

# SOUTH WELLINGTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (SWIS)



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROSPECTUS

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# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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The International Coordinator is your first point of contact for all matters.

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# WELCOME!

Tēnā koutou, Konnichiwa, As-salāmu 'alaykum, Hola, Nǐ hǎo, Annyeonghaseyo, and Hello!

- South Wellington Intermediate School (SWIS) is for students aged 10–13. This is an important time in life, and we support students to feel confident, happy, and ready to learn.
- Students at SWIS enjoy many different subjects, with specialist teachers, and take part in cultural and sporting activities. We help students become independent learners and try new things.
- We value diversity and the different cultures our students bring. Our flexible learning spaces and varied programmes help meet each student's needs.
- We offer our international students short-term stays of 2 - 6 weeks, staying with caring homestay families, while experiencing life in New Zealand and improving their English.
- Your child's safety and wellbeing are very important to us. We carefully choose homestay families and support students throughout their time at SWIS so they feel safe, included, and cared for.

**He whānau kotahi tātou - We are one family**



# WHY CHOOSE SWIS?



## A small school with BIG opportunities

With only 350 students, we offer a supportive, caring, multicultural learning environment.



## Dedicated ESOL Programme

Providing quality language support to our international students ensures their success.



## Pathway to further NZ education

A Positive Behaviour 4 Learning school.

Warm relationships between students and staff.

Happy and engaged students, striving to achieve their best.

# WHAT WE OFFER



**English ~ Mathematics ~ Science**



**Sporting, Academic,  
Specialised STEM subjects,  
Cultural and Arts programmes**



**Wide range of subjects &  
activities**

- Hard Materials
- Digital Technology
- Food Technology
- Outdoor Education
- Many different SWIS sports teams
- Physical Education
- Kids Literature Quiz
- National Writing & Art competitions
- 'Future Problem Solving' Club
- Textiles
- Philosophy
- Visual Arts
- EPRO-8
- Kapa Haka
- Film
- Drama
- Music



# WHY CHOOSE WELLINGTON?

Wellington is the vibrant capital city of New Zealand, with so much to see and do. The city is rich in culture, home to fantastic museums, theatres, and festivals, as well as a strong sporting scene. It regularly hosts international rugby matches featuring the New Zealand All Blacks. It is also home to the Phoenix Football Club.

Wellington also has a thriving film industry and is closely linked to Sir Peter Jackson, director of *The Lord of the Rings*.

Set around a beautiful harbour, Wellington offers plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Water activities like sailing, kayaking, and swimming are popular, while the surrounding hills and coastline provide stunning bush walks and easy access to nature. It's a city where vibrant urban life and the natural environment come together.





# APPLY NOW!

We are delighted that you are considering SWIS for your child's education. The enrolment process is outlined below to help guide you and your family.

## Step 1

### Enquire and Apply



Contact SIEBA, who manage SWIS's international enrolments, or an approved education agent to start your application.



You will need to provide:

- a certified copy of the student's passport or birth certificate
- the student's most recent school report
- if a parent or legal guardian is accompanying the student, a certified copy of their passport or birth certificate.



SIEBA will check your application to make sure all forms are complete and all documents are provided.

## Step 2

# Application Review and Offer Process



### 1. School review

If a place is available, you will receive a *Conditional Offer of Place* and an invoice for fees. Payment is required to confirm the enrolment. If no place is available, a non-acceptance letter will be sent.



### 2. Conditional Offer of Place

SWIS reviews the application based on available places, class sizes, and year level. Students are placed according to their date of birth.



### 3. Formal Offer of Place

After payment is received, SWIS will issue a *Confirmed Offer of Place* and a receipt. These documents are needed to apply for a visa.



### Step 3

## Visa & Insurance check



Apply for your visa through Immigration New Zealand. Once approved, send confirmation to SIEBA. Your visa must match your passport details and cover your full enrolment period.



Provide proof of comprehensive travel and medical insurance to SIEBA.

### Step 4

## Enrolment & Pre-arrival



Provide final details to SWIS (such as flights) to complete your enrolment.



We will then share your child's homestay family contact details so you can connect and get to know them.

# CONDITIONS OF ENROLMENT

Please read these carefully. By applying, you agree to the following:

- SWIS reserves the right to accept or decline any application
- all tuition and accommodation fees must be paid in advance
- students under 10 years old must live with a parent or legal guardian
- students aged 10 and over may live with a parent, legal guardian, or an approved caregiver
- students studying for less than three months may enter on a visitor visa
- students studying for more than three months must hold a valid student visa
- parents accompanying their child must hold an appropriate guardian visa
- all students must have valid medical and travel insurance for the full duration of their stay (most international students are not eligible for publicly funded healthcare in New Zealand)
- any breach of visa conditions will be reported to Immigration New Zealand.

Note: It is the responsibility of the parent, caregiver, or agent to ensure all documentation is completed so the student can begin school on time.



