



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE



QUEEN  
CHARLOTTE  
COLLEGE

A Year 7 – 13 Co-educational College  
PICTON, NEW ZEALAND

[www.qcc.school.nz](http://www.qcc.school.nz)



# WELCOME

BY PRINCIPAL AND  
DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



## BETTY WHYTE

B.Sc., Dip Tchg  
Principal

Queen Charlotte College has many special attributes which make it an ideal environment in which to learn. Our College is well designed and is built in a rural location on the outskirts of the picturesque seaport town of Picton. We offer a variety of curriculum subjects and are especially privileged to operate our own marine farming arm of the school. As a College we celebrate the exciting times we live in as our school roll grows and opportunities for our students grow with that roll. Reputation is an important part of our philosophy and we encourage our students to take pride in themselves and Queen Charlotte College.

## OUR COLLEGE CREST DEPICTS

Captain James Cook's ship the Endeavour (Captain Cook chartered this area on his voyage to New Zealand in 1769), an open book which represents the importance of both reading and learning, the mere which represents the high respect we have for Maori and for their ancestors and, finally, the Southern Cross which symbolises the same original means of navigation utilised by both the Pakeha and the Maori cultures.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Maximum achievement through personal best represents the idea that we must make the most of every opportunity given to us and consistently strive to achieve our potential.

## What is the greatest thing?

– It is people, it is people, it is people.



## SIMON WILLIAMS

BA Hons.  
Deputy Principal  
Director of International Students

It is my pleasure to oversee a very successful International Student Programme. We welcome international students to our college and value the cultural diversity they bring to our students. Picton is a great tourist destination and it is valuable for our students to be able to freely interact with people from other cultures. We hope that as our guests you will also enjoy a different culture and enjoy our wonderful environment. As a student we hope you continue to pursue your academic programme at the school, and become involved with sporting or cultural activities of your interest.

We are able to offer a wide range of subjects and sports and have developing music and drama departments. Students are well supported with ESOL programmes if required, and are able to sit formal qualifications if needed.

We are very pleased with the calibre of students who have been to Queen Charlotte College and always humbled by the glowing praise we receive in their farewell speeches, also by the number of students who return to visit the school many years after returning home.

# QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE

A YEAR 7 TO 13 HIGH SCHOOL

Queen Charlotte College is located in Picton, a picturesque town of 4,000 people nestled at the gateway to the Marlborough Sounds and the South Island. Picton has a warm climate; breath-taking views and is accessible to a wide variety of enjoyable recreational activities. Picton is part of the Marlborough region, which is renowned for its internationally recognised vineyards and aquaculture industries.

Queen Charlotte College is a modern co-educational college of 400 students with a proud tradition of academic and sporting success. Students are encouraged to become fully involved in sporting, cultural and recreational programmes. High standards of conduct are expected, and emphasis is placed on working hard in a positive and supportive environment.

Queen Charlotte College prepares students to attend universities, other tertiary institutions and the work place. The college offers a wide selection of senior options. All major New Zealand examinations and certificate subjects are taught, and national and international English exam tuition is available. International students particularly enjoy our special

'Educational outside the Classroom' programme.

Queen Charlotte College hosts international students from Asia, Europe and the Americas. Our students have both organised tours and individual international exchanges.

Intensive courses in English are available and we can arrange these to suit the individual student.

The college arranges homestay accommodation with local families providing students with the advantage of a friendly, supportive family environment. Our homestay co-ordinator maintains ongoing liaison with parents and ensures the well being of international students. Queen Charlotte is very proud of its student support network. An International Student Co-ordinator also provides support for our International students.

Queen Charlotte offers an orientation programme to help new students settle in. International students can take part in our ESOL language programme taught by our experienced ESOL teacher. Extra tuition in English and other subjects can be arranged, fees to be negotiated.



# INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME

## STRENGTHS OF QCC INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMME

### WILL MY SON OR DAUGHTER BE SAFE IN PICTON AND AT QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE?

Yes. There are strict procedures and guidelines in place for students and their homestay families to adhere to. All Homestay providers receive an information booklet with detailed information regarding hosting international students.

### WHAT ARE THE ENTRY CRITERIA FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO ATTEND QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE?

