



Your Dio story





Your story starts here...

## Welcome

Your world is different from mine and that is true of every generation. But you, more than any girl before you, have the potential to achieve what you believe in. It's our job to support you, guide you and share the values and knowledge you need to be an independent thinker in a fast-changing world. It's your job to keep being curious, creative and committed to expanding what you know, exploring the world we share and discovering your story in the adventure we call education.

Kia kaha, kia māia, kia manawanui.



Ngā mihi nui  
Heather McRae, Principal



Meet our principal:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/our-principal](https://diocesan.school.nz/our-principal)



E ngā mano, e ngā rahi, ngā hau e whā. Tēnei te mihi maioha ki a koutou katoa. Nau mai, haere mai ki te reo pōwhiri o Te Kura o Ngā Taiohine o Tāmaki Makaurau. Mai te whenua ki te rangi, mai te rangi ki te whenua, tihei mauri ora.

To the thousands, to the many, to the four winds. We greet you all. We extend the welcoming greetings of Diocesan School for Girls. From the Earth to the heavens, from the heavens to the Earth, let there be life.



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# The Dio difference

Every school believes they're different. Because every school is. But what really matters is how everything comes together to help you learn.

You'll see the difference in the place we share, the outstanding facilities where we learn, think and grow. And you'll feel it in the passion of our people, the opportunities you'll have and different ways to learn and help you explore your strengths.

The Dio difference is the experience you'll have, the way you'll learn and the friendships you'll make that will last a lifetime.



Read our story:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference](https://Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference)



# Our difference is you

Our teachers, ideas, curriculum and facilities are the building blocks of a great education. But the real difference in any school is the difference you bring.

It's your job to bring the best of you and ours to help you seize those opportunities and be more than you ever imagined.



Discover the difference:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference](https://Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference)



## Our story

Our story began over 100 years ago, when the whole idea of an Anglican girls' school was revolutionary. Times have changed, but the spirit of that early vision still drives us. We still believe that the gift of learning in an environment of excellence can create opportunities for every girl to make a real difference in the world.



Read our story:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/our-history](https://Diocesan.school.nz/our-history)

## Why a girls' school?

We all learn in different ways. So it's best to choose learning that lights you up and helps you grow. Learning in a girls' school can give you the freedom to discover in a way that works for you. Studies show you can gain better academic achievement, more self-confidence, greater social awareness and better career opportunities. Young women shine in an environment free from gender stereotypes, and confidently develop the tools they need to positively shape the future.



Discover the difference:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/why-a-girls-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/why-a-girls-school)



# Our people

We all learn together. We're a group of big thinkers and keen learners with an insatiable appetite for curiosity. With the bravery to challenge the status quo, we're leaders inside and outside the classroom. It's this passion from our teachers and support staff that creates a one-of-a-kind learning environment. And together, we find moments of magic and brilliance.



Discover the difference:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference](https://Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference)



# Our place

Where we learn fuels how we learn. Curious minds need spaces that inspire creativity and invention – as well as places to run, swim, play and explore. So that's what we created. Right in the heart of Epsom, Dio combines a century of history and heritage with state-of-the-art sports, arts and learning facilities where every girl can grow and thrive.



Take a virtual tour of our School:  
[Diocesan.youtour.nz](https://Diocesan.youtour.nz)



## How we learn

Our philosophy centres around you. Your needs, strengths, interests and personal growth. You already have what you need to achieve exceptional things, so we'll guide you in ethics, teamwork and leadership to help you succeed, tomorrow and beyond.



Discover the difference:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/diodifference](https://diocesan.school.nz/diodifference)





# Your journey through Dio



Ages 3-5

## FOUNDATION CENTRE

Our Pre-school, known as the Foundation Centre, prepares you for a lifetime of learning. Guided by Te Whāriki, the New Zealand National Curriculum, and the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, you'll be inspired to discover, wonder and engage with the world.



Discover Our Foundation Centre:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/pre-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/pre-school)



Years 1-6

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

Our Junior School gives you the building blocks to succeed. To help deepen your understanding in all areas, you'll learn in a way that's unique to you. All in an environment that fosters inclusivity, collaboration and lasting friendships.



Discover Our Junior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-school)



Years 7-10

## JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Our Junior High School is a big step up, both academically and emotionally. It's a fun-filled journey and an important transition toward becoming a young adult. And as you discover more of who you are, amazing opportunities and experiences will follow.



Discover Our Junior High School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-school)



Years 11-13

## SENIOR SCHOOL

Our Senior School has a dynamic approach to learning for life. Alongside your academic studies, you'll explore ethics, experience leadership and cement life-long friendships to help you build the confidence and character you need for any opportunity beyond school.



