



FAIRFIELD SCHOOL 2016



ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

School Description - History

Walton School

The first school in the suburb was established in February 1872 with the name Walton School.

A group of respected community people, headed by James Loudon, William Martin J.P., and James Howorth Junior, succeeded in opening the school after the number of children in the area warranted an Education Board School.

The school was initially located in the Walton Mission House in Green Island before being moved to a two roomed wooden building situated on Main South Road where the Fairfield store is now.

John Blair was appointed as the first teaching principal and began with a roll of 27 girls and 30 boys. Numbers in the district continued to grow rapidly. So much so that Mr Blair had an incredible 72 boys and 59 girls by 1874. It wasn't until 1876 that an assistant, Miss Ellen Jane Horne, was appointed.

Fairfield School

On January 1st 1951, fire destroyed Walton School. Children in the district continued their education in the school house over the next two years where somehow up to 130 pupils gathered together to learn with Mr. Donald Buchan as Acting Headmaster. Standing room was said to be at a premium in some rooms and officials acknowledged the competence of the teachers in such cramped and stressful conditions.

The Education Board purchased nearly 5 acres of land at the current site of Fairfield School at the end of Sickels Street. This school was opened on the 17th March, 1953 and the Headmaster was Mr. E. D. Farrant.

The school opened with 'an ample open playing area and a well-surfaced tennis court used for netball and physical education. Football and cricket areas also provide space for other games and athletic sports'.

Modern History

Over the years the school has experienced a series of growth points due to a variety of reasons.

In 1979 there was a new influx of students following the Abbotsford Landslide. Buildings installed following this event still existed as classrooms right up until 2016.

In the mid 90s a joint initiative between the Board of Trustees, the Parent Teacher Association, and the Fairfield community resulted in a new Fairfield School Hall being built in behind the school swimming pool. The hall is used regularly for sports practices and gatherings of the whole school for performances and assembly. The 2003 Fairfield Bypass on the Southern Motorway resulted in an increase in population in the suburb with several new subdivisions and housing developments. New enrolments continued and the roll at Fairfield School continued to increase. Several classroom blocks were added between 2004 and 2008 (Rooms 5, 9, 10, 11 and 12) to accommodate the extra children, including the Tay Block (2004) which houses the school library and the IT Suite as well as Technology facilities.

The school has seventeen classrooms in three main blocks, an administration block, a hall and the Tay Block. There are extensive playing areas including with an extensive adventure playground and a fitness track.

The start of 2017 will see the new Akoranga classroom block opened to the Senior School. The Board of Trustees and the school community look forward to the completion of this building after a long planning, consent and construction phase.

School Philosophy



Fairfield parents and teachers accept that they, together, have the responsibility of helping each child gain the knowledge and skills to become independent thinkers and lifelong learners.

Developing attitudes and belief in the School Values of Responsibility, Respect and Resilience will enable every child to live a full and satisfying life both as a child and an adult within a rapidly changing society.

A well managed and safe school, an attractive environment will enhance teaching and learning.

General Information

Activity Fee

The grants obtained from the Ministry of Education do not meet all costs involved in running a school. Therefore we ask each family to contribute to these costs in the form of an activity fee. This cost also covers all swimming, school trips, visitors etc.

School Fees Senior	Eldest	School Fees Junior	Eldest
Activity fee	\$103.00	Activity fee	\$103.00
Swimming	\$110.00	Swimming	\$45.00
	\$213.00		\$148.00
School Fees Senior	2nd Child	School Fees Junior	2nd Child
Activity fee	\$88.00	Activity fee	\$88.00
Swimming	\$110.00	Swimming	\$45.00
	\$198.00		\$133.00

Reporting School Absence or Lateness

Each morning at 8.50am a check of each class roll is taken. Please contact the school office and leave a message explaining why your child will not be attending school BY 9.00am. Any unexplained absence will be followed up by a phone call home. This parent-school notification is essential and acts as a safety measure for the welfare of your child. If we are unable to make contact your child will be marked 'truant'.