Queen Charlotte College has an application process for international students. Enrolment Procedure:

#### Step 1: Complete the following enrolment forms

- Application for enrolment, including homestay and travel and medical insurance
- International Student Tuition Agreement

Return to Queen Charlotte College,  
P O Box 123,  
Picton, New Zealand  
or Fax: 0064-3-573 6558

#### Provide:

- A recent school report
- A letter in English introducing yourself, written by you without assistance
- Any other relevant certificates, national examination results, character references
- Photograph of yourself.
- Information about your home and family.

**Step 2:** If your application is successful you will receive by letter:-

- Invoice for fees with detail of payment procedures
- Provisional "Offer of Place" form

**Step 3:** Apply for your Student Visa from your nearest New Zealand Embassy or High Commission.

**Step 4:** When we have received your fees, you will be forwarded:-

- A receipt for fees
- A "Letter of Acceptance"
- An "Offer of Placement"
- A guarantee of accommodation

**Step 5:** Inform Queen Charlotte College of your arrival dates

### HOW MANY HOURS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION (ESOL) EACH WEEK?

100 minutes. More by negotiation.

### WILL ALL MEALS BE SUPPLIED IN HOME-STAY FAMILIES?

Yes.

### DO WE HAVE A BOARDING HOSTEL?

No. All accommodation is in safe, caring, carefully selected home-stay families who live close to the school and are part of the Queen Charlotte College community. Mr Ray Fitzgerald is the Home-stay Co-ordinator and takes great care with placements and students' welfare.

### IS QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE A GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE SCHOOL?

Queen Charlotte College is a government school. There are very few private secondary schools in New Zealand.

### HOW MANY STUDENTS IN CLASSES?

Classes tend to range from 20-25 pupils per class.

### WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE FOR MY SON OR DAUGHTER?

Queen Charlotte College is a small, friendly school environment, nestled in the picturesque port town of Picton at the top of the South Island. Queen Charlotte College's ESOL tutor has an excellent rapport with the students and we have supportive ongoing programmes for our International students, such as Inter-house competitions, school Formal (dance), and our highly successful Aquaculture Academy.

### IS QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE CLOSE TO A MAJOR CITY?

Queen Charlotte College is 25 minutes by air from Wellington, the capital city of New Zealand. The return flight is NZ\$140 per person.

### DO STUDENTS WEAR UNIFORM?

Yes, and for senior students the uniform is NZ\$400 approximately.

# SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

AT QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE

Year 7 & 8	Year 9 & 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
English Literacy	English	English	English	English Communication Skills
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics Mathematics Applied I *	Mathematics* Mathematics Applied II	Mathematics with Calculus* Mathematics with Statistics
Social Studies	Social Studies	History Geography	History Geography Tourism	History/Classics Geography Tourism
Science	Science	Science  Aquaculture	Biology Chemistry Physics Aquaculture	Biology* Chemistry* Physics* Aquaculture
Technology & Information Technology	Technology & Information Technology	Hospitality Computer Studies Design Technology Engineering	Hospitality Computer Studies Design Technology Engineering	Hospitality Computer Studies Design Technology
	Graphics	Graphics	Graphics	
Art	Art	Visual Art	Visual Art	Visual Art* Design Painting Photography
Physical Education  Health	Physical Education  Health	Physical Education  Health  Gateway	Physical Education  Health Employment Skills Gateway	Physical Education  Health  Gateway
Te Reo Maori Japanese	Te Reo Maori Japanese	Te Reo Maori	Te Reo Maori	Te Reo Maori

\* Prior learning required for this option.

# STUDY GUIDE

The subjects offered at Queen Charlotte College enables every student to participate in the seven Essential Learning Areas of the New Zealand Curriculum Framework in order to gain the knowledge and understanding needed for a broad and balanced education. They provide the context within which skills, attitudes and values are developed. The Essential Learning Areas are Language and Languages, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Social Sciences, The Arts and Health and Physical Education.

National Certificates and examinations are available at Years 11, 12 and 13. We prepare our students for qualifications at all levels and we are proud of their achievements.

Where it is appropriate senior students are encouraged to follow multi-level courses of study. Acceleration of the very able is identified and in all subjects extension is encouraged.

