Chelsea Primary School

International Student Prospectus 2026

Chelsea Primary School

Nau mai, haere mai,

Chelsea Primary School, located in the peaceful suburb of Birkenhead on Auckland's North Shore, offers a welcoming and supportive environment for learners from around the world. The school is known for its strong sense of community, excellent teaching staff, and modern learning spaces that encourage creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. Surrounded by beautiful natural scenery, including the nearby Chelsea Estate Heritage Park, students enjoy both academic and outdoor learning opportunities. With a focus on developing global citizens, Chelsea Primary School values cultural diversity and provides a safe, inclusive, and inspiring setting where every child can thrive and reach their full potential.

We welcome international students and their families, and we are committed to making their time with us memorable and enjoyable. We ensure our international students are cared for and we provide exciting opportunities and programmes that will grow their confidence and progress their learning.

We value Whanaungatanga (positive relationships and ensuring belonging), Kaitiakitanga (care for our environment), Manaakitanga (care for and respect each other's mana), and Ako (teaching each other and learning together). Our DNA and values are directly related to our vision: 'Growing Great Learners – Te Whakatipu Ākonga Miharo'. Our DNA is our language of learning and the skills and attributes that we believe help to 'Grow Great Learners'.

Ngā mihi nui,
Chelsea School International Student Team

Chrissy Wakeman
Principal

Kay Finlay
International Student Manager

Sandra Cotcher
Principal's PA

Our DNA

Our Values

What makes Chelsea a special place?

We take great pride in our International Student Programme, with many returning students. Choosing Chelsea means joining a school that puts student wellbeing, curiosity, and future success at the heart of everything we do.

- Experience life as a Kiwi Kid
- Practice English in an immersive classroom setting
- Receive English language support from experienced teachers and an ESOL team
- Learn about New Zealand's unique culture
- Enjoy our native bush and our environmental science enrichment programme
- Enjoy opportunities such as Kapa Haka and Choir
- Make new friends and connections

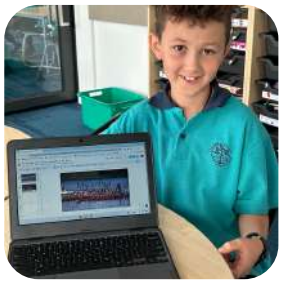
Our Facilities

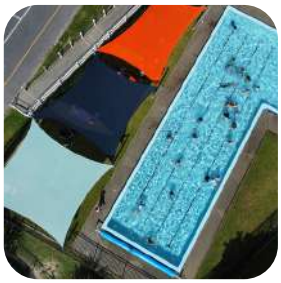
- Well-resourced library
- Heated Swimming Pool
- A discovery and an adventure playground
- Native Bush
- Playing fields and a sandpit
- Curiosity Container to promote curiosity and extend outdoor play
- Wide range of ICT equipment

Our Programmes

- Structured Literacy and Structured Maths Programmes based on the Science of Learning
- English as a Second Language Support Teacher
- Special Education Needs Coordinator (SENCo)
- Three specialist enrichment subjects - Health and Physical Education, Integrated Arts and Environmental Science
- MITEY Programme to support student wellbeing
- Outdoor Education Programme, including a Year 6 Camp
- Student Cultural Leaders
- Extensive Learning Support Programme to raise student achievment

Check out our website www.chelsea.school.nz for further information regarding curriculum, programmes and facillities





Enrolment Information

Chelsea Primary School is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021. We will guide you through the enrolment process to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

We welcome international students aged 5 to 11 for study periods ranging from a term to a full year, as well as a specific 4-week Winter Programme each July/August. We celebrate diversity and we are proud to have students from a wide range of countries. We limit international students to ensure a personalised Kiwi education experience.

1

Check availablity

At the time of your initial inquiry, we will establish whether we have a place available. You will be informed of this before any further steps in the enrolment process are taken. If you are offered a place, an application form and contract of enrolment will be sent to you. International students will be accepted for enrolment at the discretion of the Principal.

2

Complete enrolment documentation

You must work through an Agent (we can recommend an Agent for you). You need to complete an application form and a contract of enrolment, which includes:

- Passport details
- Intended start and end date
- Agent details
- Immunisation information
- Evidence of Medical and Travel Insurance for the duration of the enrolment
- Confirmation the child will be living with a parent. Enrolled students MUST live with a parent for the duration of their student at Chelsea Primary School.

