

St. Patrick's School



Masterton



St Patrick's School

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

A very warm welcome to St Patrick's School. We hope that your time as a member of our school community is rewarding and enjoyable. Our aim is to provide every child with a high quality education within a caring and respectful environment. We want our students to become lifelong learners and be equipped with the skills, attitudes and values to become active members of our community today and in the future.

The school has a long and proud tradition, following its opening in 1883, the Brigidine Sisters' leadership and its alliance with the St Patrick's parish. We aim for the school motto, "Strength and Kindness" to be lived by the children in their daily lives and evident throughout our school community.

St Patrick's is a successful school due to the contribution and teamwork of an experienced, dedicated and hardworking staff who are committed to the education of the children. We provide a curriculum that gives opportunities and experiences for all children to meet the ever-changing future with resilience and confidence. We highly value and promote all aspects of school life including sport, culture, environmental issues, performing arts and academic success.

St. Patrick's children are caring, talented and unique. Each day we see them grow and are committed to do everything we can to ensure that they reach their own individual potential.

Should you require any further information or have any questions about the school, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Steve Wheeler
Principal

St. Patrick's School Overview

St Patrick's School is an Integrated Primary School for girls and boys from New Entrants to Year 6, offering education with a special Catholic character. The Brigidine Sisters founded the original school over one hundred years ago and taught in the school until 1995. A close relationship exists between the school, St Patrick's church community and the Catholic Parish of the Wairarapa. Our school is situated within the town of Masterton and the makeup of our students reflect the diversity of a family, friendly, rural town community.



St. Patrick's School Mission Statement

'Preparing for the future in a Catholic Environment'

Our aim is to prepare students at St Patrick's school to be Catholic citizens who can participate and contribute to our ever changing world. The future will require them to be lifelong learners, to be creative and complex problem solvers, have strong interpersonal skills, work with diverse teams of people and to be able to synthesise and create information.

We want to provide an education that children can engage in and connect with personally, that connects with their learning, as well as with their own personal language, culture and identity.

Special Catholic Character

The Catholic Character of St Patrick's School is something that makes our school special. Students develop and build on their spirituality throughout their time at St Patrick's School. During their spiritual journey with us, we want them to foster the development of our school and Gospel values and learn to be loving and non-judgemental Christians. In doing this they are encouraged to be responsible for being stewards of the church, school community and planet Earth.



St Patrick's School – 'Curriculum'

Our school curriculum prepares students at St Patrick's School to be Catholic citizens who can participate and contribute to our ever changing world through the teaching of the New Zealand curriculum that is underpinned by our philosophy of learning:

*At **St Patrick's School**, we want to empower our students to live the Catholic faith through all learning. We believe that student **well-being** is paramount and developed in an environment that is driven by the **Gospel virtues** and **learner qualities** that nurture and develop the whole student. We see the importance of **positive relationships** and the upholding of our **school values** of Strength, Kindness and Excellence in everything that we do. We treasure an environment where students have the opportunity to be **agentic** in their learning. We endeavour to provide our students with **authentic learning experiences** where they make connections to their lives through the spiritual, cultural, digital and environmental worlds.*

 **Catholic Social Teaching
@ St Patrick's School**

Catholic social teaching applies Gospel virtues to fulfil our lives, the lives of others and to improve God's world: teaching us to live as responsible citizens.

Human Dignity I am beautifully made in the image and likeness of God	Rights & Responsibilities Everyone has the right for a good life and this must be protected
Participation We all have a responsibility to learn from the past to shape our present & future	Promotion of Peace We are called to be peacemakers as we live together in our world
Solidarity We are all one human family, loving each other as we walk together	Preferential option for the poor & vulnerable The needs of the poor and vulnerable take priority over the desires of the rich
Stewardship I am a kaitiaki of God's creation, caring for people and our planet	Common Good We are called to work for the good of everyone in the world

Over a two year cycle, each school term has a focus theme based upon a principle of Catholic Social Teaching. Within each principle, relevant parts of the Religious Education curriculum are taught as well as learning linked to the other New Zealand curriculum subject areas.

St Patrick's School – 'Learner Qualities'

Preparing students with future focused life skills are a key element of our school curriculum. Our aim is for students to be engaged in what they are learning and empowered to learn how to lead their own learning here at school and in the future. To do this they need to be encouraged to develop qualities which will put them in a position to be able to best achieve this. These learner qualities include:



- ***Excellent Learners give 100% in their work***

I am determined. I always try my best, am resilient and stick at things until I am finished. Even when I am in my learning pit I have the skills to figure a way out.

- ***Excellent Learners are risk takers***

I try new things. I know that it is okay to make mistakes. I am not frightened by new learning.

- ***Excellent Learners make connections***

I use different bits of knowledge, from different places to make new understanding.

- ***Excellent Learners reflect***

I think back on my learning, share evidence and know my weaknesses and strengths. I reflect on my attitudes and beliefs. I encourage others to be reflective too.

