



*Villa Maria College*  
LEARN TO PRIZE WHAT IS OF VALUE

## **A WARM KIWI WELCOME TO YOU**

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Villa Maria College is a **Catholic school for girls** established in 1918 by the Sisters of Mercy. We provide a Catholic Education of the highest standard encompassing true Catholic values. The Villa Maria College campus is a safe and welcoming place for girls of all ages.

### **Location and Facilities**

Our College is set in 4.5 hectares of beautifully landscaped grounds in Christchurch, New Zealand. We have large green playing fields surrounded by trees.

Villa Maria College has modern facilities that include a brand new Science building, a large Library Information Resource Centre, an Auditorium complex that incorporates a Music Suite and a fully equipped Gymnasium. Our outdoor facilities include six multi-purpose courts for tennis, netball and hockey along with sports fields and a swimming pool.

### **Academic Programme**

We are extremely proud of our reputation as a top performing college for girls. Our highly-qualified staff are dedicated, friendly and helpful. We make every effort to design academic programmes that suit each International student.

All students are encouraged to strive for excellence and our public examination results always exceed the national average. The College offers a broad curriculum which prepares students for University and other tertiary education. Subjects on offer include:

- Mathematics, science, commerce and business;
- Arts: music, drama, design, sculpture, art history and classical studies;
- Languages: English, French, German, Japanese, Latin, Te Reo Māori and ESOL;
- Technology: information management, food technology (cooking and hospitality), Fabric technology (sewing and fashion) and computing at all levels.
- Geography, History

### **English Language**

We take care of our students' language needs and provide them with individual language support programmes. All international students are tested on arrival for language proficiency and offered programmes to assist them with their English speaking and writing.

#### **I.E.L.T.S (International English Language Testing System)**

We offer our students the opportunity to take part in the specialist I.E.L.T.S teaching programme. This internationally renowned system assists with the English language proficiency of people who want to study or work where English is used as the language of communication. For more information visit [www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

*Please turn over*

## Extra Activities

***Villa Maria College offers students many additional opportunities.***

**Music** – Tuition in small groups is offered to students free of charge in singing, string, woodwind and brass instruments. For a low charge, students may also have tuition in drums/percussion and keyboards. There are numerous opportunities to perform in festivals and competitions and within the College. There are performance opportunities including: Choirs, Jazz Band and Orchestra.

**Drama** – There are drama classes for students and a drama production to be part of bi-annually.

**Sport** – Villa offers over 30 different sporting opportunities including: badminton, volleyball, netball, football, swimming, water polo, cycling and hockey.

Girls may also like to join the Villa Chess Club or get involved in our annual fashion parade.

## Student Care

Villa Maria College strives to create a family-like atmosphere for its International Students. We have a team of three dedicated staff who expertly care for the girls' academic and social needs. We also have our very own '**Buddy Programme**' which sees each international student teamed up with a kiwi student who takes a special interest in their lives and becomes their friend. Find out more on our website.



Mrs Nicola McCormick  
Director of International Students



Mrs Rosemary Wright  
Associate Director of  
International Students



Mrs Maria Handiside  
Homestay Co-ordinator

## Home Stay

The Home Stay Co-ordinator at Villa Maria College carefully chooses families to care for our International students. Being hosted by a New Zealand family is such a great way to quickly adjust to the Kiwi culture. New Zealanders are friendly people who go out of their way to make you feel relaxed and welcomed.

See our website for Homestay costs – [www.villa.school.nz](http://www.villa.school.nz)

## Fees

Please visit our website for the most recent tuition fees- [www.villa.school.nz](http://www.villa.school.nz)

## Code of Practice

Villa Maria College has agreed to observe and be bound by The New Zealand Ministry of Education's Code Of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students.

[www.mindedu.govt.nz/goto/international](http://www.mindedu.govt.nz/goto/international)

## What our Students Say...



### ***Ying Zi Lin - China***

*"I feel very privileged to have studied at Villa Maria College. I am from China and have always wanted to be an engineer; I wanted to attend a school that would help me get good grades and reach my dream. The teaching staff members at Villa Maria College were so welcoming and helpful." Ying Zi Lin*

Ying Zi was one of Villa Maria College's top scholars. She won the award for Dux, the College's most prestigious award for high academic achievement.

Ying Zi gained New Zealand Scholarships in Chemistry, Calculus and Statistics. In Physics she gained an Outstanding Scholarship making her one of the top students in Physics in New Zealand.

Ying Zi is now studying Engineering at the University of Canterbury.

**Tour our College**

You can take our virtual tour of our College  
by visiting our website

**[www.villa.school.nz](http://www.villa.school.nz)**