



## Middleton Grange School Prospectus



Character Excellence Service



For the  
Glory of God

# From the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

“ I am delighted to have this opportunity to introduce you to Middleton Grange School; a school that is known for its high quality academic education and as a compassionate community in which the God-given gifts and talents of pupils are nurtured and celebrated.



We work with parents as the 'first-educators' to challenge your children to integrate their faith with their learning, and to take their faith, as ambassadors, out into the wider world.

At Middleton Grange School we want to develop godly character in your child, to help them aspire to excellence, and to serve others in the community. As a Christian school we do this for the glory of God and for the benefit of society.

God calls each one of us to do whatever we are doing excellently as though we are doing it for Him and not for ourselves. "My utmost for His highest" is a universal expectation at Middleton Grange School.

May I warmly encourage you to seek further information about our school as you discover that this is a wonderful choice of school for your son or daughter. I look forward to welcoming your family to Middleton Grange School.

God bless

Richard Vanderpyl  
Principal



Richard Vanderpyl  
Principal

# We Are...

Middleton Grange School (MGS) is more than a place of learning; it is a caring community; a family of Christ that is shaped daily by faith, scripture and prayer.

We are a 'Special Character' School offering a non-denominational Christian education for new entrants through to Year 13. Since the establishment of the school in 1964 the biblical truths of Jesus Christ have been our cornerstones and permeate all aspects of school life.

## Our Mission

At Middleton Grange School we are committed to a rigorous learning culture based on an understanding of truth as revealed in the whole counsel of Scripture. We equip pupils with the knowledge and skills to understand their heritage and their place in it; and to critique and engage contemporary society. We work with parents to encourage pupils in their gifts and abilities to serve God and others.

## Our Vision

Middleton Grange School assists families in the education of their children by providing an environment in which the Biblical truths of Jesus Christ are taught and lived.

## Our Motto

Character, Excellence, Service for the glory of God

**Character** Developing our whole self in Christ's likeness with characteristics of mercy, integrity, and compassion

**Excellence** Always striving for personal best and utilising our God given gifts and talents to the best of our ability

**Service** Having a heart for selfless giving and realising our gifts and talents in order to help others

**For the glory of God**

All that we do is for His glory

What do our parents say:

“ Middleton Grange School is a place where I am happy for my children to be. They are immersed daily in a culture where staff encourage, guide and train their students to develop and be the best they can be; they support our children to find and walk in God's plan.



“ Middleton Grange provides an excellent all round education with particular emphasis on character development and academic excellence.



Read more about our history, Statement of Special Character and Statement of Belief on our website: [www.middleton.school.nz](http://www.middleton.school.nz)



# We Encompass

## Four Schools In One - From small beginnings to big futures

### Primary School

Years 0-6

Building a firm foundation for the years to come at Middleton Grange.

Our aim in these formative years is to develop the skills and gifts of each child in our care: academically, socially and spiritually.

Biblical teaching is woven through the curriculum and Christian values modelled by our staff throughout the school.

There is a strong emphasis on numeracy and literacy in our Primary classes with a learning environment that is structured, firm and nurturing.

Our team of dedicated staff are committed to providing a first class Christian education based on the NZ Curriculum. We strive to be creative, innovative and to provide a wide range of opportunities, so that every child experiences success.



### Middle School

Years 7-10

A place where purposeful learning and living occurs within a compassionate community.

These years are marked by growing independence and responsibility.

The Middle School embraces this stage in the development of our young people and as such, we design teaching and learning programmes that equip, engage and inspire.

An essential element of Christian education is the development of a young person's character towards a Biblical understanding of Godly living. Biblical foundations form the core of our learning programmes, and with an eye to the future we help to put the routines and disciplines in place for learning success.

There are plenty of opportunities for Middle School pupils to broaden their learning horizons in areas such as technology, languages, the arts and outdoor education.

A homeroom system for core subjects provides a consistent environment in which our pupils can flourish.



# We Encompass

### Senior College

Years 11-13

The years where Godly character, gifts and intellect mature.

The Senior College values achievement in all areas of school life and offers a challenging and supportive learning environment where pupils are encouraged to pursue excellence; to develop their intellectual, physical and creative gifts for service to God and others; and to build their capacity for godly leadership.