- ***Excellent Learners are creative thinkers***

I am curious. I use my imagination in my work and challenge others to "think outside the box".

- ***Excellent Learners are Collaborative***

I work well with others. I listen carefully, take in what others say, reflect and add my own thoughts. I am willing to share my strengths, abilities and knowledge. I understand that if I work with others I am better than on my own.

- ***Excellent Learners are Self Managers***

I come each day ready to learn. I stay on task and use my time wisely. I know what I can and cannot do and know my next steps.

- ***Excellent Learners are Curious***

I know that learning about our world means being curious and asking questions.

St Patrick's School – 'Values'

We have a positive and supportive school environment. Expectations for behaviour are well established and understood with a strong focus on supporting positive behaviour and enacting the school values of:

Strength (Kaha):

Making good choices to do what is right and when it is hard, be prepared to try again

Kindness (Atawhai):

Being caring and thoughtful towards the needs of myself, others & creation

Excellence (Kairangi):

Taking responsibility for being the best we can be, in everything we do.



Students' self-regulation is explicitly taught, and co-operative learning opportunities promote the building of relationships. Our three core values underpin all that we say and do and are a core part of our school 'Positive Behaviour 4 Learning' programme.

St Patrick's School – 'Prayer Virtues'

Each month, throughout the school year, we focus on one of our school prayer virtues. These are the focus for daily prayer in which children are taught to pray in a range of different ways that include personal prayer, praying through art and mediation

Peace - Rangimarie	Modesty Humility - Ngakau Papaku
Faithfulness - Whakapono	Self-control - Whakahauhau
Love/ Charity - Aroha	Generosity - Ohaoha-nga
Joy - Koa	Goodness - Pai
Gentleness - Humarie	Patience - Manawanui
Kindness - Ngakau Atawhai	

St Patrick's School – 'Core Concepts'

These are other core concepts that we believe are important and essential for children to develop and grow their understanding of to help them participate and contribute to our ever changing world:

Enviro Education for Sustainability:

- We believe that as a Catholic Enviro School students should be aware that we are called to take up the commitment of responsibility to creation and the duty towards nature and the Creator. We believe that students should be empowered to be part of a healthy, peaceful and sustainable community where inter-generations of people work with and learn from nature.

Digital Citizenship:

- We believe students need to understand the importance of being a digital citizen. This combines the confident use of:
 - skills and strategies to access technology to communicate, connect, collaborate, and create
 - attitudes, underpinned by values that support integrity & positive connection with others
 - understanding and knowledge of the digital environments and contexts in which they are working, and how they integrate on/offline spaces.
- We believe students need to have the ability to draw on the competency of digital citizenship to participate safely online in the world of the future

Cultural Responsiveness:

- We believe students should be part of a culturally responsive school environment in which their cultural beliefs and practices are understood, to help them succeed to the best of their abilities.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Cohort Entry Guidelines

St Patrick's School has a cohort entry policy which refers to children starting school in line with the requirements of The Education Act 2019. Therefore at St Patrick's School:

- Children may start school only after they have turned five years old
- Children will be able to start school on the first day of term, or at a mid-point during a term in line with dates set by the Minister of Education, once they have turned five years old
- Parents' have the choice of waiting for the next entry point if they believe their child is not ready to start school. Once their child has enrolled at school they must attend school.
- Parents who choose not to start their child until the age of six must ensure they start school on their sixth birthday.
- Students' already enrolled at another school who move to St Patrick's do not have to wait for the next cohort intake.

Attendance Dues

These are compulsory property and insurance fees which you legally commit to pay when you enrol your children in a Catholic school. Accounts are sent from the Catholic Schools' Board. These fees are used to pay for the upkeep of our school buildings and property and are administered from Wellington. In cases of hardship please discuss with the parish priest or the principal. Effective from January 2021: \$545 (incl. GST) per annum

Criteria for Preference of Enrolment

90% of children who attend St Patrick's school must be preference enrolments. To enroll your child as a preference you need to be able to meet at least one of the criteria below:

5.1 *The child has been baptised or is being prepared for baptism in the Catholic Church.*

5.2 *The child's parents/guardians have already allowed one or more of its siblings to be baptised in the Catholic faith.*

5.3 *At least one parent/guardian is a Catholic, and although their child has not been baptised, the child's participation in the life of the school could lead to the parents having the child baptised.*

5.4 *With the agreement of the child's parent/guardian, a significant familial adult, such as a grandparent, aunt or uncle who is actively involved in the child's upbringing undertakes to support the child's formation in the faith and practices of the Catholic Church.*

5.5 *One or both of a child's non-Catholic parents/guardians is preparing to become a Catholic*

Our Parish Priest signs the Enrolment Preference Certificates on behalf of the Bishop.

Non-preference Enrolment

In accordance with our Integration Agreement, 10% of children from a non-Catholic background are permitted to attend St Patrick's. Please contact the school office to seek further information about availability of these places.

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For an enrolment pack or should you require any further information or have questions about our school, please do not hesitate to contact us.