Subject combinations are arranged to suit the majority of students. Courses will run provided there are sufficient students to form a class and that the requested combination of classes can be time-tabled. If the class size is uneconomic it may be possible for students to be enrolled with the Correspondence School.

On occasions subject choice can also be expanded by joint enrolment with the Correspondence School. In the past Accounting and Languages have been studied in this way.

As far as possible we operate a homeroom for Year 7 and 8 where one teacher teaches more than one subject. This is an attempt to ease the transition into secondary school so students feel comfortable and gradually adjust to the more diverse secondary timetable.

As we are constantly undergoing self review, and the New Zealand Curriculum Framework is progressively being introduced, the curriculum is subject to change.

Business Studies enables students to participate in a wide range of study areas for personal interest and career enhancement.

Outdoor Education opportunities are available to all students. These activities include a school camp at Years 8, 9 and 10 level, mountain biking, diving and so on.

Adult learners are encouraged and we can accommodate most interests. Some adults take one or two subjects for interest or to prepare them for higher certification in their jobs, while others may be enrolled full time or part time to study for NCEA and NQF Qualifications

QCC offers structured workplace learning in association with the Tertiary Education Commission through the Gateway Programme. This learning eases the passage of students from school to employment.



*At Queen Charlotte College I enjoy the choice of subjects that are available to me. There is no pressure to overload your academic programme with too many subjects. The teachers are approachable and willing to listen to students.*

*Life at Queen Charlotte College offers not only academic programmes, but it also allows you to venture into different areas such as the arts, sport and leadership in the Senior School.*

*Harveen Hardev Singh*

# STAFF PROFILES



## DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

### SIMON WILLIAMS

As Director of International Students and Deputy Principal, Simon has the overview of the International Students programme, and works with Ray to ensure International students are well catered for while attending our College and helps to organise timetables for the students. Simon has responsibility of reporting to the Board on International Students and is also the Curriculum Leader for the College. Simon is available to support students as a back-up for Ray Fitzgerald.



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CO-ORDINATOR

### RAY FITZGERALD

Ray has been involved with International students for 17 years. Ray has travelled extensively and has hosted a number of international students. He is very involved with the local community, and has a good knowledge of homestay, people, and supports.

Ray has the direct hands on supervision of the students, arranging visits, co-ordinating home stays and working with various agencies. Ray oversees the student's orientation and is the first point of contact for students, parents or agencies. Ray is primarily responsible for the care and welfare of the international students, ensuring they are attending and achieving their potential in classes. Ray has a very good relationship with students and they respond very well to the direction and support he offers.



## ESOL TUTOR

### ANN WOOD

Ann has worked with international students as ESOL teacher and in a pastoral role for over 10 years. She establishes a great rapport with her students and focuses on developing individual programmes to best suit the needs of the students. At Queen Charlotte College the emphasis is on giving the students extra support to help them succeed in all their subjects, often in a 1:1 situation.

In the past, Ann was a Careers Advisor and so is able to help students make decisions about subject choices, and university entrance requirements in New Zealand and internationally.



## EXECUTIVE OFFICER – KAY RIWAKA

Kay has been the Executive Officer at Queen Charlotte College for 11 years and is responsible for the school finances. Prior to working at Queen Charlotte College, Kay worked as a teacher, a welfare officer and also in banking. Kay is very approachable and has lived and worked in many non English speaking countries and is very aware of the many issues that come with living in a foreign country.

## POINT OF CONTACT – SANDI LOCK

Sandi works in the Main Office at Queen Charlotte College. Her email is

[slock@acc.school.nz](mailto:slock@acc.school.nz)

# STUDENT PROFILES



**DOMINIC LIM – EXCHANGE STUDENT**

Dominic is from Singapore and has been at QCC for two years and will complete his secondary education as a Year 13 at the end of this year. Dominic has involved himself in school sport and has represented the school in Golf and this year is the Student Rep on the Board of Trustees.



**MIRANO TANAKA – EXCHANGE STUDENT**

Mirano is from Japan. Mirano has attended QCC since 2013 and this year she is in Year 13 and will sit NCEA Level 3.



## EXTRACTS FROM THE OVERSEAS' STUDENTS FAREWELL SPEECHES



**FINN KÜHNE - GERMANY**

"I will never forget my time here. I will never forget the experiences which I got here; never forget that, what I've learned here, what I've seen here.