If your child is late to school they must report in at the school office. You can also text an absence to 027 8598342

After School Care Programme (MAGIC Kids)

Jeremy Botting operates a cost recovery After School Care Programme each day from 3.00 to 6.00pm. Children receive afternoon tea and are supervised at play or doing their homework. Please telephone 4250772 for further information. This programme also qualifies for subsidy from Work and Income.

Aquatics

We have a heated swimming pool on our grounds. During the first and fourth terms, children have swimming lessons with their class. Our Junior children undertake these lessons in the school pool, while Year 5 to 8 children go to the Mosgiel pool for Aquatic activities in deep water.

All children are expected to take part in this very important aspect of the school programme. The cost is covered in your School Activity Fee. If your child, for health reasons is not allowed to take part, please inform the class teacher.

Assembly

A school assembly is held every second Friday afternoon at 2.15 in the hall. Parents are most welcome to attend. Each assembly has a year group presenting and parents will be informed of this prior to the day. Assemblies are largely organised by the Year 7 and 8 children and are well supported by the parents.

Bicycles and Scooters

We have a policy of only allowing children 9 years and over to ride their bikes or scooters to school unsupervised. By law, safety helmets are compulsory and we expect children to wear a High Visibility vest provided through the school.

Board of Trustees

The Board consists of five parents, elected by parents of pupils of the school, a staff representative and the Principal. The Board has the power to co-opt other people onto its committee. The role of the Board is to govern the school. This means that the Board is responsible for the school's charter, finances, industrial relations, appointing staff, maintenance of buildings and grounds and developing consultative procedures with the school community to enable a free flow of information regarding the school. Our school newsletter contains information from the Board and we always publish the next meeting date in advance. Parents are always welcome at these meetings.

Chairperson:

Tony Carline

Parent Representatives:

Greg Inch, Rebecca Aburn, Karl Andrews, Tony Burton

Principal:

Andy Larson

Staff Rep:

Helen Le Masurier

Minute Secretary:

Sue Grave

Bullying

The school strongly opposes all forms of bullying and has a policy for detecting, preventing and dealing with bullying.

Books and Stationery

Stationery is available online or from the school office for the beginning of the school year - the office will be open the week prior to the school year starting. We are able to obtain stationery at competitive rates but it is not compulsory for children to buy from the school. The school runs its own bookshop for your convenience opening at 8.15 am daily. Text books are issued free. Good care of these is necessary to save replacement by the school or pupils.

Reading and Library books are issued to children regularly. It is most important that the children look after these books. If a book is lost or damaged we may ask that a small sum of money be paid to cover some of the cost of replacement.

Complaints

Any serious complaint should be directed to the teacher concerned or to the Principal who will endeavour to resolve it promptly.

If the issue is not satisfactorily dealt with or resolved, the complainant should then refer it to the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees – preferably in writing.

We undertake to deal with complaints immediately, to refer them to the person concerned, to ensure that there is opportunity to respond and explain and to inform the person making the complaint about any decisions that have been taken.

Children's toys and games

We do not encourage children to bring valuable or costly toys to school, mainly because we do not accept responsibility for their safe keeping. However, we do recognise the delight a young child gets from showing a new possession to their classmate. Parents should understand though, that we must adopt an “all care but no responsibility” attitude if expensive items are brought to school.

Classification of Children

We use a Year classification e.g. Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6, Year 7 and Year 8. For day to day organisation, room numbers are used rather than the classification used above.

For classification of Year 1 pupils children who have birthdays in January, February, March, April, May and June will be classified Year 2 for the following year. From July on, children would be classified as Year 0 and Year 1 the following year.

Class Placement

The school procedures, in summary, states the placement of pupils is the professional decision of the Principal and staff. The following criteria will be used in determining placement of pupils: individual needs, gender balance, peer grouping and numbers in the class. Parents will be consulted if there is any doubt regarding promotion or placement.

