



Westminster Christian
School

est. 1981

Educating for Time and Eternity

Prospectus

Westminster Christian School and Pre-School



**31 Westminster Gardens
Unsworth Heights 0632
Auckland**

Welcome Nau Mai, Haere Mai

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I feel privileged to warmly welcome you to our school, in the name of our Lord.

Westminster Christian School is dedicated to providing your child with an environment in which our staff educates for time and eternity. We offer a wide range of deep learning experiences, cultural, sporting and digital programmes.

Students are encouraged to engage in their learning to reach their potential and to express their God-given talents.

I look forward to working with you in the near future, and I thank you for joining our community.



Mrs Sandra Jacobs
Principal
M.B.A, B.Ed, FDE, H.Dip.Ed

Westminster Christian School

Mission Statement

Westminster Christian School, through the Spirit of God, educates the children of Christian parents for time and eternity by providing a Christ-centred academic curriculum founded on a Biblical World View.

Commitment

- is a Christ-centred, full primary educational facility
- Biblical World View is incorporated throughout all areas of the curriculum
- has fully qualified, registered and dedicated Christian teachers
- led by a committed Board of Proprietors and Board of Trustees
- is an inclusive school community
- embraces cultural diversity
- provides a caring school environment
- limits its class sizes
- provides modern facilities with up to date technology
- reviews its policies and curriculum on an ongoing basis
- encourages and acknowledges individual talents
- develops programmes to support individual needs
- delivers a high level of academic achievement
- monitors students' academic and personal progress
- acknowledges and proclaims that 'Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life and no-one comes to the Father except through Him'.

Special Character

Westminster Christian School was established in 1981 to serve the formal educational needs of families within the religious context of New Zealand's traditional Judeo/Christian heritage.

It is an inter-denominational, integrated, co-educational Christian school for students from New Entrant to Year 8.

Principle features of Westminster's Special Character and Mission are:

1. To encourage families and their children to be responsible stewards and image bearers of God.
2. To celebrate the Lordship of Jesus Christ over all and every aspect of creation.
3. To grow in the knowledge and wonder of the sovereignty of God.
4. To develop a student's sense of destiny, citizenship, purpose and hope, both for time and eternity, in accordance with the Holy Bible.

School Management

The school functions under the management of the following bodies:

1. The Board of Proprietors:
 - Own, maintain and develop the property.
 - Oversee the Special Character of the school.
 - Attend monthly board meetings.
 - Have four representatives on the Board of Trustees.
2. The Board of Trustees:
 - Employs the Principal, teachers and support staff of Westminster Christian School.
 - Is responsible for the governance of the school, including policy making, implementation and review.
 - Supports the Principal in the management of Westminster Christian School.
 - Is responsible for conveying information effectively to both its own school community and beyond.
 - Attend monthly board meetings.
 - Consists of five parent representatives, four Board of Proprietors members, one staff representative and the Principal.
 - Is elected every three years.

Code of Conduct

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.'

(Luke 6:31)

Westminster Christian School upholds the values of RESPECT, SERVICE, and COURTESY.

All students are entitled to a SAFE ENVIRONMENT in which to learn and play. Students are representatives of Westminster Christian School, and as such, must abide by the school rules and its code of conduct at all times.

Students are to:

- Use appropriate language and be courteous to others.
- Be thoughtful and considerate to others' needs.
- Endeavour to do their best, both in the classroom and when at play.
- Show respect to their teacher/s, staff, fellow students and themselves.
- Understand their worth in Christ.
- Be prepared for the day's learning.
- Be responsible for completing all learning tasks, including homework.
- Not be involved in bullying of any kind.
- Report any incidences of bullying that they may witness or hear about to their teacher immediately.
- Offer encouragement and support to others.
- Be proactive in keeping school grounds tidy.
- Act in a responsible and sensible manner to prevent hurting others or themselves.

The school has the expectations that all adults while they are onsite will act appropriately and be a role model for children.

Creation Station – Before And After School Care

Creation Station is our Board of Trustees before and after school facility. Located on site at Westminster Christian School, it provides your child with a safe and friendly environment with access to a wide range of facilities. A variety of fun, creative and educational activities are offered. Contact Creation Station using the information below:

Mon to Fri: 7.30am—9.00am
3.00pm—5.45pm

Contact: Sue-Ellen Smith
Mobile: 027 259 6388
Email: sue-ellens@westminster.school.nz

Curriculum

Westminster Christian School provides a wide range of academic, cultural, sporting and technological programmes for its students. Our curriculum meets the requirements of the National Curriculum Statements for all subjects and is taught from a Biblical World View.