All the information in the application must be true and complete. False or incomplete information can invalidate the application. You are advised to read the terms and conditions carefully and to seek support from your Agent to ensure you can make a well-informed decision.

3

Offer letter

An offer letter is sent with an invoice and once the fees have been paid then a receipt is sent. The letter should be used to apply to Immigration for a student visa. The visa will need to be shared with the school too.

4

Contract completion

Now that you have completed the contract of enrolment and you have your visa, you may like to visit the school before your start date. Tuition may be terminated if the student fails to comply with the school rules or breaches the conditions of their visa.

Orientation at Chelsea Primary School

You are always welcome to visit the school before your enrolment begins. On your first day, you will meet the International Student Manager and will be shown to your classroom. Your child will either be in the junior school (Years 0 - 3) or in the senior school (Years 4 - 6). International students are placed in a class with students of the same age. The classroom teacher will be responsible for ensuring the new student has a Cultural Buddy to help with daily routines, timetables and activities during free time. Your stationery will be ready for your child.

All long-stay international students will be mainstreamed during their time at Chelsea Primary School. In addition to this, the ESOL teacher will undertake an assessment and will provide additional support. The ESOL teacher will liaise closely with the classroom teacher and will ascertain the level and frequency of ESOL support that is required. ESOL support can be in-class or in small groups.

You are welcome to meet with the ESOL teacher and the classroom teacher, and you will be invited to student conferences. You will have a meeting with the International Student Manager at the end of the first term to check if additional support is needed and to collect any feedback. You can also communicate using HERO or on WeChat or Kakao Talk.

During this orientation, it is a great opportunity to check that you understand the importance of the Code and you can ask any questions you may have about the school and its policies, in particular, the Code of Conduct. You can let us know about your child's interests and level of English, and you can outline your expectations for your time in New Zealand.

In your first week you will be invited to a Mihi Whakatau, which is a formal Māori welcome which brings together you, the visitors, with the school, your hosts. After the ceremony, we will share food and drink to celebrate our new connections. The early weeks can be overwhelming. If you have any questions, please approach the International Student Manager in the first instance.

Community Connections

WeChat and KakaoTalk

New families are encouraged to link with WeChat or KakaoTalk, if appropriate, as a way to stay connected and meet other Chelsea families. Everyone is encouraged to use HERO, the website and the school Facebook page too.
WeChat ID: ChelseaKF
KakaoTalk ID: ChelseaKF

Migrant Parent Meetings

Migrant and international parents are invited to meet with the Principal and International Student Manager each term to discuss what is happening that term and to answer any questions parents may have. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents.

Cultural Leaders

The International Student Manager will work alongside the selected Cultural Leaders to support international students during their first few weeks at Chelsea Primary School.

Community Events

Being part of a school community is important. Throughout the year there are a variety of events such as assemblies, mihi whakatau, Matariki celebrations, sports days, cultural events, PTA events and Christmas Carols. You are warmly invited to attend these events.

Classroom Connections

We encourage you to visit your child's classroom to have a look at some work they are proud of or perhaps some artwork they have created. During the year there will be more formal opportunities to meet the teacher and to learn more about what your child is learning and how they are progressing. Another great way to connect to the classroom is to volunteer to help with a class trip or offer to share a skill or talk about your culture. We love home and classroom connections!

Education Agents

All our international students have an education agent. An education agent can be a valuable support for families enrolling their children in a New Zealand primary school. Agents act as a bridge between international families and schools, helping to simplify what can otherwise be a complex process. Agents are also experienced in guiding families through visa applications, documentation, and compliance with Immigration New Zealand requirements. They can be very helpful for translation purposes, too. In addition, many provide practical support, such as accommodation recommendations.

Key Documents

- Application form
- Contract of Enrolment
- Refund Policy
- Student Code of Conduct
- Chelsea Primary School Policies

International Fees

Winter Programme: $3,000
One term: $4,275
One year: $15,000

Fees include GST and are payable in advance

2026 Term Dates

Term 1: 2nd February - 2nd April
Term 2: 20th April - 3rd July
Term 3: 20th July - 25th September
Term 4: 12th October - 14th December

Winter Programme Dates

27th July - 21st August

Let's chat

Phone: +64 9 418 0082

Email: office@chelsea.school.nz

Website: www.chelsea.school.nz

The Code: www2.nzqa.govt.nz

Study Complaints: www.studycomplaints.org.nz

In case of an emergency, please contact: 0800 617 960