Damage

When a genuine accident occurs, no action is taken. But if disobedience or obvious stupidity is the cause of any damage, we feel the child/children should accept responsibility and contribute towards the cost of repair. Parents will be contacted if this occurs.

Emergency Address

Parents are asked to arrange an emergency address where children can be sent if ill or if parents cannot be contacted. At the beginning of each year information contained on our database will be sent home to check for accuracy or updates. Please remember to inform the school of any change of address, phone number or emergency contact during the year.

Enrolments

Children may commence school on their fifth birthday and must enrol by the age of six. Generally the name of your child is known to the school and the new entrant teacher will contact you and arrange a visit prior to your child starting school, approximately 4 weeks before starting date.

At enrolment time you will be asked to read and complete the following:-

- Pupil Profile—personal details
- 'Things My Child Has Done' form
- Vision Hearing Consent Form – Public Health South
- Parental Permission for Education Outside of the School (EOTC) Experiences
- Parental Permission for Photographs of Children.
- Responsible Computer Use Agreement

Documents required

- Birth Certificate
- Immunisation Certificate

Extra Support

Each year the school is given a Special Education Grant (SEG) to meet the needs of pupils identified at risk. From this fund the school uses a Teacher's Aide and/or Specialist Teacher to provide support. In addition to this the school has access to a Resource Teacher of Learning (RTLb) and personnel from the Special Education Service including Speech and Language Therapists.

Friends of Fairfield School (FOFS)

The Friends of Fairfield School meets monthly throughout the year. It is an opportunity for interested parents to involve themselves in fundraising activities, to meet with other parents, to support school projects, to discuss school issues, to contribute to policy making, and to act as a forum for the exchange of ideas about the school. Money raised from FOFS is put towards whole school projects and initiatives.

President:

Kate Grellet

Secretary:

Jane Khan

Members:

Jackie Daniels

Jackie McBride

Sarah Andrews

School Representative:

Christine Dalley

Vice-President:

Jackie Baldi

Treasurer:

Katrina Fraser

Wendy Johnston

Nicole Broekhuysse

Meghan Mills

Gardening Club

We have a gardening club which is held on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during lunchtime. Students grow plants from seeds (vegetable and flower), some we plant in our garden plots and others we sell to our families.

Hall

This is available for community groups to use e.g. Gym club and Taekwondo. Enquiries should be made to the school office.

Health

- **Dental Nurse:**

The Dental Nurse now operate from a mobile clinic based at Abbotsford School. Appointments will be sent out directly. If you have any concerns regarding your child's teeth please phone 027 284 9754.

- **Health Nurse:**

Our school has regular visits from a Public Health Nurse who in addition to the regular age checks is available to advise or assist with any other health concerns. The nurse can arrange for vision and hearing testing as well as liaise with the family doctor if necessary. Please contact the school if you have any concerns regarding your child's health.

- **Vision and Hearing Tester:**

This tester will make two visits to school per year. All five year olds will be tested along with referrals from teachers and parents.

- **Speech Language Teacher:**

This teacher will work with children who have been assessed as needing support with speech.

- **Head Lice:**

Every so often there is an outbreak of head lice among the children. You can help by checking your child's hair. If treatment is needed contact your chemist and please notify the school.

Health and Safety

Occupational Safety and Health legislation requires us to ensure the school maintains a safe environment. All accidents, whether in the playground or classroom, are reported and recorded by the teacher in charge at the time and should be treated in the first instance at the office.

If there is an emergency, the staff member dealing with it will contact parents and take whatever action is necessary – including taking the child to the Accident and Emergency clinic. Please ensure that we have a contact telephone number during the day and the telephone number of someone else – e.g. neighbour or a grandparent whom we might contact in an emergency. If you become aware of any hazards around the school, which have not been identified appropriately, please let us know.