Classroom Programmes

- ◇ English – writing, reading, listening, oral, visual
- ◇ Mathematics
- ◇ Creation Studies
- ◇ Science
- ◇ Social Studies
- ◇ Health/Physical Education
- ◇ Information and Communication Technology
- ◇ Library Information Skills
- ◇ E-Learning

Cultural Programmes

- ◇ Music Instrument Tuition
- ◇ Choir
- ◇ Orchestra
- ◇ Drama
- ◇ School Productions
- ◇ Community Service
- ◇ Kapa Haka

Extended Education Programmes

- ◇ Language / reading extension programmes
- ◇ National / International English / Mathematics / Science competitions
- ◇ Science and Technology challenges
- ◇ Science Fair
- ◇ Art
- ◇ Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)
- ◇ Outdoor Education
- ◇ Self-directed learning
- ◇ Robotics Class

Technology / Arts Programmes

- ◇ Food Technology
- ◇ Biotechnology
- ◇ Electronics Technology
- ◇ Materials Technology
- ◇ Media Studies
- ◇ Music, drama, dance
- ◇ Art
- ◇ Information and Communication Technology (E-Learning)

Sports Programmes

- ◇ Lunchtime Sports
- ◇ Skilled programmes in rugby, soccer, hockey, netball, cricket, softball, swimming
- ◇ Competitive Interschool Sports including swimming, athletics, netball, soccer, Rippa rugby, cricket and cross country
- ◇ Year 7/8 Sports Camp including hockey, touch rugby, basketball, chess and table tennis

Learning Support Programmes

- ◇ English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL)
- ◇ Reciprocal reading programme
- ◇ Teacher Aides working alongside children in classrooms
- ◇ Booster programmes in numeracy and literacy

Students are regularly assessed on their progress to determine their academic level. Teachers may adapt their teaching programme to suit an individual student's learning need. Class sizes vary according to levels but do not usually exceed 25. Formal school reports are written at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

Cybersafety

The computers are valuable learning tools and must be treated with care.

The following rules apply to all computers:

- No programmes from home unless permission granted from a teacher
- No copying programmes for home use
- No playing of non-educational games

Students must never violate any security programmes on any computer or the internet. Any incidents of security will be investigated and treated as damage to school property. Parents may be billed for reprogramming costs.

All students are required to sign a Cybersafety Agreement before they are allowed to use the eLearning equipment.

Enrolment Procedures for Domestic Students

An Enrolment Pack is available from the school office or alternatively it can be downloaded from the school website: <http://www.westminster.school.nz>

Once the application for enrolment has been completed, it must be returned to Westminster Christian School. The applicant will be informed of an interview time. The interview will be held between the Principal, parents/legal guardians and the student to discuss the conditions of enrolment. A tour of the school will also take place at this time.

A student's acceptance will be at the discretion of the Principal.

Enrolment Procedures for International Students

An International Enrolment Pack is available from the school office or alternatively it can be downloaded from the school website: <http://www.westminster.school.nz>. All parts of the International Enrolment Pack must be completed in full and returned to Westminster Christian School office, before a placement can be considered.

A student's acceptance will be at the discretion of the Principal.

Westminster Christian School has agreed to observe and be bound by the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students (Ministry of Education). Copies of the Code are available on request from Westminster Christian School or from the New Zealand Ministry of Education website at <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/NZEducation/EducationPolicies/InternationalEducation/ForProvidersOfInternationalEducation/CodeofPracticeforInternationalStudents/CodeOfPractice.aspx>

Extra-Curricular Activities

The Westminster School Choir is well-known on the North Shore and often sings at rest homes, retirement villages or malls before Christmas. The choir practices during school hours and consists of students from Years 4-8. Auditions are done at the beginning of the year, or if spaces are available at the beginning of a term.

The school also has an orchestra for students in Years 4-8. Some specialist music lessons are taught by private tutors on site such as violin, cello, recorder, drums, guitar, piano and singing. Please contact the office for further details on these.

Our five-year-olds go to Patrick Ferry House once a month to visit the elderly residents, sharing stories, simple arts and crafts and singing.

In Westminster Christian School there are a number of positions our senior students can be elected to. These include Student Leaders, Librarians, Sport Monitors and Buddy Supporters.

Fee Structure

Westminster Christian School is a State Integrated School with Special Character status, which means the following:

- The Westminster Christian School Society (Inc), known as the Board of Proprietors, owns and develops the property, is responsible for its mortgage, security, and for maintaining Westminster Christian School's Special Character.
- The Board of Trustees pays for the day-to-day resources of the school, managed by the Principal.
- The Ministry of Education is responsible for teacher's salaries and provides an operations grant to the school, based on the number of students attending the school.
- Attendance Dues are set by the Ministry and may not be altered without their approval.
- This fee structure below is only applicable to domestic students and does not include foreign fee paying international students.

