ST BEDE'S COLLEGE
MEN OF BOARDING

Kia Ora

At St Bede's College, boarding isn't just something we offer - it's at the heart of who we are. We are a true boarding school, not just a school with a hostel. Boarding is woven into our traditions, daily life, and decision-making. It shapes the way we care for our students and guide them to become Men of Character - young men of integrity, faith, and resilience.

As a past boarder myself, I know firsthand what it's like to leave home, face new challenges, and build lifelong friendships. I also understand the trust parents place in us to care for their sons - something we consider a true privilege and a responsibility we take seriously.

We believe a boy's journey is strongest when home and school work together. Boarding at St Bede's extends this partnership, providing a structured, supportive environment where boys grow in faith, character, and purpose.

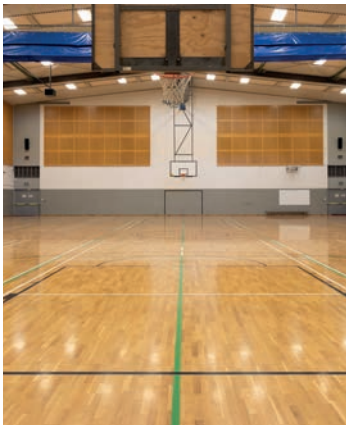
With strong pastoral care, academic support, leadership opportunities, and a wide range of activities, our boarding programme ensures every student is known, valued, and equipped to thrive - both at school and beyond.

Boarding at St Bede's College is more than an experience; it is a gift for life.

Ngā mihi
Kurt Paterson
Assistant Rector (Boarding)

Onsite campus

Located onsite within the college grounds, boarders have direct access to exceptional facilities that enhance both their academic and extracurricular experiences. These include the weights centre, gymnasium, learning centre, performing arts centre, hockey turf, cricket nets, swimming pool, fields, and teaching spaces. With all of these resources at their fingertips, students are encouraged to pursue their passions, whether in sport, the arts, or academics.



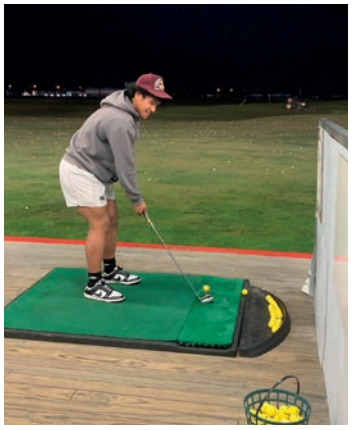
Overview of a typical week

A structured daily routine helps boarders stay organised, balanced, and engaged in all aspects of school life. Participation is key to a successful boarding experience, with plenty of opportunities to get involved in sports, cultural activities, and social events.

We encourage all boarders to take part in scheduled activities, as they are a great way to build friendships, develop new skills, and feel connected to the wider school community. By embracing routine and engaging fully in boarding life, students can make the most of their time at school while gaining independence and resilience.

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:00 AM	Morning Wake-Up
7:00 – 7:45 AM	Breakfast and Staff Check-In
Prior to School	Personal space clean-up, duties, laundry (if needed)
8:10 AM	Depart for School
Morning Break	Morning Tea
Lunch	Lunch
2:40 PM	Afternoon Tea and Daily Leave/Activity Check-In
3:00 – 5:30 PM	Personal Time / Boarding Activities / Approved Leave
6:00 PM	Dinner and Dessert – Dining Room
6:30 PM	Self-Development (Study, Personal Growth)
8:00 PM	Supper – Dining Room
Evening Routine	Prayer, study, personal time, or activities based on year level
Lights Out	Year 9 and 10 – 9:45 PM | Year 11 and 12 – 10:30 PM

Weekend schedules allow for student commitments, boarding activities, and additional weekend perks while ensuring rest and well-being. Evening routines are set by the supervisor on duty.



Support and wellbeing

Student well-being and support are at the heart of our boarding experience. Our Centre of Wellbeing offers expert care through on-site psychologists, counsellors, nurses, and physiotherapists, ensuring students thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

Through our Centre of Enhancement, boarders receive specialised support to reach their full potential, from in-class assistance and targeted learning programmes to tutoring, acceleration, and industry experiences.

Student experience

Our boarding students thrive in a vibrant, supportive community, balancing academic success with social growth. We provide a safe and comfortable environment where boys feel at home.