The school's curriculum embraces the National Curriculum statements in all subject areas, and interprets these statements from a biblical perspective. We encourage students to confront issues of faith and weigh popular ideologies on the scales of scripture.

Pupils are prepared for University or other Tertiary education through a broad but balanced curriculum delivered by caring and well qualified staff.

Leadership, service, missions, and extra-curricular opportunities are available and encouraged within a supportive structure.

Pupils who leave from Senior College have been taught the principles of developing Godly character and are well prepared to offer a positive influence within their communities.



### International College

Years 1-13

Adding cultural richness and learning opportunities.

The International College welcomes pupils to all Year levels (1-13) from a range of countries. The presence of international pupils in our College provides opportunities to share the Gospel and celebrate cultural diversity.

The College provides care and support to ensure success. Pupils join mainstream classes while receiving comprehensive English language support and unique pathways to tertiary studies.

Our team of "International Ambassadors" is made up of Middleton Grange School leaders who ensure that all international pupils are welcomed and integrated into our school. They are also encouraged to participate in the wide range of extra-curricular activities offered.

Special features of the International College are the Study Tours and English Camps we offer to many international pupils from all over the world. We also provide an International Teacher Development programme that builds important links with schools and educators abroad.

See more specific information on our website: [www.middleton.school.nz](http://www.middleton.school.nz)



# We Serve...



Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10 NIV

By actively serving others at Middleton Grange School we build a nurturing community from which the gift of service can flourish.



## Opportunities to Serve

Opportunities for service are abundant at Middleton Grange School with greater responsibility available as pupils progress through the year levels. There are opportunities to be class captains, library monitors, sports helpers, House Captains, buddies to new pupils, tutors for younger pupils, Peer Support leaders, organisers for mission fundraisers - the list is extensive!

## Servant Leadership

At Middleton Grange School we believe in 'servant leadership' which means that, first and foremost, we lead others with a selfless heart, always ensuring that we are focused on the greater good for the glory of God. Examples of key leadership roles in the Senior College include: prefects, house captains, vertical group representatives, magazine journalists and International Ambassadors.



