



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 9th October 2026

Important Dates

12 th OCT	First Day of Term 4
15 th OCT	Service Awards Evening
22 nd OCT	Arts Awards Evening



From Our Principal

Bula Vinaka - Happy Fijian language week.

Welcome back to the start of the fourth term. This term is important for all students at Otahuhu College. For our Year 9 and 10 students they have exams which will determine which classes they are in next year. Our seniors face NCEA externals and the completion of final internals. As a school every staff member will be doing their very best to help lift the academic achievement of our students. There will be many tutorials and workshops available and all students must be at school every day to take advantage of the expert support which is available.

For Year 11 students choosing their options, it is important to remember that the subjects they choose for next year will be for Year 13 as well.

Our Commitments

Our commitment this week is to be respectful. There are simple ways in which we can encourage our children to be respectful. Using more formal language when talking to adults and in particular staff and visitors to Otahuhu College demonstrates respect. Saying 'Yes' instead of 'yeah', making sure we use please and thankyou regularly. Holding doors open for others to walk through. Wearing the uniform correctly to and from school. All these demonstrate respectful behaviours.

Attendance

We kindly request your cooperation in ensuring that we are notified of your child's absence from school in advance or immediately upon the day of absence. This information is crucial for our planning and to ensure your child's academic progress. Please either call the school office or send a written note to inform us of your child's absence. Your prompt notification will help us provide the necessary support and accommodations. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Upholding Behaviour Standards at Otahuhu College

Otahuhu College is committed to fostering a safe and respectful learning environment. We remind students and families that physical violence, drug or alcohol use, or any association with related activities are serious breaches of our



Behaviour and Discipline Policy. Such actions not only jeopardize the safety and well-being of our community but also put continued enrolment at risk.

Support is available to help students meet behaviour expectations, including access to our Health and Wellbeing Centre and programmes addressing anger management and substance education. However, repeated or severe breaches, such as fighting or involvement with drugs, will result in disciplinary actions, including stand-downs, suspensions, or referral to the Board of Trustees.

We urge our community to work together to maintain high standards and ensure Otahuhu College remains a safe and inclusive space for all.

Cell Phones Not to be Used Between 8:30am and 3pm

Government regulations require that schools must ensure students do not use or access a phone while they are attending school, including during lunch time and breaks. This includes students who are on a school course or visit outside the school grounds.

Guidelines

Ōtāhuhu College is not responsible for the loss of cell phones if brought to school or on school based activities.

Cell phones are to be kept in student's bag and turned off between the hours of 8:30am and 3pm.

In case of emergency parents are to contact the school office on 963 4000.

Teachers may grant students the use of their phones for specific learning purposes. In which case phone use will be actively supervised.

Breach of this policy will result in the phone being confiscated for the rest of the day.

Dispensations can be granted for exceptional Health and Safety reasons.

Parents must apply in writing

Dispensation can be granted by the principal

A pass will be issued to the student



Uniform

Otago College has a proud tradition and we expect students to take pride in wearing their uniform to and from school, and we seek your assistance in getting things right. If your child is unsure of our uniform expectations, please refer them to the Deans. We have a great deal of pride in our achievements and want that reflected in how our students wear their uniform and the pride they have in Otago College.

The uniform is available at NZ Uniforms in Penrose and also available online:
<http://otahuhucollege.nzuniforms.com/catalog/school-uniform-1103685.htm>

Correct school uniform is to be worn to and from school.

Students must be wearing completely black shoes, for health and safety reasons these must be enclosed shoes. Males are to wear school socks, pulled up. Females plain white socks.

Denim/Jeans/Trackpants are not acceptable.

No undergarments (T shirts etc) should be visible, unless a plain white short sleeved top.

There are Otago College hats available, non uniform hats will be confiscated.

If students are wearing incorrect uniform, it is their responsibility to see the Dean first thing in the morning.

Students without a uniform pass will have items confiscated for the remainder of the term.



Enrolments 2027

A reminder that we are still accepting enrolments for 2027.

Please collect a form from our school office or click the link below to apply online.

<https://otahuhucollege.school.kiwi/enrolment>

Required documents:

- Birth Certificate / Passport
- Visa / Proof of residency
- Proof of Address
- Most recent School report
- Current phone number

Please note the following important dates:

Monday, 23 November 2026

– Entrance Examination and Orientation Day

Tuesday, 2 February 2027

– First day of school for Year 9 students

Sports Awards

Sports awards tickets are still available for purchase from the school bookroom.

Bookroom hours:

Monday – Friday 9am – 1pm