# FEES & OTHER COSTS



## FEES

- Tuition: \$400 per week
- Homestay: \$80 per day (\$400 per week)
- Administration fee: \$1,600

All fees must be paid in advance. These costs include tuition, ESOL support, learning subscriptions, specialist classes, and stationery.

Note: Uniform is not required for short-term stays.



## ADDITIONAL COSTS

- Sports teams – approx. \$25 – \$100 per sport based on individual choices
- Music tuition – amount varies based on individual choices

These additional costs are approximate and subject to change.



# VISAS & INSURANCE



## VISAS

All students must have a valid student visa to study at SWIS. For more information, visit the [Immigration New Zealand website](#).



## INSURANCE

International students are usually not eligible for free public healthcare in New Zealand. If medical treatment is needed, students may have to pay the full cost. Eligibility criteria for publicly funded health services in New Zealand is available on the [Ministry of Health website](#).

### **Travel and Medical Insurance**

All international students must have comprehensive travel and medical insurance for their entire stay in New Zealand.

### **Accident Insurance (ACC)**

All people in New Zealand, including international students, are covered by ACC if they are injured in an accident. ACC may help with some treatment and recovery costs, but it does not cover all medical expenses.

More information is available on the [ACC website](#).





# PASTORAL CARE

## ARRIVING IN NZ



### AIRPORT PICK UP AND MEETING THE HOMESTAY FAMILY

The International Coordinator and/or the Principal will meet students at Wellington Airport and take them to SWIS.

Their homestay family will pick them up from the school, warmly welcome them into their home and support them to settle in.

- They may be offered food or a drink, and families understand that students may feel tired after travelling.
- Students will be shown their bedroom and around the house, including how to use facilities such as the bathroom and laundry.
- The homestay family will introduce themselves and explain what students can call them.
- They will also share their daily routines and house rules so students know what to expect.
- Students will have time to rest, contact their family to confirm they have arrived safely, and will gradually feel comfortable in their new home.



# ORIENTATION SESSION AT SWIS

SWIS holds an orientation session for new students before they start school. A translator can be arranged if needed, to support students with little or no English.

The orientation session helps students feel confident and prepared. It gives them the chance to:

- meet the Principal, Deputy Principal, International Student Coordinator, and their classroom teacher
- ask questions about anything they are unsure about
- tour the school and learn where to go on their first day
- organise stationery and uniform
- learn what to bring to school each day
- understand school routines, expectations, and important policies (such as making complaints or expressing concerns)
- update contact details if needed
- provide passport and visa copies (if not already completed)
- sign any required school forms (e.g. photos, trips, internet use).

This session is designed to help students feel comfortable, supported, and ready to begin their learning at SWIS.





# FIRST DAY AT SWIS

On their first day, students will be warmly welcomed by the International Student Coordinator and taken to their classroom. They will be introduced to their classmates, shown where to put their bag, and helped to find important places like the toilets.

Each student will have a buddy to help them settle in and learn their way around the school.

During the first few weeks, the International Student Coordinator will regularly check in with the student and keep parents or the agent updated on how they are settling in.

Families will also receive a text or email on the first day to let them know how their child is getting on.





# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES

## SPORTS & LANGUAGES

These programmes run weekly on Monday afternoons.

Languages can include French, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Malay, and Te Reo. Sports can include basketball, table tennis, football, kia o rahi (a Māori ball sport), and many more.



## FRIDAY ENRICHMENT

Students choose a subject that they are interested in or passionate about from the options provided. The programme runs on a Friday afternoon, for either one term, half a year or the whole year depending on the programme.

Previous options have included:

- Animal Safari
- Theatre Sports
- Building
- Card Art
- Coding
- Gardening
- Pump Dance
- School of Rock





## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We have many extracurricular sporting, academic, cultural and arts programmes, which students can participate in.



- We run sports teams for water polo, netball, basketball, floorball and touch rugby. These are after school or on weekends.
- We are members of the Wellington Regional Intermediate Schools Sports Association and participate in a range of inter-school sporting events annually.
- We offer 'Future Problem Solving' which runs before school and challenges students in critical thinking.
- We have Kapa Haka and Polyfest Cultural groups which participate in many school-based, local and regional events.
- We participate in events such as AIMS Games, EPRO-8, Kids Literature Quiz programme, ICAS examinations (external international exams), National writing and art competitions and events, William Pike Challenge and much more.
- Throughout the year we also participate in social awareness activities such as the 40 hour famine and Pink Shirt Day.



# CAMP AND EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

## CAMP

A highlight of the year for all our students is school camp.

Our two-night camp at the beginning of the year gives our students the opportunity to get to know their classmates and teachers, and participate in lots of fun activities such as:

- Flying Fox
- 10 – Pin Bowling
- Confidence Course
- Mini Golf
- Kayaking
- Water Slide
- Mud Slide
- Swimming Pool

## EOTC WEEK

EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) is another very popular event in our school year.

It takes place in Term 4 and students are able to choose from many options such as major camps and numerous other activities in and around Wellington.





# SOUTH WELLINGTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



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**[www.swis.school.nz/international-students](http://www.swis.school.nz/international-students)**



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