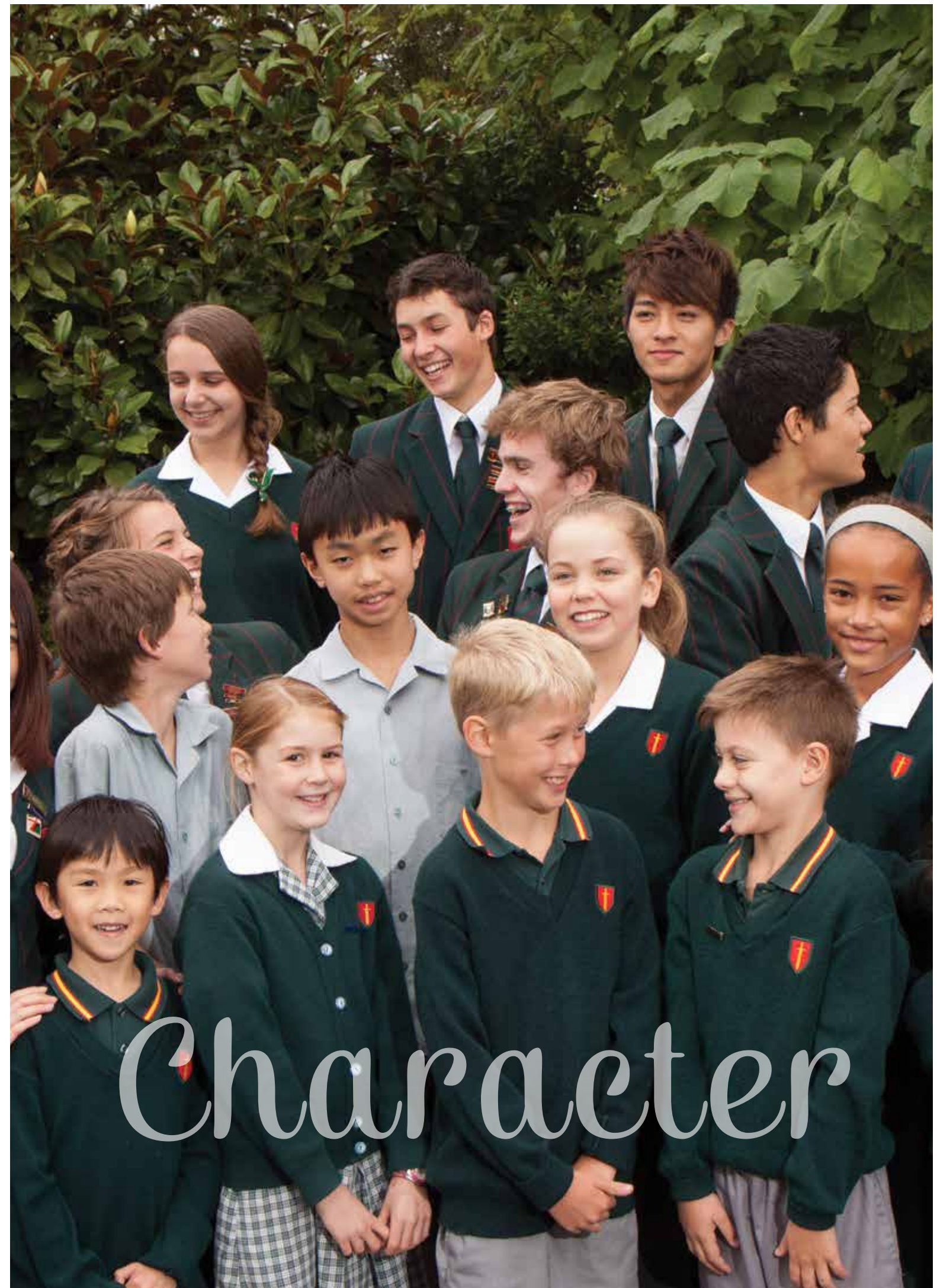
## Serving Our Community

In our Middle School, teachers and pupils decide on a community focus at the beginning of each year and plan a series of service opportunities based upon this focus. To complete the year, a dedicated service day is planned with the pupils collective enthusiasm wonderfully channeled toward enriching the lives of others.

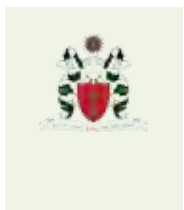
In Year 12, pupils are expected to give one hour per week towards Community Service. This can involve a wide range of activities such as gardening, Rest Home work or any giving of their time that enriches others' lives.

To serve our global Christian brothers and sisters, Scripture classes raise funds throughout the year for the KIVA loans scheme, an organisation that works across five continents to provide loans to people without access to traditional banking systems.

Destinations for overseas short-term mission trips in recent years have included Argentina, Fiji and India. While we value offering global experiences to serve, these trips depend on staff availability.



Character



# We Care



We are called to build the family of Christ.

We care a great deal about building the Middleton Grange family of Christ.

Pupils have opportunities to embrace their role within our large household, while also offering them individual support when they need it. Our staff are committed Christians who care deeply about children and young people; their love and support make our culture of nurture a reality.

Some of the intentional ways we build the Middleton Grange family of Christ follow.



## Houses

The House system encourages camaraderie and builds a sense of family between all age groups. The four Houses are named after heroic Antarctic explorers with historic connections to the school.

Each House has been gifted words that signify attributes of the explorer's name they carry.

BOWEN	SCOTT	SHACKLETON	WILSON
Sir Charles	Captain Robert	Sir Ernest	Dr Edward
Service	Courage	Leadership	Dependability
Hospitality	Endurance	Perseverance	Faith

During the year, sports, cultural and service events become part of the House Competition toward a trophy at the end of the year. Pupils are encouraged at each event to wear their House colours and enter into the spirit of the occasion.