I'll never forget my friends. Great moments, days, weeks and months which I had with them.

I will never forget this school. The first school where I had fun during the lessons. The first school where I was motivated and where I looked forward for the next lesson.

For goodness sake, it was the first school where I liked my teachers! And where the question, "how are you?" wasn't just a simple and formal question. I was and am really interested about how they feel! And I want to thank you for that.

I want to thank you all.

I want to thank the teachers, for helping me always during my time here; for helping me integrate in this school; for helping me learn new things, to show me new things. I never thought I would miss my teachers. I never thought that this was even possible!

I also want to thank the school. Mrs Whyte, Mrs Morton and Mr Fitzgerald, who made this all possible. And my host parents, who are like a second family to me now. My real parents, as well of course, for making this possible. Thank you for accepting me as an exchange student, as a new student.

And last but not least, I want to thank you: the students. For accepting me as one of you. You made me laugh and helped me learn the language during this time. Specifically my friends, of course, gosh, I'm going to miss you so much...

But...I can promise you one thing: I'll be back.

I will be back, one day, to this beautiful country that I fell in love with."

#### JOSEFA



"One year is a perfect length for an exchange. You have a lot of time to learn about a new culture and meet a lot of people, but after a year it is time to go back to Germany. I really miss my family and friends over there...but on the other hand I'm going to miss the people I met over here!

There are a few people I need to say thank you to. A big thank you to the Collins family, who became my family. They always supported me. The relationship between us was a beautiful relationship. We cared about each other and we could trust each other like a parent-daughter relationship. I never changed my host family and there is an obvious reason for that.

Thank you to my friends (Emma, Sam, Evan, Maxwell, Regan, Maddi, Tyst!) We are all very different but we became good friends and I had some great times with you guys! Thank you to QCC for always being welcoming and nice to me. People who didn't even know me came up to me and

said, "hi". It was really cool.

An exchange is a year full of experiences and there are a lot of memories I will take back with me. Going to a different country might sound scary but it was one of the best decisions I have made. It made me more confident, outgoing and less shy.

My host parent once told me that he never says goodbye to people; he says, "See you soon". If you have a good relationship you will stay in touch and hopefully you will meet up again...so...See you soon, guys."

#### EMILE



"My name is Emile and my time is up! I've spent almost a year with you guys at QCC and I want to say thank you all for such a great time!

I remember my first day at Queen Charlotte. The teachers showed Josi and me around the school and the kapa haka group performed for us...then it was our turn! Mr Collins told us it was good manners for us to sing a German song...we completely failed!

I explored all the opportunities QCC had to offer me. I went to the woodwork workshop nearly every lunchtime to create and build some cool stuff! I want to thank Mr McCaffrey and Mrs Chilton for supporting all my ideas and projects. One of the main reasons why I chose Queen Charlotte was the opportunity to take Aquaculture. I want to thank Mrs Morton and Mr Stewart for teaching me. I also want to thank Ms Silcock and Ms Weaver for teaching me Hospitality...I enjoyed baking the banana cakes!

Everyone knows the program Photoshop, yes? But do you know how to use it properly? In Digital Art Design you can! I really enjoyed this class thanks to Ms Somers, who helped me and motivated me. I also want to thank Mrs Vining for having me in her class...if you're interested in ancient civilisations and cool god-stories, you should definitely check her class out!

A really special thanks to the Dixon family, for taking me in for two weeks and letting me stay in their lovely house. Mr and Mrs Dixon did a great job as

host parents and they made the first weeks of my stay really easy and enjoyable."