Discover Our Senior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/senior-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/senior-school)



# Foundation Centre

Everyone starts their journey in different places. That's why you'll learn from watching, playing and following in the footsteps of our older girls to build confidence and grow your curiosity.

This is the beginning of a very exciting journey for you, both inside and outside of Dio. And while the lessons we learn at school stay with us forever, the lessons we learn from each other are just as important. Your new friends, teachers and our older girls will all play a role in preparing you for your next big step.



Discover Our Foundation Centre:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/pre-school](https://diocesan.school.nz/pre-school)



## What we learn

The Foundation Centre philosophy is guided by Dio's core learning programmes. So you're given a solid foundation to begin a lifetime of learning.

You'll get to enjoy activities like baking bread, swimming at the Aquatic Centre and visiting Mt St John. But these weekly activities aren't just for fun. They'll help you familiarise yourself with school routines and traditions so you're ready for Year 1.



Discover Our Foundation Centre:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/pre-school](https://diocesan.school.nz/pre-school)



# Junior School

This is your chance to discover the things you love, explore new ideas and develop the building blocks of lifelong learning. Junior School at Dio is a very special experience.

You'll learn in small classes with specialist teachers. They'll support you when you need extra help and challenge you to try new things inside and outside the classroom. Like playing different sports, experimenting with science or taking the stage in our Performing Arts Centre.



Discover Our Junior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-school)



## What we learn

In Junior School, you begin your learning journey with the Primary Years Programme of the International Baccalaureate (IB).

This curriculum will set you up with the knowledge, skills and attributes of the IB Learner profile. It also encourages you to learn more about how you can make a difference in your world and beyond.



Discover Our Junior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-school)



# Junior High School

You've got an exciting future ahead of you. We're here to guide you, both academically and personally, so you can achieve anything you believe in at Dio and beyond.

Being the best you starts with being brave. It isn't always easy, and that's why it matters. Join us and learn how to connect and collaborate with the people around you, stand up for what you believe in and grow as a leader of yourself and others. And as you discover more about who you are, we'll work together to expand your learning and make plans for wherever you want to go next.



Discover Our Junior High School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-school)



## Choose your path

In Junior High, our specialist teachers and small class sizes will help you strengthen core academic skills and set you up for a wider choice of subjects. In Years 9 and 10, you'll also have the opportunity to study at different levels and take NCEA exams.

We're currently implementing the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) in the Junior High School. This programme will help you take ownership of your learning as you explore your passions and begin to make real-world connections.

### WHAT WE LEARN

Junior High is your chance to start choosing subjects that suit your interests and talents. Whether you're into technology, maths, science, languages, sports or the arts, we have a wide range of subjects, specialist teachers and first-class facilities to choose from.

We also understand that some choices are harder than others. So you'll be supported by your teachers and our future-focused careers advisors who can help you plan subjects that support your ambitions and interests.



Find out more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/subject-options](https://Diocesan.school.nz/subject-options)



# Senior School

Being a leader of others calls for independence. Not just inside the classroom, but outside as well. So in your final years, we'll arm you with the tools you need and let you take care of the rest.

We believe that knowledge can be taught, but wisdom is learned through experience. In your final years at Dio, you'll have every opportunity to grow in both areas. You'll discover new talents, explore ethics and develop a deeper understanding of how you and others see the world. This ability to recognise and respect different perspectives will be invaluable in higher education and in life.

## WHAT WE LEARN

- Accounting
- Art history
- Business studies
- Chinese
- Classical studies
- Dance
- Design and visual communication
- Digital technologies
- Drama
- Economics
- English
- Food design technology
- French
- Geography
- German
- Heath science and psychology
- History
- Japanese
- Material design technology
- Mathematics
- Media studies
- Music
- Philosophy, religion and ethics
- Religious studies
- Science
- Spanish
- Sport and exercise science
- Te reo Māori
- Visual arts design
- Visual arts paint
- Visual arts photography
- Visual arts print



Discover Our Senior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/senior-school](https://Diocesan.school.nz/senior-school)



## Choose your path

In Senior School you can choose the interests and passions that best fit your plans for the future with your choice of two academic pathways.

### Two pathways. One focus.

Choose from two education pathways: NCEA or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Both offer a variety of subjects to pique your curiosities and prepare you for a lifetime of success.

Remember, it's not just what you choose to study that matters, but how you learn to keep learning. So we focus on creative thinking, using technology and understanding different contexts to help you build character and resilience for whatever you do next.

