



Top 50 New Zealand Schools 2022

For Gaining Entry to Top Universities



Co-Founder and CEO of Crimson Education, Jamie Beaton



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With continued lockdowns came an ongoing commitment to self-learning, improvement and progress throughout the entire academic year. Parents looked to offer greater stability to their children's education amid great change, and continued to invest in their progress - looking globally to opportunities for their children to engage in extracurricular activities virtually and with a long-term goal to capitalise on building a compelling profile to stand out in the ever increasing university admissions and job market landscape.

Students' commitment to intensified curricula continued, with many complementing the national NCEA with global options like the IB or A levels, or to study what many consider industry-relevant subjects like computer science and economics. Secondly, they honed their extracurricular skills through activities that remain popular like global online debating or business case competitions, by building their own apps, leadership projects or participating in virtual internships.

These rankings, now in their fourth year, provide a clear measure of the top 20 schools in New Zealand, along with the top 31 - 50 schools, based on their ability to

prepare students to seize the opportunities on offer from top-ranked universities in the US and UK.

What we see setting students apart is their “T” approach to learning - showing breadth of interest across academics, leadership and extracurricular work while applying depth to master a specific area of competency, with personalised mentoring from teachers. Take for example, robotics. A student may seek to secure a medal within a Physics Olympiad, achieve top grades in chemistry and in their spare time, intern within a lab that is dedicated to building robotic arms to improve quality of life for amputees.

This raises the question, what holistic factors should be taken into account by parents, when reviewing high schools for their children?

As an authority on student pathways to top-ranked universities, Crimson once again brings its deep knowledge of student success from all backgrounds to this release. We also bring extensive knowledge in NCEA, CIE and IB as well as world-leading experience supporting students on their pathway into top global universities like the University of Oxford,

Stanford, Harvard and competitive domestic programs like Medicine.

While no one ranking system captures everything, we have continued to apply our carefully designed methodology in consideration of the characteristics that world leading universities like Yale, Cambridge and the like continue to seek out among their accepted students.

Above all, we aim to provide parents and students with transparency and clear guidance when making high stakes decisions about which high school is right for their long-term plans and aspirations.

Through these rankings, school administrators also have access to an independent barometer that measures how their student cohort is performing across the factors that are most important when preparing students to apply to the world's top universities.

Trends in our 2022 rankings I find interesting to highlight are, we see a wide geographic spread of the Top 20 schools - from Christchurch to Wellington, to Havelock North and Auckland. Looking to the top of the list, Kristin claims first place after consistently moving up the rankings each year. This is on the back of an exceptional year of academic performance with 19 students securing an IB score of 40+. University entrance was secured by 96% of students.

The school leads the trend of co-education schools emerging as the majority to make up the top 10 this year. Private schools continue to dominate the top 10 and of the single-sex schools, we see three of these are girls' schools, one is boys' and the remaining six are co-educational.

Of the top 10 schools, eight of these provide international curricula options: the IB or CIE. Schools that provide international curriculum fared well, making up the top 7 of the list and

collectively, the IB curriculum schools within the top 10 secured a total of 47 IB scores of 40+ between them. We observed CIE Awards were lower than seen in last year's rankings, which could be a result of pandemic-related exam cancellations.

Some other schools that deserve praise include ascents into the top 10 from last year, including: St Kentigern College, Westlake Boys' High School, Queen Margaret College and Rangitoto College. St Kentigern College saw its head prefect secure a Te Ara a Kupe Beaton Scholarship. Westlake Boys' High School moved from 20th to 8th place, achieving 169 scholarships, 30 outstanding scholarships and 4 Premier Scholarships. They also earned 37% NCEA Excellence. Rangitoto College went from 23rd to 10th place, with 2 IB scores of 40+ as well as 183 NCEA scholarships and 31 outstanding scholarships. They also earned 34% NCEA Excellence.

Our list combines more than 200 years of education experience across Crimson's consulting team, academic team, data science capabilities and is based on a rigorous data-collection practice. We hope it helps ignite discussion around how we are preparing our incredibly talented young people to achieve their best.

To transformative education for the 22nd century.



JAMIE BEATON

*CEO and Co-founder of
Crimson Education*

About the Rankings

This year brings the fourth consecutive release of the Top 50 New Zealand Schools For Gaining Entry to Top Universities by Crimson Education — a world-leading university admissions and mentoring company.

To create this year's list, physical schools across New Zealand were evaluated on the basis of academic performance, extracurricular opportunities and equal access for students — three factors which contribute to students' chances of gaining admission to and thriving at top universities around the world.

The list draws on experience working with a global pool of top-performing students through Crimson Education's university admissions service which helps students secure admission to the world's most competitive universities year after year, including: Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, UChicago, Duke, Oxford, and Cambridge.



NZ School Rankings Methodology

In order to review school performance with consistency, 2020 data alone was used, given there was an insufficient amount of 2021 data released at the time of the lists' creation. This follows the methodology used for Crimson's Top 50 New Zealand Schools rankings in 2020, which used solely 2019 data.

Data was sourced from a survey and from publicly available information on school websites. NZQA data was referenced for verification.

The three indicators that determine Crimson's Top 50 New Zealand Schools 2022 are:

- **Academic Performance**
- **Diversity, Equity & Process**
- **Extracurricular Activities**

Notes:

- Extracurricular Opportunities were only evaluated for schools that made the shortlist based on Academic Performance and Diversity, Equity & Process.
- The Extracurricular and Leadership criterion usually accounts for 15% of the ranking weighting, however with US and UK university admissions lower due to COVID-19, 5% of this ranking was redistributed across the other criterions.
- Some schools were excluded due to their Year 13 student size being less than 20 students. This applied to schools such as Wentworth College and Auckland International College.
- US university admissions data was excluded due to COVID-19.