Students' emotional well-being is equally important and children at Fairfield should feel safe and secure at all times. Children or their parents should tell teachers or someone from the senior management team if feeling safe is a concern.

If your child is on long-term medication which needs to be taken at school, please give us the details and tell us about any warning signs that we need to be aware of, and how we can assist if necessary.

Homework

The policy of this school is for every child to have a small amount of homework every night. For the Juniors this should not exceed 10-15 minutes per night and for the middle and senior children 15-20 minutes. The purpose of homework should be for consolidation of work covered during the day and perhaps a chance to develop research skills.

Houses

When your child starts school they will be placed into one of four houses – Walton, Pikiwara, Kaikorai or Martin. These houses have various competitions organised throughout the year and house merits are given out to children for positive behaviour.



Library

We are most fortunate to have a well stocked library with up to date computer technology that helps us to keep a record of all our books. Classes use the library weekly, and children are encouraged to borrow books that encourage the home-school reading partnership. Parents are asked to keep a “look out” for library books that may be left at home for long periods.

Lost Property

This is stored outside Room 1 (inside corridor through the school foyer). Lost property is displayed outside the front entrance on regular occasions. Please ensure all uniform items are clearly labelled so it can be returned or easily identified. At the end of the year all lost property is given to a local charity.

Lunches

Smart lunches are available everyday, BBQ sausage and bread on a Thursday, and lunchonline.co.nz provide a lunch delivery for Monday (Pita Pit) and Friday (Subway). Please refer to the 'Lunch Options' form that is a part of the enrolment pack.

Money

Although most charges are can be added to school accounts, on occasion your child may need to take small amounts of money to school. Please send this in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and room number, the amount enclosed, and details of what the money is for. This is to be taken to the school office.

Music

All children at Fairfield School get the opportunity to read and play music. We have a Junior School Choir and a Senior School choir called Forte. There is also the Recorder Ensemble, the Marimba Band, the school Rock Band, and guitar groups in action at the school.

All children from Year 3 upwards are taught the recorder as a basis to future development, and all children Year 1-8 receive a half-hour Music session every week with our Specialist Music teacher, Alison Tay.



Newsletters

Newsletters are emailed home each Thursday from the Principal. Notices from staff are emailed home when necessary. Please advise the school office if you wish to have a paper copy sent home.

Outdoor Education

EOTC is defined as any trip, excursion, activity or camp which takes place outside the school classroom. Experiences increase in difficulty, nature and length from Y 0 – 8. The enrolment pack contains a form for 'Parental Permission for School Trips'. Parents will be notified of any upcoming excursions and parent help is always appreciated.

Camp experiences include:

- Year 3, Overnight Otago Museum Camp
- Year 4, Overnight Quarantine Island Camp
- Year 5, 3 night Waiora Camp
- Year 6, 4 night Pounaweia Camp
- Year 7, 4 night Berwick Camp
- Year 8, 4 night Stewart Island Camp

Parking

Fairfield School is not an easy place to park near. Cars can park in Sickels Street, Old Brighton Road or the Main Road by the lane. Parking spaces are limited especially in Sickels Street. Cars are requested not to park in the car park to drop off or pick up children, and to keep our children safe by obeying the yellow lines in areas that might otherwise be considered a convenient drop-off zone.

Reporting to Parents

Frequent reporting to parents is essential in monitoring progress and developing the home-school partnership. Below is the a general timeline for reporting to parents at Fairfield School:

- March: Interviews with classroom teachers
- June/July: A mid-year interview will be held with classroom teachers
- December: A final written report is issued. If parents or teachers desire an interview, this can be arranged.

Parents are encouraged to contact your child's teacher with any concerns about any aspect of your child's schooling.

Road Patrol

Our two main roads, Old Brighton Road and the Main South Road, are patrolled by our Year 7 and 8 children before school from 8.30 – 8.50 in the morning, and after school from 3.00 – 3.15. The road patrol is supervised by parents. The school appreciates the support that the parents give us in supervising the children safely across the roads adjoining the school and would ask anyone interested to register at the office.



