

# Prospectus





# Welcome to ACG Sunderland



It is my pleasure to welcome you to ACG Sunderland. We offer a supportive academic environment where each child is encouraged and challenged to reach their full academic and personal potential.

As Principal, I am proud of the school's development since its inception in 2007.

Our core focus is on teaching and learning. At the same time we recognise that it is important for students to have a balanced and holistic experience during their time here. Sports, culture, music and leadership opportunities are activities that all our students are warmly encouraged to participate in.

I look forward to meeting with you and assisting in planning your child's education at ACG Sunderland.

**Nathan Villars**  
Principal

“

Young people and their families put their trust in us to provide them with a first-class education.

Our students are people who seek to achieve, who relish challenges and who are committed to being the best they can possibly be.

We are committed to giving every student the very best we can offer.

”

An **inspired** school

## An Inspired school

ACG Sunderland is proud to be an Inspired school. Inspired is a leading global premium schools group operating across Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Currently educating over 80,000 students, its international network of more than 110 outstanding schools delivers proven best practice to ensure world-class learning.

### What this means for you

As a co-educational, independent group, Inspired and ACG Sunderland aim to help students achieve their maximum potential in a nurturing, progressive academic environment.

Promoting a holistic educational experience, we believe in empowering students with the knowledge, attitudes and beliefs they require to embrace the challenges of their future. We focus on identifying and developing the individuality and talents of all students, building their confidence and equipping them to take on the world with the skills and self-assurance to ensure success.

For ACG Sunderland, Inspired's global reach allows us to offer considerable benefits to both our students and staff. This includes the opportunity to enjoy international exchanges and summer programmes in many Inspired schools.

Through Inspired, the principal and teachers at ACG Sunderland have access to educational leaders at the forefront of ideas. Sharing best international practice, knowledge, resources and training, enables us to remain on the cutting edge of educational innovation.

As an Inspired school, ACG Sunderland continues to deepen our commitment to an international outlook, preparing our students for tomorrow's world.

# Our vision & values

Exceptional learning, traditional values and individualised care make ACG Sunderland an outstanding choice for families seeking world-class education from Early Learning to Year 13.

## Exceptional learning

Academically focused and strongly supported by extracurricular activities, our students are inspired to be the very best they can be. Exceptional learning is at the heart of all we do, from our high-quality teachers to our personalised approach to learning and unique school culture. Our students strive for personal and academic excellence in a nurturing and supportive environment.

## Strong family and community values

We are an independent, co-educational day school with strong family values and a keen sense of pride in our traditions. On nine acres of landscaped grounds in the heart of West Auckland, the school is named after the Sunderland flying boats which were based at Hobsonville and have become an important part of the history of our community.

## Internationally recognised education

We are proud to be part of a worldwide network of schools offering the Cambridge Pathway, which is delivered online as well as in the classroom. Our students graduate with prestigious, internationally recognised qualifications, and the best educational and career pathways. We equip students with the knowledge, skills and attributes they need for success in their chosen field, anywhere in the world.

## ACG Schools – a united approach

We offer world-class education at all our independent New Zealand schools, and our ambition is for each of our students to unleash their potential. The outstanding individual care we provide helps develop grounded, critical-thinking students with a genuine love of learning, who go on to fulfil their potential in life.

## Vision

To foster in each student a clarity of purpose to achieve their full potential.

## Motto

Aspire, Succeed, Respect

## Values

The Sunderland Way encompasses the six key values taught and lived at ACG Sunderland:

- › Respect
- › Confidence
- › Enthusiasm
- › Loyalty
- › Service
- › Determination

## Philosophy

ACG Sunderland is passionate about delivering outstanding education underpinned by traditional values and standards. We provide exceptional learning and development opportunities in the classroom and beyond, and our strong pastoral care ensures all students are supported and nurtured.





# Care & wellbeing

The welfare and care of our students is paramount. Our students receive individual care and support, both inside the classroom and within the wider school community.

## Parent and teacher interviews

Planned parent/teacher interviews are organised twice a year. Parents are also encouraged to make an appointment after school with their child's teachers to discuss any particular issues.

## Early learning

All young children at ACG Sunderland Early Learning School are nurtured by caring, qualified staff.

We work closely with the Ministry of Health to ensure all our children are ready to transition comfortably to primary school, and provide additional support, such as speech language therapy, early intervention or occupational therapy, if required.