## Vertical Groups

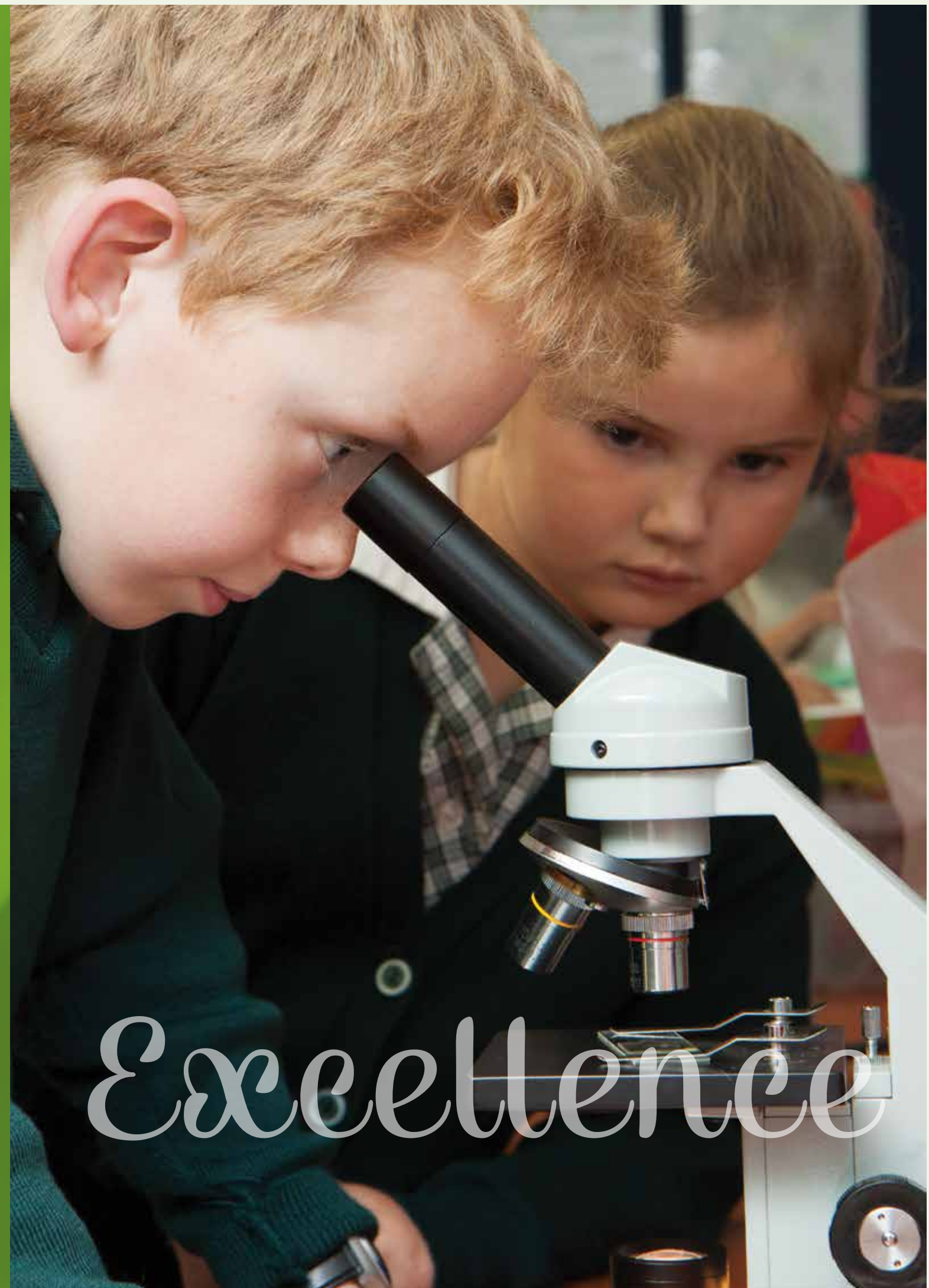
Form classes in Years 9-13 are made up of pupils from each year level.

## Peer Support

Senior pupils train to become Peer Support leaders and nurture younger pupils.

## Guidance Counselling

Our trained counsellors are part of our supportive staff network; they are available to help all Middleton Grange pupils and families.



# Excellence





# Service

## We Excel

“ Always striving for personal best and utilising our God given gifts and talents to the best of our ability. ”

### Excellence

Excellence is one of MGS's foundational mottos. We craft an ethos of excellence where pupils want to give of their absolute best for the glory of God.