**HELENA**

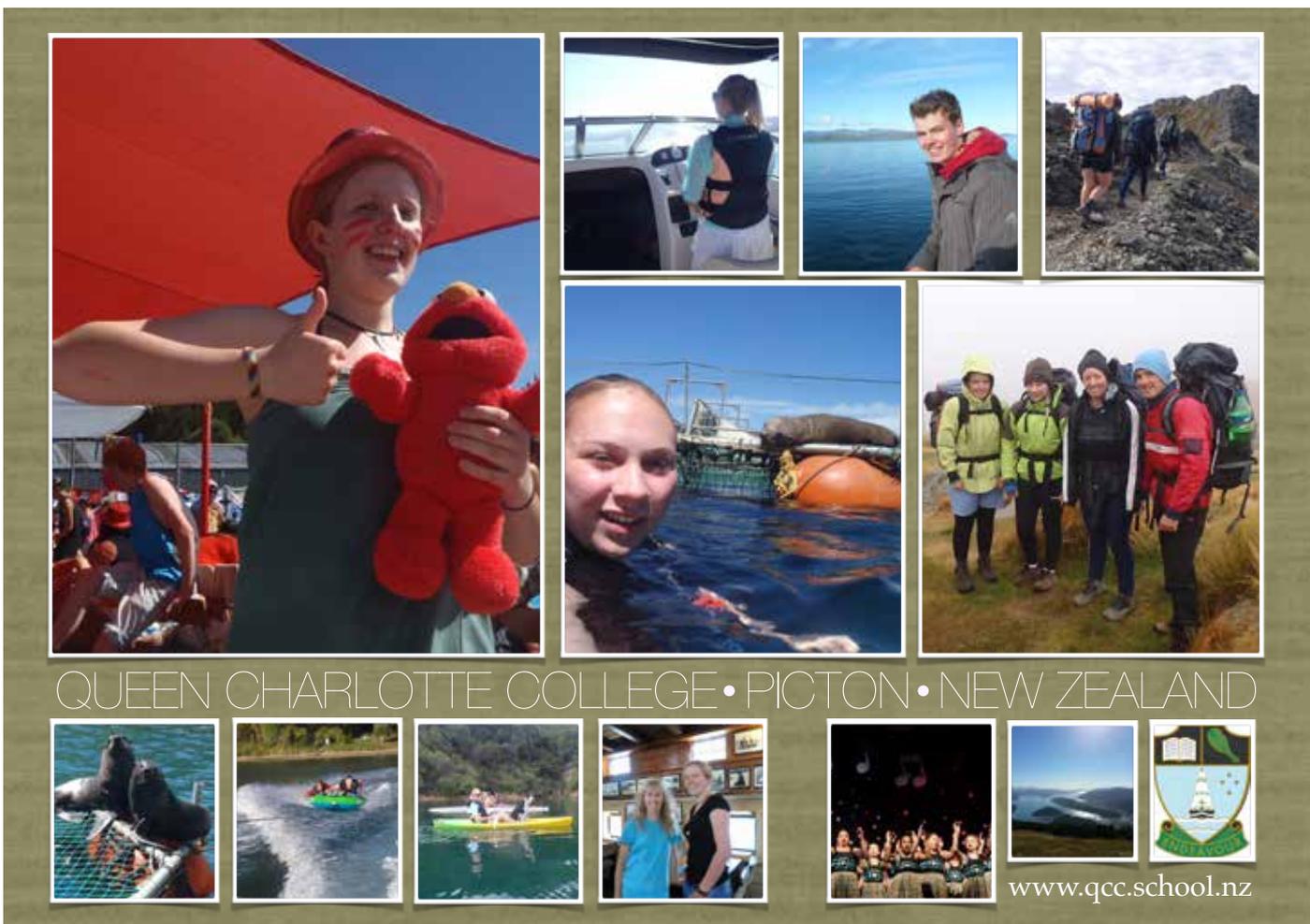


"Today is my last day and that's the reason why I'm standing in front of you! I would like to say thank you to all the great teachers I had. Thank you for all the amazing moments on our field trips and great camps! Thank you, especially, to Mrs Morton who organised my open water and advanced dives!

Also, I want to say thank you to the best host family in the world! Right from the start I was part of an amazing family. I had an awesome time with them. I have many special moments that I will remember for the rest of my life but, if I was to pick my highlight from this adventure it would be the year 12 Biology Camp...and being the table tennis champion, after beating Ashish many times!...walking up to the top of the mountain and getting to look down at the view was just amazing and made me realise that New Zealand truly is the most beautiful country.

The last big thank you for today goes to my friends. I had a great time with you guys, but I don't want to name them all because it would take too long to do! You know who you are: those people who made my time here very special because you are a friend now and in the future.

I will miss you all very much!"



# LONG TERM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE ENROLLED FROM JAPAN

## PAST STUDENTS

**Natsumi** was here for 4 years and gained University Entrance. He was on our School Council and was House Captain and Student Representative on the Board of Trustees. Natsumi completed a degree in Environmental Engineering at Otago University.