## Primary school

All new students to ACG Sunderland are allocated a buddy for their first weeks of school to help them adjust to our culture and processes and ensure they feel supported and welcome every step of the way.

Primary school classes meet regularly with their buddy class to foster positive relationships between children of different ages, and to highlight school values.

For students with specific learning issues, extra support is available through the services of a teacher aide. Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are also prepared.

## College

**Continuity of care** – Our vertical form classes are made up of students representing Years 8 to 13, who are all in the same house. Each class has a form teacher who stays with the class for six years, ensuring continuity of care.

**Deans** – School deans have overall responsibility for student welfare and academic progress. The College has dedicated deans for Lower College, Upper College and for international students.

**Learning support** – If a student has learning issues, we provide extra support through the College's learning support department. Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are also used, along with support for examinations.

## Tutor system

Every child at ACG Sunderland has an allocated tutor to provide pastoral care, support learning, and deal with any personal issues that should arise. The tutor stays in close contact with you and your child throughout the year.

At Primary level, the tutor is the home room teacher. Year 7 has horizontal form classes to assist with the transition to College. From Year 8, students move into vertical form classes with the same form tutor for six years. Within these vertical form classes, the mix of ages allows for peer tutoring and mentoring.

As part of our tutor system, we run a general studies course that covers topics such as bullying, cyber safety, study skills and accepting differences. This course is integrated with the ACG Sunderland values programme.

## After-school care

Our school offers the Kids at School Care programme, providing before-school, after-school and holiday care. Care is provided as part of a safe, stimulating and fun programme that meets the developmental, emotional, intellectual and physical needs of the children.

# Early Learning

3 months - 5 years



## A positive foundation for learning

During these early years, children acquire a variety of important skills that help them learn and develop relationships with others in order to successfully participate in school life.

ACG Sunderland Early Learning School encourages children to see learning as enjoyable and useful. We provide a strong and caring foundation for their intellectual, physical and social development.

The ACG Sunderland Early Learning School (ELS) is licensed for 70 children from three months to five years. The teacher to child ratio is one to eight. This ensures an exceptional quality of care and education for all children in our ELS environment.

### Curriculum

Our Early Learning School provides children with the fundamental skills required to succeed at primary school. With oral language forming the basis of literacy, we put an emphasis on language-based activities that provide opportunities for thinking, problem-solving and experimenting. Through opportunities to listen and respond to stories, children are encouraged to attempt independent writing and reading.

Staff plan for the children's learning using Te Whāriki, the Ministry of Education's early childhood curriculum, and Kei Tua o te Pae for assessment. All children and their families have the opportunity to contribute to their online portfolios at any time.

### Activities

Our children experience a range of activities both at the Early Learning School and out in the community. These activities enhance their education and align with our holistic approach to learning. Visitors may include police officers, St John Ambulance staff, firefighters, and even guide dogs and their handlers. Students also enjoy visits to the museum, preschool graduation ceremonies, Christmas parties and other trips.



# Primary

## Years 1–6

## Building enquiring minds

Throughout the formative years of Primary school we emphasise:

- › Developing a love of learning that lasts a lifetime
- › Acquiring excellent work habits
- › Building an enquiring mind
- › Providing service to school and community
- › Preparing for College
- › Being kind, caring and compassionate
- › Most importantly, being passionate in all we do

### Academic learning

Students follow the Cambridge Primary programme, a flexible curriculum with integrated assessment for students from five to 11 years old.

The programme provides excellent preparation for students to move successfully from Primary school to College, and ensures the academic, sporting and cultural strengths developed at an early age transition seamlessly to each new level.

### Curriculum

The curriculum states clear learning objectives in English, mathematics and science, with progress throughout the Primary years being internationally benchmarked. This culminates with Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Examinations at the end of Year 6.

### Lower Primary (Years 0–3)

At age five, children enter Lower Primary. The Lower Primary years aim to develop students' talents and abilities in a caring, safe and stimulating classroom environment. Enquiry-based programmes are offered to excite young minds, laying the foundation for successful future learning.

### Upper Primary (Years 4–6)

The focus of the Upper Primary years is to further develop students into becoming independent and confident learners with researching and problem-solving skills.