Academics



CIE alongside IB, NCEA, NZQA results and University Entrance rates which are all weighted equally. Information accessed for the 2020 rankings included the number of awards made publicly available, i.e. via websites as well as government reports.

75%

Diversity, Equity, Process



This examined the process of enrolling into school and processes within the school to drive good outcomes. Diversity in ethnicity was also considered, based on our belief that students should learn within a diverse setting, which equips them to thrive on global campuses.

15%

Extracurricular & Leadership



This indicates whether students are being prepared for university achievement post-graduation. Options like sports, performing arts & co-curricular activities as well as college admissions results were weighted equally. Ivy League and other top US university admissions results were considered because US universities take extracurricular activities into account when admitting students.

10%

School Rankings 2022

01	Kristin School (3)	26	Hutt International Boys' School (48)
02	St Cuthbert's College (1)	27	Waikato Diocesan School For Girls (27)
03	Pinehurst School (2)	28	Lindisfarne College (26)
04	ACG Parnell College (4)	29	Sacred Heart College (Auckland) (36)
05	Diocesan School For Girls (6)	30	Epsom Girls' Grammar School (24)
06	St Kentigern College (14)	31	Wellington College (17)
07	Macleans College (5)	32	Columba College
08	Westlake Boys' High School (20)	33	Wellington Girls' College (19)
09	Queen Margaret College (12)	34	St Paul's Collegiate School (35)
10	Rangitoto College (23)	35	Dilworth School (47)
11	Woodford House (28)	36	Mount Albert Grammar School (43)
12	Christ's College (31)	37	St Hilda's Collegiate School
13	St Peter's College (Auckland) (9)	38	Rosmini College (37)
14	Samuel Marsden Collegiate School (18)	39	Napier Girls' High School (42)
15	Rangi Ruru Girls' School (10)	40	Western Springs College (38)
16	Baradene College of the Sacred Heart (8)	41	Marist College (39)
17	Carmel College (21)	42	Otago Girls' High School
18	Auckland Grammar School (11)	43	Takapuna Grammar School (41)
19	King's College (22)	44	St Peter's School (Cambridge) (34)
20	Glendowie College (32)	45	Long Bay College
21	St Andrew's College (25)	46	Iona College (40)
22	St Mary's College (Auckland) (16)	47	Selwyn College (50)
23	Westlake Girls' High School (29)	48	Sancta Maria College (46)
24	Scots College (13)	49	Hamilton Boys' High School
25	St Margaret's College (15)	50	Burnside High School

**Numbers in the parentheses () represent the 2021 ranking of each school. Schools without numbers in parentheses did not feature in the list last year.*

Trends - School Rankings 2022

- ✦ The top 10 is dominated by private schools, with 7 private and 3 state schools. Similarly, in last year's rankings, the top ten schools included seven private schools, one state, and two state-integrated schools.
- ✦ Three of 2022's top 10 schools are single-sex girls' schools, one is a single-sex boys' school, and the others were co-educational.
- ✦ The smallest school of the top 10 is #3 ranked Pinehurst, with 59 students in Year 13.
- ✦ All the top 30 ranked schools are between Deciles 8-10.
- ✦ Selwyn College and Dilworth School are Decile 4 schools and feature in this year's top 50 list.
- ✦ The number of scholarships, in general, stayed the same nationwide in 2020 compared to 2019. However, in 2020, fewer Premier and Outstanding scholar awards were given out.
- ✦ Overall role numbers dropped due to New Zealand closing its border to international students.

Additions to the list

- ✦ We saw five additions to this year's list, including Columba College #32, St Hilda's Collegiate School #37, Long Bay College #45, Hamilton Boys' High School #49 and Burnside High School #50.



Schools that improved in the rankings

- ✦ Kristin ranked #1, achieving a University Entrance rate of 96%, NCEA excellence of 25% and saw the highest IB 40+ results, with 19 students securing this academic result for the second year.
- ✦ There were three new additions to the top 10: Westlake Boys' High School #8, Queen Margaret College #9, and Rangitoto College #10.
- ✦ Woodford House went from 28th to 11th place with a University Entrance rate of 98%. They also achieved an impressive amount of NCEA Excellence which amounted to around 54% with 24% in the prior year, and attained twenty scholarships.
- ✦ Rangitoto College went from 23rd to 10th place, with 2 IB scores of 40+. The school also achieved 183 NCEA scholarships and 31 outstanding scholarships. They also earned 34% NCEA Excellence.
- ✦ Westlake Boys' High School went from 20th to 8th place, achieving 169 scholarships, 30 outstanding scholarships and 4 Premier Scholarships. They also earned 37% NCEA Excellence.
- ✦ Christ's College went from 31th to 12th place, and the University Entrance rate jumped from 79% to 91%. They managed to achieve 29% NCEA Excellence. Christ's College managed to increase its number of scholarships from 19 to 38, outstanding scholarships from 1 to 7 and was awarded 1 Premier Scholarship.
- ✦ Hutt International Boys' School went from 48th to 26th place, and the University Entrance rate jumped from 81% to 92%. NCEA Excellence increased from 10% to 20%. They also achieved 3 outstanding scholarships and 1 Premier Scholarship.
- ✦ Columba College was a new addition to the list, achieving a University Entrance rate of 98.6% and 36% NCEA Excellence, and also earned 3 outstanding scholarships.



Hear from top-ranked school students

I'm proud to attend St Cuthbert's College. I feel very lucky to be at a school that values education in young women so highly



Maria
- St Cuthberts



I can't thank St Kents enough for the support and opportunity it's given me over the years. I feel really grateful to have been able to attend a school like this.



Peyton
- St Kents

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Cornell, Dartmouth,
Duke and UPenn*





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