## 2005-2010

**Asako** was at QCC for 5 years. She won a NZ wide competition for Art Design in Year 13 and completed NCEA Level 3. She returned to Japan to attend University in Tokyo.

**Shotaro** attended QCC for 3 years and achieved NCEA Level 3 and University Entrance. He went on to study Environmental Engineering at Otago University and completed his Post Graduate as well.

## 2013-2014

**Sho** was here for 2 years in which time he completed NCEA Level 3 with Merit and University Entrance. He received a scholarship to attend Canterbury University where he is currently.

## 2013-2015

**Akane** has completed 2 years thus far and has achieved NCEA Level 2 endorsed with Excellence. In 2015, she is in Year 13 and is studying for NCEA Level 3.

## CURRENT STUDENTS

**Mirano** has completed 2 years thus far and has achieved NCEA Level with Merit. In 2015, she is studying for NCEA Level 2.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

In addition to a full academic programme, students are encouraged to participate in a comprehensive range of cultural, sporting and outdoor education activities. Some of these activities incur an additional cost. These costs are available from your agent and depend upon the interests of the student.

### DRAMA

Every second year, Queen Charlotte College holds auditions for a major production.

On the alternate years, Queen Charlotte College produces the very successful Wearable Arts Show, where students enter in categories and showcase to live audiences in a matinee and evening performance.

Students are encouraged to develop their skills and to gain confidence through self-directed learning.

### SPORT

Sports include: Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Mountain Biking, Netball, Rowing, Rugby, Sailing, Soccer, Tennis, Touch Rugby and Volleyball.

### OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Queen Charlotte College is committed to an extensive outdoor education programme with Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 camps taking place. Senior school students do modules in such activities as kayaking and mountain-biking.

### MUSIC

The choir welcomes participation from students of all year groups within the College and provides innovative and fresh opportunities for choral expression with an emphasis on fun and enjoyment of music. Several local choral competitions and festivals provide opportunities for the choir to perform away from the College.

The College has a part-time music teacher for individual guitar tuition.



# STUDENT SUPPORT

## CODE OF PRACTICE, MEDICAL, TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION

### CODE OF PRACTICE

Queen Charlotte College has agreed to observe and be bound by the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students published by the Minister of Education. Copies of the Code are available on request from this institution or from the New Zealand Ministry of Education website at: <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/goto/international>

### MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is compulsory for International Students to have comprehensive medical and travel insurance while studying in New Zealand. You should also obtain insurance to cover your travel to and from New Zealand.

Most students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. If you receive medical treatment during your visit, you may be liable for the full costs of that treatment.

Full details on entitlements to publicly-funded health services can be viewed on the Ministry of Health website at: [www.acc.co.nz](http://www.acc.co.nz)

### IMMIGRATION

Full details of visa and permit requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying and reporting requirements are available through the New Zealand Immigration Service, and can be viewed on their website at: <http://www.immigration.govt.nz>



# QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE

PICTON, NEW ZEALAND

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Family name) (Personal names)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Day/Month/Year)

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old      Male       Female

## CONTACTS

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the emergency contact person? \_\_\_\_\_

Please email or fax to:      Ray Fitzgerald, Co-ordinator of International Students

Email: [rfitzgerald@qcc.school.nz](mailto:rfitzgerald@qcc.school.nz)

Fax: +64 3 5736559

Phone: +64 3 5736558



## HOMESTAY APPLICATION

### CONTACTS

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1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Family name) (Personal names)
2. Male  Female
3. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Day/Month/Year)

### ACCOMMODATION

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4. Please introduce yourself to your homestay family that is, what would you like your future host family to know about you?

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5. Children: Do you like children? Yes/No
6. Animals: Do you like animals? Yes/No
7. Do you prefer to live with a smoking family? Yes/No
8. Have you ever lived away from your parent's home? Yes/No

### FOOD

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9. What kind of food do you like? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What kind do you dislike?. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Are you allergic to any food? Yes/No  
If yes, what kind? \_\_\_\_\_

### SPORT

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12. What kind of sports do you like? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Is there any special request you would like to make of your home-stay (please state):
- 
- 
-