# Primary subjects

## Core subjects

English - Reading, Writing, Spelling, Oral Language

Mathematics and Statistics

## Specialist teaching

Science

Health

Sport/ Dance

Spanish (Years 4–6)

Visual Arts

Computer Science

Music & Performing Arts

Technology

Physical Education

Social Sciences

## Extension classes

### Years 1–3

Extension Literacy

Extension Mathematics

### Years 4–6

Maths Achievement Challenge

CREST Technology (Years 5–6)

Otago Problem Solving Mathematics

Extension Writing Group

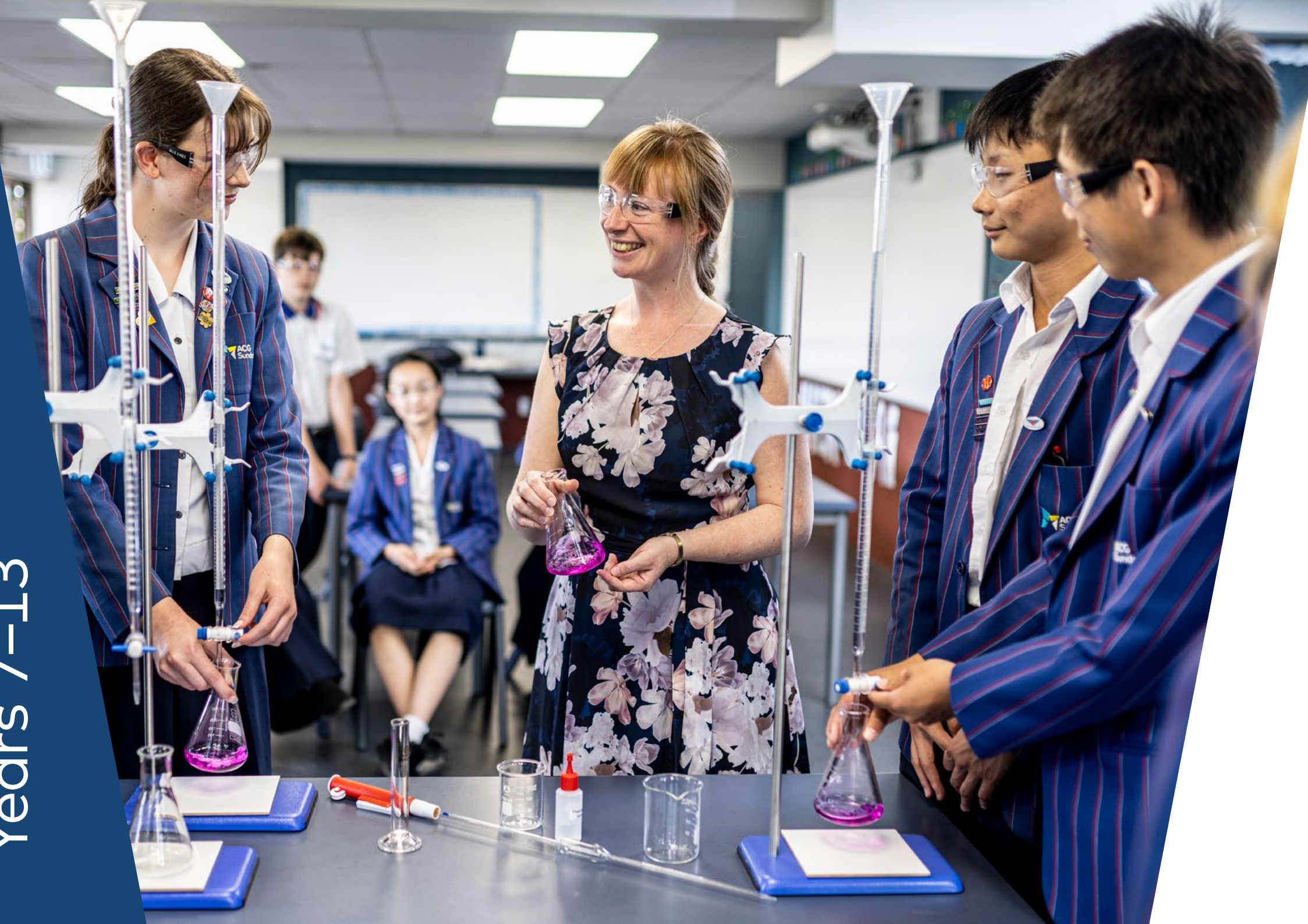
All of the school's tuition may be delivered in the classroom, online or through a combination of the two. Subject availability may vary from year to year depending on student interest and staff availability.