### Academic

Middleton Grange School has a reputation for academic excellence. We teach the New Zealand Curriculum presented within a Christian world view. Our staff are highly skilled professionals who help our pupils to achieve consistently impressive National Standards and NCEA results.

### My Utmost for His highest

Our pupils are offered a diverse range of courses that include the core subjects along with a wide variety of option classes to accommodate pupils' strengths and interests. A key to our academic success is our staff who further enhance learning with numerous lunchtime and after school tutorials.

We believe that building a strong partnership between school and home is critical to our academic programmes. To ensure every child has learning success we have developed early intervention strategies that identify pupils at risk and provide practical supports for them.

Our Gifted and Talented programme is co-ordinated by a dedicated teacher who works with staff to identify pupils with specific gifts. Appropriate academic programmes or outside courses are explored with the aim of encouraging and nurturing their God given talents.

### Sports

With approximately 100 sporting teams across 27 sporting codes, the opportunity is assured for all pupils to explore their personal interests and pursue their potential. Each year, our young sports people enjoy considerable success in regional and national competitions.

Middleton Grange is well known for achieving outstanding results in Basketball, Football, Canoe Polo and Volleyball. Our Outdoor Pursuits programmes are nationally recognised for their quality and competitiveness.

High performing pupils are encouraged to strive to be the best they can be and this is highlighted by the 28 Canterbury, and four New Zealand representatives that we had in the Senior College this year.



# We Create

“Middleton Grange School celebrates, nurtures and develops God-given talents.”



We value creativity and have a strong culture of excellence in music, drama, dance and the visual arts. Our recently opened Performing Arts Centre is a state of the art facility for our growing music, drama and dance programmes.

At Middleton Grange, pupils have extensive opportunities to develop their creative talents.



## Drama

In addition to the curriculum teaching of drama, each year, we produce a major production. Middleton Grange pupils also enter the Shakespeare Festival and the regional Theatre Sports competition.

## Music

Music is offered throughout the school curriculum as well as providing pupils with extensive co-curricular opportunities. Our itinerant music teacher programme offers ready access for those who wish to learn an instrument. Two school Orchestras cater for pupils of all ages while the Jazz Band is open to Middle and Senior school pupils.

Choral opportunities include two junior choirs as well as the Crescendos choir for Years 9-13. During the year, the Middleton Grange community is treated to a series of Showcase concerts.

## Dance

Dance is compulsory as a trimester subject combined with Drama in Years 7 and 8, and afterwards is available as a co-curricular activity in PerCo Dance, the premier dance troupe at MGS that performs at school events.

## Performance Company

The Performance Company is a contemporary performance group with responsibility for providing worship and items in school assemblies and other community outreach events.

## Visual Arts

The visual arts complete Middleton Grange School's suite of creative opportunities for pupils. Housed in a purpose built facility, the visual arts programme incorporates painting, design, photography, printmaking, sculpture, three dimensional studies and drawing.





# We Embrace (Kaingākau ai tātou)

## Māori

Middleton Grange offers a number of opportunities to embrace the Māori culture. Te Reo Māori is compulsory for Years 7-8 and is offered as an option for Years 9-13 which includes NCEA Levels 1-3. Within the Māori Department there are opportunities to be part of Marae stays, participate in Manu Kōrero Speech Competitions and perform waiata and haka. Our Kapa Haka group performs regularly at school functions and annually at the Tūhono Cultural Festival.

Staff are also encouraged to use the language and we have a whānau committee established to assist in the home/school relationships for Māori whānau.



## Pasifika

The Pasifika pupils at Middleton Grange know their languages and cultures are respected and upheld. Pasifika pupils have the opportunity each year to participate in the SPACPAC Speech competition and speak in either Samoan, Tongan or English. They can also enter in NCEA External Achievement Standards in the same Pasifika languages. We have two fono a year where parents, pupils and school representatives discuss issues relevant to Pasifika pupils, outside guests are invited to speak, and refreshments are served. Pasifika pupils also attend the Careers Expo annually, which is specifically for Pasifika pupils across Christchurch. Some pupils have the opportunity to receive extra tuition at University of Canterbury during the holidays. Pasifika food is shared at the International Festival.



