile and fulfilling lives, and an attitude that refuses to accept second best.
- ☐ Catholic schools and universities have always believed in excellence in education, and that is our goal. Secular subjects are taught for their own value and with their own objectives. Catholics believe in the value of all human knowledge. So any teaching which helps our young people to be more aware of the world and to appreciate human endeavour and learning is a contribution to the total aim of the school.

- ❑ And we look for ways to help our students develop a relationship with their Creator – something they will need if they are to remain people of hope throughout their lives.

Toward developing our school culture

Garin is a well-run school, where enthusiastic staff who want to make a difference in the lives of young people gain satisfaction in a collaborative environment and where you will work hard, gaining appreciation and results for your work. We have an emphasis on “the basics”, hard work, striving for excellence, character development, social justice, as well as making faith and Gospel values meaningful in the life of each student.

A Catholic school is a community that is part of wider communities. A community is not a 9am-4pm thing – members remain part of the group around the clock. We see ourselves as part of a larger creation, and responsible for working towards leaving our community and our world a better place. We try to help students experience the support, responsibility, and sense of achievement that can come through working in teams. We help them develop the community-building skills and attitudes they and the world need, and the determination to build a better world.

We are aware that staff in schools work very hard and that is certainly the case at Garin. Developing a community means that all of us, from the Principal to the most recently-appointed staff member have to work together to make a school a vibrant living community. To share the load involved in creating that vibrant and living community, staff need to commit our broader curriculum and wider community-building activities.

Education for the 21st Century

At Garin, our Board funds professional development to ensure we develop school-wide best practice in teaching and learning, in leadership and the well-being of staff and students. Our goal is to work more efficiently, rather than work harder. We have a huge job to do, and a huge responsibility – and Garin needs excellent staff. We have a vision of an excellent 21st Century Catholic school, and we believe it is important to be explicit in what we are looking for, so that we attract teachers and other staff with the passion to share and develop that vision.

We want you to be happy in your career, and to have the personal satisfaction of knowing you are doing a good job and making a difference in the lives of children. Your view on these things will always be heard.

Thank you for reading this paper. If these values are what you believe education should be about, and if you would like to help us develop this vision, we would be very pleased to receive your application.

John Maguire
Principal