# College

## Years 7-13



## Stand out anywhere in the world

Throughout our students' College years we emphasise:

- › A high-quality international curriculum with a clear and measurable assessment system
- › An atmosphere where students enjoy coming to school
- › High involvement in extracurricular activities
- › Opportunities for service and personal development
- › An education of excellence

### What is the Cambridge curriculum?

Cambridge Assessment International Education is the world's largest provider of international qualifications. The curriculum is part of Cambridge Assessment, a department of the world-renowned University of Cambridge.

By offering the Cambridge curriculum, we provide an education of the highest calibre, delivered by passionate teachers who are specialists in their subject fields. High-achieving students are extended through accelerated learning, while our academic and extracurricular programmes provide all students with enriching experiences and opportunities. The curriculum culminates in IGCSE, AS and A-Levels in Years 11 to 13.

### Lower College (Years 7-10)

Enthusiastic and highly skilled teachers ensure that students continue to build on their previous achievements. A broad-based and challenging academic curriculum is offered in Years 7 to 10, alongside extracurricular activities to enhance skills.

The College offers the Cambridge Lower Secondary programme in Years 7 to 9, followed by IGCSE preparation in Year 10. The subjects we teach ensure students take a balanced course that prepares them well for future needs. These years form an important base for senior study and qualifications.

### Upper College (Years 11-13)

Students in the Upper College are encouraged to study subjects that best suit their interests, abilities and future aspirations. We provide all students with personalised guidance on subject selection. Our teaching methods ensure individual attention for every student, and close monitoring of performance promotes academic achievement. All students are challenged to set goals for themselves.

Senior students are encouraged to take an active role in House and school leadership opportunities, while sports and cultural groups provide a sense of service to the school. Peer mentoring, coaching and managing sports teams, tutoring and House responsibilities all contribute to building confidence and independence in our senior students.

### College events and camps

We encourage all students to participate in events and camps held throughout the year. These include the Mathematics Olympics evening for Years 7 to 10, leaders' training weekends, the school ball, school picnics, and camps for all year levels.

The school also encourages students to get involved in charity work, such as fundraising events and supporting the Sunderland on Service projects each year.



# Secondary subjects

## Lower College subjects (Years 7–10)

Our broad and balanced curriculum focuses on all essential learning areas:

English	Science	Physical Education
Foreign Language (Spanish)	Social Sciences	Technology
Mathematics	The Arts	Computer Science

## Upper College subjects (Years 11–13)

### Year 11 – IGCSE

Students usually take seven subjects. Year 11 students may also choose AS-Level subjects provided they meet the entry criteria.