# We Are Global

## International College

*Adding Cultural richness and learning opportunities*

International pupils from a range of countries are welcomed to our school at all Year levels from Years 1 to 13. The presence of international pupils provides opportunities to show genuine hospitality and celebrate our cultural diversity.

The International College provides care and support to ensure success. Pupils join mainstream classes while receiving comprehensive English language support and unique pathways to tertiary studies in New Zealand and overseas. Our team of "International Ambassadors", is made up of Middleton Grange School leaders, who ensure that all international pupils are welcomed and integrated into our school. They are also encouraged to participate in the wide range of extra-curricular activities offered.

International pupils either live with their parents or become a member of a local homestay family.

Special features of the International College are the Study Tours and English Camps we offer to many international pupils from all over the world. We also provide an International Teacher Development programme, training English teachers and building important links with schools and educators abroad.

*"It has been an awesome time being at MGS. Kiwi students help and are really nice to everyone. I have laughed a lot here. Even though I am leaving, I won't forget anything and everyone at this amazing school!" - China*



“ I feel I am more independent now that I am in New Zealand. My studying has improved a lot because of new and different teaching methods.



Vietnamese Student



# We Are Future Focused

<h2>1</h2> <p>Curriculum</p>	<p>At Middleton Grange School there is a seamless, biblically-based Curriculum that is authentic and encourages critical engagement with contemporary society.</p> <p><b>In 2019 our curriculum is:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biblically-based and authentically infused by the Foundational Principles for Curricula (FPC)</li> <li>• Seamless across Years 1 – 13</li> <li>• Innovative in meeting the needs of akonga</li> <li>• Challenging, develops critical thinking, and inspires action</li> </ul>
<h2>2</h2> <p>Building Professional Capacity</p>	<p>At Middleton Grange School all teachers are reflective, lifelong learners. They deliver the highest quality teaching and learning within and across Year Levels and learning areas.</p> <p><b>In 2019:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional learning and development is regular, differentiated and of the highest quality</li> <li>• A de-privatised teaching culture is built on trust and strong, professional relationships</li> <li>• New and appropriate technologies are integrated into teaching practice</li> <li>• Effective practice is clarified, personalised and embedded</li> <li>• Achievement data (qualitative and quantitative) is easily accessed and regularly used in meaningful ways to improve the learning of all akonga</li> <li>• Pupil voice regularly informs planning and teaching through inquiry and reflective practice</li> <li>• Middle leaders are instructional leaders</li> </ul>
<h2>3</h2> <p>Culture</p>	<p>At Middleton Grange School pupils, parents and staff work within a culture of excellence with Christ's character permeating every aspect of school life. As a connected family, we serve together, celebrate with one another, and realise the gifts God has placed in us.</p> <p><b>In 2019, our culture is:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christ-centred, striving for personal best in all endeavours – "My utmost for His highest"</li> <li>• One of personal and professional commitment to a rigorous learning community – Ako</li> <li>• Respectful, restorative, and holds one another accountable – whanaungatanga</li> <li>• Connected, practising hospitality and kindness – manaakitanga</li> <li>• One where effort, success and the school's ethos are appreciated and celebrated</li> </ul>
<h2>4</h2> <p>Parent Community</p>	<p>At Middleton Grange School there is high quality communication and a strong partnership between home and school. Parents are actively involved in the life of the school for the benefit of pupils, and have a clear understanding of a biblically-based education.</p> <p><b>In 2019:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents are well informed about all aspects of their children's education</li> <li>• Parents are involved in the life of the school for the benefit of the pupils.</li> <li>• Two-way communication between home and school supports teaching and learning</li> </ul>
<h2>5</h2> <p>Service</p>	<p>At Middleton Grange School pupils, parents and staff are motivated by love and compassion to serve purposefully within school, local and wider communities. Opportunities for all pupils to use their giftings for practical acts of service are provided through our curriculum and school life.</p> <p><b>In 2019:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An authentic culture of service exists across our school community</li> <li>• The curriculum provides opportunities for service</li> <li>• Pupils are using their gifts to serve</li> <li>• Sustainable programmes of local, national and international mission operate</li> <li>• Parents serve within classroom, co-curricular and mission activity</li> </ul>

For the  
Glory of God





## Middleton Grange School Prospectus

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