School Grounds

We encourage the use of our school grounds by members of the local community.

School Hours

- 8.15 am Grounds open for children (Unless prior arrangements have been made)
- 8.50 am School begins
- 10.00 – 10.15 am Class physical activity and a healthy snack
- 11.15 – 11.35 am Interval
- 12.30 - 1.30pm Lunch
- 3.00pm School day ends

Sickness/Injury at School

Parents will be notified by the school if there is any concern about your child's health, either through sickness or injury. Parents are asked to arrange to collect their child in the case of illness.

In the case of a bump, bruise or graze, children spend time in the First Aid Room (through foyer) where they are attended to by either the teacher on duty or Sue in the office.

In the case of a serious accident or injury, an ambulance will be called and parents will be contacted immediately,

Sports

Fairfield School has sports teams in the following events:

- Miniball at the Edgar Centre for our Year 7 and 8, with our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 play at Mosgiel.
- Netball at the Mosgiel courts on Saturdays.
- Hockey at the Alexander McMillan Turf and Queens High School, Dunedin
- Rugby and Soccer – Interschool teams.
- Touch Rugby at Peter Johnstone Park, Mosgiel
- Rippa Rugby at the Edgar Centre
- Futsal at the Edgar Centre
- Waterpolo - Moana Pool (Year 7 & 8)
- Flippaball - Moana Pool (Year 3 to 6)

Fairfield participates in the Otago Swimming and Athletic Championships. We also run our own Gymnastics, Cross country, Triathlon and Athletics Days. Our children also participate in the Sport Otago Sports days where all sports are involved with skill building.

Sport is an important element here at Fairfield for your child's development and there is a strong culture of sporting participation and physical activity.

Sports sign up forms are emailed to parent at the end of each term for sports being played in the term following. You can also find out more by visiting our School Sports Site via the link on our website.



Sun Protection

School sunhats are available for sale from the School Office. Children are to wear these hats in the playground during terms 1 and 4. We have a purpose built sunshade to protect our children.

Technology

Year 7 and 8 children have a weekly two hour session at Taieri College during the year. Boys and girls both have woodwork, metalwork and home economics. There are fees for materials used and an account will be sent out.

Uniform

At the beginning of 2003 a uniform was introduced. An order form is enclosed in this information pack. and samples are available to look at in the school office. Our Senior School students (Year 7 & 8) wear a different uniform. Please ensure that all clothing is clearly named.

Values

We have three core values that we use here at Fairfield School - **Responsibility, Respect and Resilience**. These values are developed and celebrated, and govern all that we do.

Staff 2016

Room 1 - Kathryn Tofia

Room 2 - Sandor Toth

Room 3 - Helen Le Masurier

Room 4 - Belinda Hoad

Room 5 - Aimee Preedy

Room 6 - Michelle Garforth

Room 7 - Melanie Tudor & Carolyn Rogers

Room 9 - Glen Beadle

Room 10 - Gail Milton

Room 11 - Donna Nichol

Room 12 - Christine Dalley

Room 13 - Amy Monaghan

Room 14 - Sheryl Morton

Room 15 - Jane Wlden

Room 16 - Lyn Donaldson & Jackie Baldi

TayD Rm - Debbie Garth

TayJ Rm - Jo Cook-Bonney

Principal - Andy Larson

Deputy Principal - Greg Lees

Administration - Sue Grave

- Krystene Todd

Teacher Aides - Julie Meffan

- Joanne Bayne

- Glenys Bowles

- Lee-ann Carline

- Leanne Scott

- Tania Beattle

- Alison Gray

- Wendy Sneddon

Specialist Teachers

- Alison Tay (Music)

- Abbie Wilson (PE)

- Rachelle Kilsby (Reading)

- Karen Dagg (Writing)