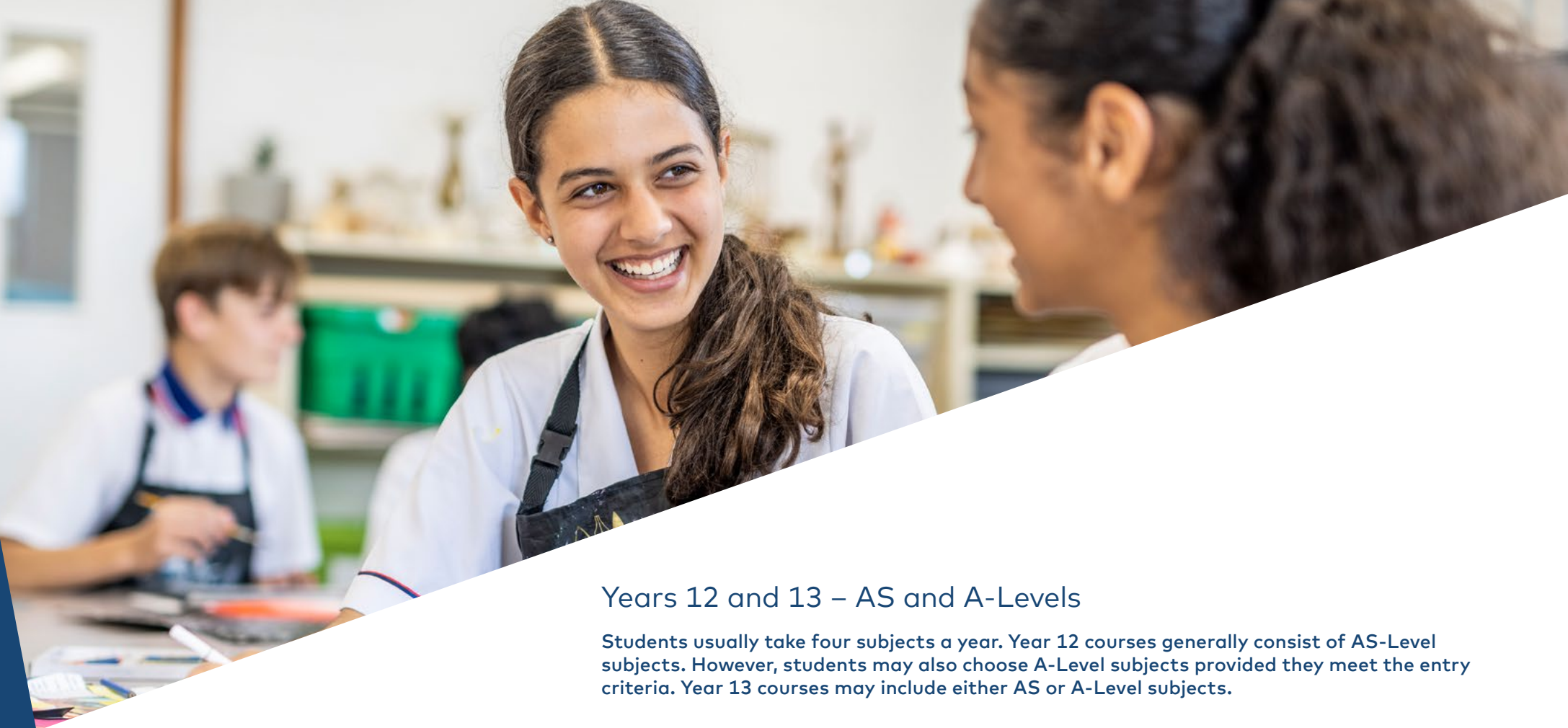
#### Compulsory

English Language	English Literature	Mathematics
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#### Optional

Art & Design	Design & Technology	Physical Education
Computer Science	History	Spanish
Coordinated Science: Physics, Chemistry, Biology		Music

All of the school's tuition may be delivered in the classroom, online or through a combination of the two. Subject availability may vary from year to year depending on student interest and staff availability.



### Years 12 and 13 – AS and A-Levels

Students usually take four subjects a year. Year 12 courses generally consist of AS-Level subjects. However, students may also choose A-Level subjects provided they meet the entry criteria. Year 13 courses may include either AS or A-Level subjects.

#### Compulsory

English Language or English Literature
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#### Optional

Art & Design	Computer Science	Physics
Biology	Design & Technology	Physical Education
Business	Marine Science	Spanish
Chemistry	Mathematics	
Classical Studies	Music	



## Primary

ACG Sunderland Primary regularly fields teams in inter-primary school fixtures around Auckland and the North Island. We play against local West Auckland schools, and are involved in the Henderson cluster of schools for sports tournaments.

Throughout the academic year our students participate in school-wide sporting events, including:

- › Cross-country
- › Athletics
- › Swimming carnival

Sports offered:

- › **Winter:** soccer, netball, badminton, basketball, running club, skate club
- › **Summer:** swimming, athletics, basketball, touch rugby, hockey, running club, skate club

## College

ACG Sunderland focuses on a select range of sports and aims to achieve success at local and regional levels. There are also opportunities for students to compete in alternative sports. For all sports, parent help with transport, coaching or team management is appreciated.

Sports offered:

- › **Winter:** soccer, cycling, table tennis, netball, badminton, basketball
- › **Summer:** athletics, cricket, tennis, touch rugby, orienteering, cross-country, rowing, basketball

## Sporting facilities

ACG Sunderland's academic learning is strongly supported by extracurricular activities, including our diverse range of sporting options. Our purpose-built gymnasium and the superb local sporting facilities on our doorstep mean sporting opportunities are readily available to students. Facilities include netball and tennis courts, a swimming complex, playing fields, an athletics track and the magnificent Trusts Stadium.







