

# New Zealand School System

In New Zealand students begin formal education at the age of 5 when they enter Primary School.

Primary School may include the levels Year 1 – Year 8. If you are enrolling at an Intermediate School then you would enter at Year 7 for 2 years, encompassing Years 7 and 8 (approximate student ages are 11–13 years old).

After Intermediate School students progress to High School (also known as College). High School begins at Year 9 and goes through to Year 13 (approx. student ages 13-18).

Primary/Intermediate schools build a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy and introduce a broad and balanced curriculum. The Technology/Science Curriculums are developed further at Northcross Intermediate School.

Secondary schools focus on subject learning, with growing opportunities to specialise as students progress in their learning. Child-focused learning and independent thinking are encouraged at all levels of learning. Formal qualifications begin in Year 11.

Approximate age	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Year Level	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
School Type	Primary School						Intermediate School	Secondary School Also known as 'High School' or 'College'					
NZ Qualifications	New Zealand Curriculum Standards							Check with the college as to what qualifications are offered, but MOST Government schools will offer NCEA					

## School Calendar

The New Zealand school year is divided into 4 school terms (approximately 10 weeks per term) with a two week holiday break in between each term.

**Term 1:** usually begins late January early February through to Mid April

**Term 2:** Late April – early July

**Term 3:** Late July-late September

**Term 4:** Mid October-Mid December

Please visit the school website for exact start and finish dates for each term as they will vary from year to year.