### PATHWAY 1: National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA)

This is New Zealand's national qualification for senior secondary students, offering a broad and flexible framework that's highly regarded worldwide. NCEA is taught over three years in Years 11, 12 and 13.

### PATHWAY 2: International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB)

Taught over Years 12 and 13, this is a rigorous academic programme that focuses on developing inquisitive, knowledgeable and caring young people who live, learn and work in a rapidly changing world.

Find out more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/academic-pathways-ncea-and-ib](https://Diocesan.school.nz/academic-pathways-ncea-and-ib)





# How we thrive

Excellence is not an exclusive club at Dio. We recognise that you're different from every other student and there's no 'right' way to achieve a personal best. So we'll work to foster your potential to be more than you ever imagined.



Discover the difference:  
[diocesan.school.nz/diodifference](https://diocesan.school.nz/diodifference)





# Sport

It's not all about who can run the fastest or jump the highest. Sport teaches us how to challenge ourselves in new ways, push past obstacles and become part of a tight-knit team.

You may want to lead the team or just play with friends. Either way, every sport experience you have is full of collaboration, spirit and fun.

So, to help you find your passion, we offer over 30 different sports, with state-of-the-art facilities, dedicated sports managers and specialised coaches both on and off campus.

## YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

- |                             |                       |                      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| • Athletics                 | • Flippa ball         | • Sailing            |
| • Badminton                 | • Football            | • Snow sports        |
| • Basketball                | • Futsal              | • Swimming           |
| • Cricket                   | • Gymnastics          | • Taekwondo          |
| • Cross country             | • Hockey              | • Tennis             |
| • Cycling                   | • Lacrosse            | • Touch rugby        |
| • Distance running          | • Lawn bowls          | • Triathlon/Duathlon |
| • Diving                    | • Lifesaving          | • Underwater hockey  |
| • Dragon boating            | • Netball             | • Volleyball         |
| • Equestrian                | • Orienteering        | • Water polo         |
| • Fencing                   | • Rhythmic gymnastics |                      |
| • Fitness centre programmes | • Rock climbing       |                      |
|                             | • Rowing              |                      |



## Choose your passion

Whether you're a casual competitor, training to play at an elite level or just love getting amongst the action, we've got a sport for everyone in every stage of their journey.



Read more about Junior School sport:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-sport](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-sport)



Read more about Junior High School sport:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-sport](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-sport)



Read more about Senior School sport:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/senior-sport](https://Diocesan.school.nz/senior-sport)



# Performing arts

Every student deserves the chance to shine. And with the right creative outlet you'll learn to express yourself in ways that matter to you.

Choosing performing arts at Dio means you'll join a long history of excellence in the arts. You'll have the opportunity to follow your talent and get involved in all aspects of performance. And by letting your passion take centre stage, you'll also gain confidence, become a better risk-taker and have fun. Come show time, get set to dazzle crowds in our purpose-built Arts Centre.

## YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

- Chamber groups
  - Choirs
    - Bella Cantoris
    - Bella Voce
    - Chapel Choir
    - Senior Choir
    - St Cecilia Singers
    - Virtuoso Voce
  - Concert bands
  - Dance
    - Contemporary dance
    - Hip hop
    - Theatre jazz
  - Debating
  - Drama
    - Contemporary and Shakespeare plays
    - Theatresports
    - Speech and drama
- Handbells
  - Jazz bands
  - Junior School drama club
  - Kapa Haka
  - Musical showcase
  - Musical theatre
    - Lighting and production
    - Makeup and costumes
  - Orchestras
    - Chamber
    - ConcorDio
    - Junior Strings Orchestra
    - Symphony
  - Rock bands
- Individual and group lessons across strings, wind, brass, percussion, classical and contemporary singing, songwriting and composition are also available.



## Follow your talent

Led by our Director of Performing Arts and outstanding teaching staff, you'll experience the power of performance first-hand and could even compete at regional, national and international levels.



Read more about  
Junior School performing arts:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/performing-arts](https://Diocesan.school.nz/performing-arts)



Read more about  
Junior High School performing arts:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-performing-arts](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-performing-arts)



Read more about  
Senior School performing arts:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/senior-performing-arts](https://Diocesan.school.nz/senior-performing-arts)



# Our Anglican identity

Our Anglican heritage underpins our vision and enhances our school community. We live by Christian teachings of love, service, peace, justice and hope - and while we'll encourage you to do the same, we welcome other faiths of every kind.