School fees are payable in TWO parts (two separate cheques / payments, please);

1. Payment to the Board of Proprietors
Internet Banking: BNZ 02-0278-0071938-00 (reference Student's Name)

Attendance Dues	\$316.25	
Proprietors Donation	\$212.50	
Special Character Donation	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	\$578.75 per term
2. Payment to the Board of Trustees
Internet Banking: ASB 12-3119-0077164-00 (reference Student's Name)

We ask for a donation of \$720 per annum to cover all your children's activities e.g. swimming, trips, workbooks, photocopying, Mathletics / Reading Eggs and all our

E-learning costs. We also build into this donation finances to cover extra staff, we need to keep our class sizes manageable.

Homework

Students are responsible for completing all learning tasks, including homework.

Guidelines for homework:

New Entrant	Average 10-15 minutes per day
Years 2 & 3	Average 15-20 minutes per day
Years 4 & 5	Average 20-30 minutes per day
Years 6 and over	Average 45 minutes per day

Parents Prayer Group

This is an important ministry, where mothers pray together for the needs of our school and our community. These meetings are held on a regular weekly basis on school grounds. Prayer requests are welcomed and these may be handed in to the school office. If you wish to join this ministry, please contact the school office for details.

School Hours

First Bell:	8.50am – all children should make their way to class. All Junior classes start at 8:50am and finish at 2:50pm.
Morning Tea:	10.40am – 11.00am
Lunchtime:	12.40pm – 1.30pm
School Finish:	3.00pm

School Houses

Upon enrolment children are placed in one of our three school houses – Kiwi, Tui and Ruru. The house system encourages interaction between all children in the school and provides leadership opportunities for our senior children who are elected as house captain. Families are grouped in the same houses.

Statement of Faith

Westminster Christian School is an interdenominational Christian School whose staff and families represent a number of churches. The Board of Trustees and Board of Proprietors publicly declare their commitment to the following Biblical truths consistent with Westminster Christian School's Charter.

We believe:

- The Bible to be the inspired word of God.
- In God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- That all humans are created in the image of God and were given dominion over the earth in strict and loving obedience to God, to interpret all reality in accordance with His design and law.
- That we, by nature disobey God's law, and are therefore subject to eternal death.
- That separation from God has resulted in a fallen world infected by the misery and sorrows of human sin.
- That Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, died and was buried, was resurrected from the dead and ascended on high. He is seated at the right hand of God the Father and will return to judge the living and the dead.
- That Jesus by his life, death and resurrection, is the holy lamb of God who has purchased redemption for all those who believe in Him and commit themselves to a life of trust in Him as their personal Saviour and obedience to his teaching.
- All true believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit who enables them to trust and obey Jesus.
- Such believers are through God's grace made members of the Church militant and upon dying enter into eternal life with Jesus and continue as members of the Church triumphant.
- As members of the Church militant such believers remain subject to all the vagaries of living in a fallen world but through devotion to Jesus, His word and help of the indwelling Spirit are enabled to fight the good fight of faith and persevere through all manner of trials and difficulties with joy amidst suffering.

More information about how Christian Education is integrated into the children's learning will be discussed at interview time.

Westminster Christian Pre-School

'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and men'

(Luke 2:52)

Westminster Christian Pre-School is an independent Bible-based, Christ-centred early childhood facility that caters for children between the ages of 2-5 years. It is staffed by a team of professionally trained, dedicated and friendly teachers.

It delivers an educational programme which covers emergent reading, writing, number skills and a wide range of other activities that are developmentally appropriate for individual and group learning.

Westminster Christian Pre-School provides a strong Biblical and educational foundation for your child that will help them transition with greater confidence into primary level education.

At Westminster Christian Preschool, your child will have the opportunity to:

- embrace the Fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control);
- understand that they are unique, special, made in the image of God;
- develop social skills;
- broaden communication skills;
- learn early reading, writing and math skills;
- develop gross motor skills;
- be creative and self-expressive;
- problem solve and take risks;
- develop independence;
- understand routines and boundaries.

Pre-School Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (during primary school terms):

Morning Session	9.00am - 12.00 noon (half day)
Afternoon Session	12.00pm – 3.00pm (half day)
Full Day Session	9.00am – 3.00pm (full day)

(Maximum of 35 children per session)

Contact

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Unsworth Heights 0632
Auckland
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