Our induction and weekend activity programmes encourage students to explore Christchurch's cultural, recreational, and social opportunities - from scenic parks and beaches to a dynamic arts and sports scene - ensuring they enjoy the best a structured and caring school environment and the diverse and exciting offerings of this vibrant city.

Frequently asked questions

What co-opportunities are available to boarders?

Boarding at St Bede's offers students unrivalled access to a rich and diverse co-curricular programme that encourages them to discover their passions, develop their talents, and grow as leaders.

With over 30 sports on offer, students can take part in team and individual sports, including rugby, football, basketball, cricket, hockey, rowing, athletics, and swimming. From beginners to elite athletes, every student has the chance to train, compete, and grow, supported by top-tier coaching and performance pathways for those looking to take their sport to the next level.

Our co-curricular programme also includes opportunities in performing arts, music, Kapa Haka, debating, and service initiatives. Whether it's theatre productions, choirs, orchestras, cultural performances, or leadership roles, every student is encouraged to explore their interests, gain confidence, and make lifelong friendships.

Living on-site means boarders never miss a rehearsal, training session, or event, and they also enjoy a student experience programme that makes them the envy of day boys. Weekends and evenings are filled with social events, city excursions, and outdoor adventures, allowing students to explore the best of Christchurch - from concerts and exhibitions to sporting events and cultural festivals.

Do boarders have access to the same facilities and opportunities as day boys?

Yes - and more. Boarders experience everything that St Bede's has to offer and benefit from 24/7 access to school facilities, tuition, and support that day students don't.

Boarders enjoy all the academic, sporting, and co-curricular opportunities available to Day students while also having:

- On-site access to learning resources and study spaces.
- Extra tuition and academic support beyond regular school hours.
- Full use of sports, fitness, and performing arts facilities after school and in the evenings.

Living on campus means boarders have a true advantage - they are immersed in the St Bede's environment, with all the support, opportunities, and resources they need right at their fingertips.

What personal support will my son receive?

At St Bede's, we are experts in boys' education and committed to developing Men of Character - young men who are strong in mind and gentle in heart. No stone is left unturned in ensuring boarders receive the best possible care, guidance, and opportunities to thrive.

Boarders benefit from on-site access to psychologists, counsellors, nurses, educators, coaches, and chaplains, along with a dedicated team of housemasters and mentors. Our most experienced leaders - the Rector, Deputy Rector, and Assistant Rector - live closeby onsite, creating a family environment where strong relationships and a deep sense of belonging are built.

Academic success is supported through the Centre of Enhancement, which provides tutoring, tailored learning pathways, and personalised support to help every student reach his potential. Wellbeing is prioritised through the Centre of Wellbeing, where boarders have access to expert care, mental health resources, and personal development support. Spiritual growth is nurtured through the Centre of Faith and Leadership, offering opportunities for reflection, service, and leadership.

Is boarding expensive?

Boarding at St Bede's is affordable relative to comparable schools, offering unparalleled value for money while providing a world-class education and boarding experience. Our fees cover accommodation, meals, education, pastoral care, some co-curricular opportunities, and access to state-of-the-art facilities, ensuring that every student has the support and resources to thrive.

More than just a place to stay, boarding provides access to everything a young man needs to reach his full potential—a structured, supportive environment, strong role models, lifelong friendships, and opportunities that may not be available locally.

As part of a college with over a century of history and tradition, boarders become part of a legacy that shapes young men of character, faith, and leadership. Choosing boarding at St Bede's is an investment in your son's future, ensuring he has every opportunity to grow, achieve, and be his best.

Does my son have to be a baptised Catholic to attend?

No, your son does not need to be a baptised Catholic to board at St Bede's. We walk alongside each young man on his faith journey, supporting him to grow in character, purpose, and service to others. While we are proudly a Catholic school, we welcome students from all backgrounds who are open to embracing our values and traditions.

As an integrated school, St Bede's operates under an enrolment scheme that gives priority to students who meet one of the five preference criteria. However, limited places are available for non-preference students, and we encourage families to contact us to discuss eligibility and the application process.

For those interested, we offer a Sacramental Programme, allowing students to explore and deepen their faith through baptism and other sacraments.

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE

www.stbedes.school.nz

210 Main North Road, Papanui, Christchurch, New Zealand

Phone: +64 3 375 0647

Email: boarding@stbedes.school.nz

Website: https://www.stbedes.school.nz