In sharing our values, we'll help you nurture your spirituality, find inspiration in chapel services and engage intellectually with religion, ethics and philosophy in the classroom. Our chaplains are ordained Anglican priests and are available to listen and walk alongside you in your journey, bringing a safe, confidential and professional Christian presence to our school.



Read more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/dio-anglican-identity](https://diocesan.school.nz/dio-anglican-identity)



# Be your best you

In our rapidly changing world, it's important to take care of yourself. That's about taking the time to understand who you really are and learning from those in our community who support you on the way.

This is the time for you to grow, learn and explore yourself and the world around you. So it's essential you have a support network that cares for your whole wellbeing. Our pastoral care goes beyond your classmates to include housemates, buddies, tutors, teachers, deans, chaplains and counsellors. And as you journey through Dio, there's always someone on hand for care and support.



Read more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/circles-of-care](https://diocesan.school.nz/circles-of-care)



# Beyond the classroom

Seeing is believing. That's why you'll have the opportunity to get involved in real-life, hands-on experiences, activities and learning challenges that grow your confidence and self-esteem.

Stepping outside the classroom is a great way to learn more about yourself, discover new interests, create strong friendships and develop leadership qualities. Through Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC), you'll choose from a number of experiences that build on your learning across the year, with a dedicated week long event in Term 1.



Read more about EOTC in the Junior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-education-outside-the-classroom](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-education-outside-the-classroom)



Read more about EOTC in the Junior High School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-education-outside-the-classroom](https://Diocesan.school.nz/junior-high-education-outside-the-classroom)



Read more about EOTC in the Senior School:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/education-outside-the-classroom](https://Diocesan.school.nz/education-outside-the-classroom)



# Exploring your world

There's a big world out there, and it's yours to explore. You'll leave Dio as a global citizen with a deep understanding of other cultures, people and languages.

Understanding each other helps us to better understand ourselves. You'll have exciting opportunities and trips to visit places like Greece or the Galapagos. You can also immerse yourself in different schools and proudly share New Zealand's culture in our overseas exchange programme.



# Enhancing your learning

Supporting you isn't just something we do on the side – it's everything we do. And with personalised learning support, you'll have every opportunity to reach your potential.

The Centre for the Enhancement of Learning (CEL) has an experienced team of staff and excellent specialist programmes that are crafted to suit how you learn best. You may come here to find extra support with study techniques or time management strategies, or as a gifted student where you will have access to programmes that motivate you to achieve at exceptional standards. No matter what, you'll find support that works for you.



Read more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/centre-for-enhancement-of-learning](https://Diocesan.school.nz/centre-for-enhancement-of-learning)



# Career support

Planning for your future starts with a question: “What’s the next best step for you?”. Our goal is to make sure you take this step with confidence, resilience and flexibility.

It’s never too early to start imagining the future you want. But many of the jobs you may end up doing after Dio haven’t been invented yet. So how do you make career decisions in a rapidly changing world? Our innovative Career Development Centre will give you the guidance and resources you need to make a smooth transition into the world of work and training.



Read more about careers:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/careers](https://Diocesan.school.nz/careers)



Read more about past students and their pathways:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/careersuniversity](https://Diocesan.school.nz/careersuniversity)



# Home away from home

## Boarding

Come to board with us and you'll create strong friendships and learn great study patterns in a safe, friendly environment with well-structured routines. Normally sharing two to a room, you'll be at the centre of the community and close to all of Dio's world-class facilities.



Read more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/boarding](https://Diocesan.school.nz/boarding)

## International

We welcome international students from Foundation Centre to Year 13. And from Year 7 as an international student, you may choose to board at Dio or live with a homestay family from Year 9.

We know it can be hard adapting to a new country and culture, so you'll have everything you need to feel safe, comfortable and supported during your time at Dio. And to help it feel like home, our Director of International Students and our pastoral care team are on hand to help with anything you need.



Read more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/international](https://Diocesan.school.nz/international)



# Our wider community

## Your Dio family

Your family will be warmly welcomed into our wider Dio family. You'll meet enthusiastic and supportive past and current parents, alumnae and friends of the School. These groups work together to support the School in various ways. There are many opportunities to get involved, make great friends and help create and enhance opportunities for all students.



Read more:  
[Diocesan.school.nz/community](https://Diocesan.school.nz/community)



# Ready to write your story?

If you'd like to start your journey at Dio,  
learn more about our admissions process  
and apply online, then visit us here:



**[Diocesan.school.nz/admission-process](https://diocesan.school.nz/admission-process)**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Who you are is a reflection of where you've been and everyone who's inspired you along the way.



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FOR GIRLS**

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