Our outstanding Performing Arts curriculum helps bring out the best in students' musical and dramatic abilities, offering all students a chance to shine.

### Primary

Regular specialist music, drama, dance and visual arts teaching is an integral part of our academic programme. Our Primary school drama production and itinerant music nights are calendar highlights, as are the much-anticipated performances from our junior and senior Primary choirs, and groups and solo artists at regular school assemblies. A full and vibrant schedule of music lessons is also available.

### College

ACG Sunderland students are passionate about the arts, immersing themselves fully in the exciting opportunities we offer. We have a College jazz band, rock bands, a chamber orchestra, and hold an annual College drama production which students love participating in, either on stage or behind the scenes. A wide range of music lessons are on offer, as well as speech and drama exams through Trinity Guildhall. Debating and speech competitions also prove popular.

### Dedicated arts and culture spaces

With a 250-seat auditorium, specialist music rooms, visual arts rooms, a band practice room and individual practice suites, ACG Sunderland is well-equipped for students to immerse themselves in art and culture. We provide opportunities to master an instrument, join a musical group, take part in a school production or learn new skills for a cultural performance.



# Our community

Our parents, staff and students are connected by a shared objective: to ensure all students develop a passion for learning both inside and outside the classroom, readying them to leave school as well-rounded global citizens.

## Sunderland on Service

The ACG Sunderland student leadership team organises two service events and two charity events each year. These events get the whole school working together towards a common goal that benefits the school or wider community. Service is one of the cornerstone characteristics of an ACG Sunderland education. Our Primary and College student leaders motivate the whole school to work towards meaningful projects. Past events have included students washing police vehicles, writing letters to Starship Hospital patients and fundraising for the Primary school gardens.

## Developing school spirit – the House system

Houses meet in individual House assemblies each week. Student House leaders play an active role at these assemblies and take on leadership responsibilities. All Houses choose to support a charity from outside the school community to help foster a sense of community responsibility.

## Parents and Friends

Parents and Friends is a committee run by volunteers – all friends or families of the school. The committee raises funds to buy items not covered by school fees but of benefit to students. In the past this has included such things as donations to the school ball, shade sails over playgrounds, cricket nets, and the planting of a hedge for privacy at the front of the Primary playground.





### Uniforms

Our uniform identifies our students and gives them a sense of belonging and pride in the school. Wearing the correct uniform is an important aspect of attending ACG Sunderland. There are separate uniform requirements for Primary and College students, for summer and winter. Uniforms are purchased from the Lenco Shop, and the school runs a second-hand uniform shop where items can be purchased.

### Sports and field trips

Transport for field trips, courses or extracurricular sports activities is advised closer to the time.

### Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

ACG Sunderland is a Bring Your Own Device school, helping students go beyond the classroom and explore the world via technology in a highly interactive and dynamic way.

All College students are expected to bring a device that meets minimum standards. Lower College students commonly have a tablet or netbook device while students in the Upper College usually have a laptop.

### School bus transport

Ensuring students get to school quickly and safely is a top priority. We offer a private bus service with routes to central, western and northwest Auckland.

We currently operate bus services to and from New Lynn, Mt Roskill, New Windsor, Laingholm, Oratia, West Harbour, Te Atatu, Kumeu, Taupaki, Piha, Hillsborough, Point Chevalier, Hobsonville Point and many more locations. New routes are always being considered, so please contact us if your location isn't covered.

Please visit [sunderland.acgedu.com](http://sunderland.acgedu.com) to review our latest routes and costs.

Things you  
need to know





### Guided tour

See the school in action on a guided tour — at 9.45am every Tuesday during term time.

### Open Day

Meet some of our students and staff as you explore the school. Check upcoming dates at: [sunderland.acgedu.com](https://sunderland.acgedu.com)

### ACG Student for a Day™

To see if ACG Sunderland is the right fit for your child, let them spend a day with us as a student and experience the school first-hand.

### Visit us

Our Enrolment Manager can arrange a school visit at a time that suits you.

### Social

**f** /acgsunderland  
**@** @acgsunderland

Visit us



# Get in touch

**0800 222 199**

**6 Waipareira Ave, Henderson, Auckland**



If you are interested in enrolling at ACG Sunderland, we encourage you to visit the school. There is no better way for us to show you what makes ACG Sunderland such an inspirational school. We'd love to meet you.

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