



## Information Sheet

Mission Heights Junior College is a secondary school that caters for students from Year 7 to Year 10. We opened in 2009 and have a current roll of 805 students. Our predicted peak roll will be 1100. Our decile rating is Decile 7 and our students come from all over the world. The school shares a site with, and works in close collaboration with, Mission Heights Primary School. We have excellent facilities and a supportive school community. We are one of a number of new, and planned new schools, which form part of the Flat Bush Area Strategy. The first of our students graduated from Mission Heights Junior College at the end of 2010, the majority to Ormiston Senior College.

### Vision Statement

*"Growing greatness through innovative and constantly evolving personalised learning."*

At Mission Heights Junior College we recognise that every child is a valuable individual and that within each child is a unique "grain of greatness" which it is our mission to grow.

We expect great things of our students.

At Mission Heights Junior College we work hard to ensure that our students truly develop as:

**Good Citizens**  
**Resilient**  
**Enterprising**  
**Aspirational**  
**Thinkers**

**To achieve this we provide a learning environment which is:**

**Global Focussed**  
**Relevant**  
**Engaging**  
**Authentic**  
**Twenty First Century**

In addition to meeting the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum and the National Education Guidelines, our learning programmes challenge students in both the essential learning areas and in individualised learning programmes, which extend and enrich students according to their individual identified needs.

A feature of our school is our intent to present learning in engaging, relevant and authentic contexts. We are keen to involve the community and real community issues in school life.

Our school has also been designed and constructed to an “environmentally sustainable design” and caring for our environment is a key aspect of our school culture.

### **Years 7 and 8**

In Years 7 and 8 students study English, Mathematics, Science, Global Studies, Physical Education and Health, Art, Music, Technology, Life Technology, Te Reo Māori and 2 Foreign Languages (Mandarin and Spanish).

### **Years 9 and 10**

Our Year 9 and 10 students are our senior students and assume leadership roles as they continue with a challenging academic programme. In addition to the continued study of English, Mathematics, Science, Global Studies, Physical Education and Health, students have the opportunity to select specialist subjects to study in greater depth.

Our Year 10 students have the opportunity to attempt a limited number of credits for NCEA Level 1.

### **D.E.E.P. Learning**

During the fifth session of every day, every student either attends a Learning Advisor session and chooses from a number of D.E.E.P. (Discovery, Essentials, Enrichment, Passions) options. Each student has a Learning Advisor. This teacher, from their whanau, meets with them individually to assess their progress and set goals based on their progress during one afternoon session a week and meets whanau twice a year for Student led Conferences.

The timetable includes extension and enrichment “D.E.E.P.” learning sessions. Students with their advisor, create a personalised D.E.E.P. programme according to their needs interests and passions. This includes opportunities for:

- Enrichment in new curriculum areas or in areas of existing strength
- Preparation for academic competitions
- Sessions for students who are finding an aspect of the curriculum challenging
- Opportunities to extend and enrich gifted students

Our students benefit at an early age from the specialist teaching and specialist facilities of a new state of the art secondary school. These include a gymnasium, theatre, dance and drama studio, laboratories, technology workshops, visual arts and design studios and a large well resourced Library.

The effective use of Information and Communications Technologies to enhance learning, is a feature of our school both for students and staff. Our aim is that these tools are used by students in their daily school lives, as they are, for most, in their life out of school. Students are allowed to bring their own device and also have access to high quality equipment to enhance their learning. Parents can access information on Mission Heights Online, to help them support their child’s learning. This includes real time reporting, access to e asTTle testing results, Reading Plus and Mathletics or Maths Buddy progress reports.

### **Support Within a Whanau Setting**

At Mission Heights Junior College we value the great spirit, support, positive competition and challenge that comes from being part of a Whanau Community. Students belong, throughout their schooling, to one of our four Whanau communities.

Students benefit from the security of being in a class group with their peers within a wider Whanau Community of students from all Year levels. At the same time they enjoy the stimulation of moving to specialist lessons.

A Deputy Principal leads each Whanau Community, having overall responsibility for the welfare of students and staff within the Whanau. The Deputy Principal works collaboratively with an Assistant Principal in each Whanau whose key focus is ensuring quality teaching and learning consistent with the vision of the school. Whanau Co-ordinator positions support specific aspects of whanau life.

### ***Extra Curricular Opportunities***

It is increasingly clear that to be truly successful in 21<sup>st</sup> Century society, students cannot rely solely on achievement in their academic studies. In higher education and in the workplace great value is placed on a broader definition of success, incorporating participation and achievement in cultural and sporting activities and a demonstrated ability and willingness to lead and serve.

Students at Mission Heights Junior College are expected to grow their greatness across what we see as four key cornerstones of a balanced education,  
***academic, sporting, cultural service through leadership***  
in a supportive but challenging environment.

Applicants will be expected to support our extra curricular programme.

### **> Applicant Information**

This is an exceptional opportunity to work with the Principal, Senior Leadership Team, other outstanding professionals, the Board and the Community, to create history in New Zealand education in a school designed for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Mission Heights Junior College does not operate a traditional "departmental" structure and a willingness and an ability to plan, work and review student achievement collaboratively and effectively in cross curricular whanau, and curricular teams will be important.

### **Key Requirements**

- Passion for learning and teaching, and the ability to communicate this passion to students and colleagues.
- A commitment to and knowledge of the New Zealand Curriculum.
- See schools as a place for all learners and encourages learners to succeed.
- Is focused on academic success and high achievement in a relevant and engaging learning environment.
- Values the importance of a balanced education of culture, sport and service leadership.
- Understands and embraces a digital learning environment including the willingness to "think digital" in one's own practice.
- Thinks outside the square, is prepared to go beyond current educational thinking and work in new ways. Is open to new thinking.
- Values the importance of developing learning contexts which are authentic and relevant to students. Is enterprising and encourages enterprising attributes in others.

- Focuses on creating a schooling approach for young adolescents so that by the end of Year 10 students are independent learners and ready for the senior secondary years.
- Respectful and valuing of all cultures and promotion of Te Reo and Ti Kanga Māori.
- Identifies with the community and relates easily to the public. Sees the school as integral to the community and the community as integral to the school.
- Is committed to ensuring that students are engaged and successful learners.
- Understands personalised learning and the importance of co-constructed learning and individual goal setting.
- Sees no boundaries to learning.
- Relates extremely well to students and colleagues. Develops positive relationships which enhance learning.
- Promote innovative approaches and relates them to the community and students.
- Understands a range of assessment tools. Is able to use evidence to effectively evaluate and enhance learning programmes for groups and individuals.
- Possesses personal integrity, tact, tolerance, openness, a sense of humour and a commitment to fair and equitable outcomes.

### **Person Specification**

- Change ready
- Positive
- Passionate
- Energetic
- Enthusiastic
- Life long learner
- Reflective
- Problem solver
- Excellent communicator
- Good sense of humour

### **For further information**

#### **Website link**

- [www.mhjc.school.nz](http://www.mhjc.school.nz)
- or contact : Ian Morrison, Principal  
[imorrison@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:imorrison@mhjc.school.nz)  
(09) 2777881

Applications should be forwarded digitally to  
[ayoung@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:ayoung@mhjc.school.nz)