

# Darfield High School Charter

## Our Motto

A guiding philosophy

Disce ut intellegas : Wisdom through learning : Akona to matauranga kia mōhio



## Our Mission

What we aim to achieve

To work with our community to develop citizens who have the knowledge, wisdom and skills needed to contribute and participate successfully throughout their lives.

## Our Expectations

How we do things to achieve our mission

### Respect for each other

- Work together to make your classroom, school and community better places to live and work in
- Build positive relationships
- Celebrate diversity
- Celebrate success
- Be safe and considerate
- Help others to learn

### Respect for our environment

- Reduce, reuse, recycle resources
- Take care of our buildings and grounds

### Respect for ourselves

- Strive for academic excellence
- Make good use of academic, cultural and sporting opportunities
- Participate and contribute
- Be prompt to class and prepared to work hard
- Work hard to achieve to the best of your ability
- Ask for help when you need it
- Be proud of who you are and where you have come from

## Key Factors For Success

What must happen for us to achieve our mission

- Engaged students
- Effective staff
- Effective governance
- Quality Infrastructure
- Involved Community



## Our Community

Darfield High School provides learning pathways for Year 7 to 13 students. The school offers a wide range of academic and vocational programmes, sporting and recreational options, social and cultural activities. The strong international programme provides students with a broader view of their connection with the world. Darfield High School is able to make use of the resources of the local community, as well as those of Christchurch City, to meet the needs of its students. Our 850 students are supported in their education by high quality staff, a comprehensive pastoral network, and excellent facilities. 80% of students travel to school by bus.

Our supportive community looks for a balance between traditional values and contemporary developments. Local people value their community and participate and volunteer in a variety of sporting and cultural activities. The community identifies strongly with its rural agricultural foundation. Other local businesses include manufacturing, service and recreational sectors.

### Maori Students

We acknowledge that Maori, as Tangata Whenua, hold a special place in our society and that the success of young Maori is vital to the success of our country.

We are committed to:

- Communicating freely and openly with our Maori parents/whanau in the interests of seeing our Maori students succeed at school. We seek to hold regular hui with the whanau, to be welcoming at all times to approaches from our Maori parents, and to be good listeners.
- Working with local Taumutu rununga
- Ensuring that all students develop an understanding and awareness of Te Reo and Tikanga Maori as part of growing as a New Zealander.
- Offering Te Reo Maori as a language at all levels within the school and encouraging all students to consider taking the subject. All students in Years 7 and 8 have a programme of Te Reo which includes language and cultural aspects. Te Reo is an optional subject at Years 9 to 13. All reasonable steps will be taken to provide instruction in Tikanga and Te Reo for students who request it.
- Ongoing professional development for staff in Tikanga and Te Reo Maori, as well as open discussion and sharing of what works best for our Maori students. Including Tikanga Maori where appropriate in all curriculum areas.
- Ongoing review of Maori student achievement and the implementation of strategies, in consultation with whanau, to reduce barriers and improve outcomes.

