

International Prospectus 2023



Mt Hobson Academy Years 11-13



Pathway to Opportunity



Mt Hobson Academy: A Model for the 21st Century



No ordinary school

The Mt Hobson Academy (MHA) offers a truly unique individualized educational experience that fully engages your child at the most critical time in their schooling. Children enrolling in years 11-13, follow the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) pathway as well as experience a level of personal support and teaching style that motivates them to learn and mature their thinking. MHA is registered as a private school which grew out of Mt Hobson Middle School in 2017.

With very small class sizes (12 students per class), the academy can truly personalize and tailor learning to support students achieve their academic and personal goals

A place where students can be who they want to be

The MHA is online and follows the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) pathway for Years 11-13. It is an excellent option for parents and students who want the certainty and consistency of uninterrupted, high expectations learning and teaching for their children and young adults.

Student's testimony

"Being a student of the academy was the most welcoming and calming environment I could have asked for. Having the freedom to do my work in a room on my own, as well as having the freedom to work alone on days where I felt down really helped with my learning and the ability to improve my mental health. Learning via the online classes was a change from other schools. It allowed me to have control over my own learning which ended up being a key skill for university. The staff adjusting to a teaching style that best worked for me, while also adjusting the style for other students, is something very rare, as well as being a core reason to my success in the academy and has attributed me making it to university."



The Core Values of MHA are:



THE VILLA STUDENT

VILLA EDUCATION TRUST

FAITH
DILIGENCE
OPTIMISM
SELF-DISCIPLINE
INTEGRITY
COURAGE
GENEROSITY
PERSEVERANCE
DETERMINATION
SENSE OF PURPOSE
COMPASSION

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VILLA STUDENTS CAN:

INTERPRET PROBLEMS	RESEARCH DEEPLY
MANAGE SELF	ANSWER ACCURATELY
SYNTHESISE INFORMATION	CREATIVELY RESPOND
DEVELOP DETAILS	CO-OPERATE WIDELY
LISTEN ACTIVELY	

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We strive to;

- Provide a window of opportunity for outstanding learning.
- Provide a learning environment that is, innovative and able to be applied to the best advantage to **each** student.
- Preparing students for full participation in their future careers, based on a university pathway.

Special Features of MHA:

Day-to-day for our full provision

All students from years 11-13 experience an interesting, varied, engaging and well-paced day, where they are taught by specialist teachers across the New Zealand Curriculum Learning areas. We work to nurture relationships and weave mindfulness through the day to ensure student well-being is a foundation upon which to build good teaching and learning. Students at this level work through a full provision NCEA Level 1 - 3 programme with a variety of online teachers. Gateway courses can be used to supplement a programme and may incur an additional cost.

Curriculum and Academic Information



At Mt Hobson Academy students meet in their assigned grouping online.



NCEA is the main qualification for secondary school students in New Zealand. It is recognized by employers and used for selection purposes by universities and polytechnics both in New Zealand and overseas. At MHA, students can take six subjects across NCEA Levels 1-3. Core subjects of English and Mathematics are taught by specialist teachers for one period respectively each day.

[How NCEA works. – \(NCEA website click here\)](#)

Level 1

Students are taught English, Science and Mathematics which will gain them 20 internal credits within the years programme. Students within this group will have completed Numeracy and Literacy by mid-year. Students will choose one or 2 other subjects. Students need 80 credits to pass Level 1 NCEA these credits can come from any NCEA level course, literacy and numeracy are included in the 80 credits.

Level 2

In Level 2 students are taught English and Mathematics and can choose three further subjects. Students need 60 credits at Level 2 or above and 20 credits from any level to achieve NCEA Level 2. The Level 1 literacy and numeracy requirements must also be met.

Level 3

For our level 3 students they follow the academic pathway to university, or they follow a vocational gateway course to gain 60 credits. The university pathway consists of 10 credits at Level 1 Mathematics, Level 1 English, and Level 2 English these are university entrance credits which can be achieved at Level 1 & Level 2. Part of UE there must be 14 credits from three subjects on the approved university entrance list. Some Universities will also require a specific grade point average as a pre-requisite for their programmes.

Learning Platforms

Within MHA, we use Microsoft 365 and teaching, learning, communications, turning in projects and assessment feedback takes place through Teams. On enrolment you and your child will be given an orientation around the platform and then follow up if required. Some of our senior classes may be instructed via an external provider who may use Google as a platform. Students will receive their own email address, a login to our student management system and a login to Education Perfect. In partnership, we support students to navigate and optimize the online platforms to build learning capability, confidence and digital literacies required in today's world.



Personal Support and Guidance

Academic counselling ensures students can follow a pathway to achieve the University of Auckland rank score for their chosen course of tertiary study, therefore encouraging students to achieve NCEA at Merit and Excellence levels. The approach also helps students to choose academic subjects that lead to high-quality degrees.

"If a child cannot learn in the way we teach, we must teach in a way the child can learn,"
Unknown

Academy Rules

The Trust Board sets rules to ensure that all students are treated fairly and respect each other and their property. Rules may be changed from time to time as the Board sees fit.

Attendance

Students must attend each scheduled day. When there is sickness, or another good reason, the Academy must be notified as soon as possible on that day.

Internet Use

Internet and e-mail facilities must not be misused in terms of sending or downloading inappropriate materials. All students/parents will be required to sign a standard Cybersafety Agreement Form.

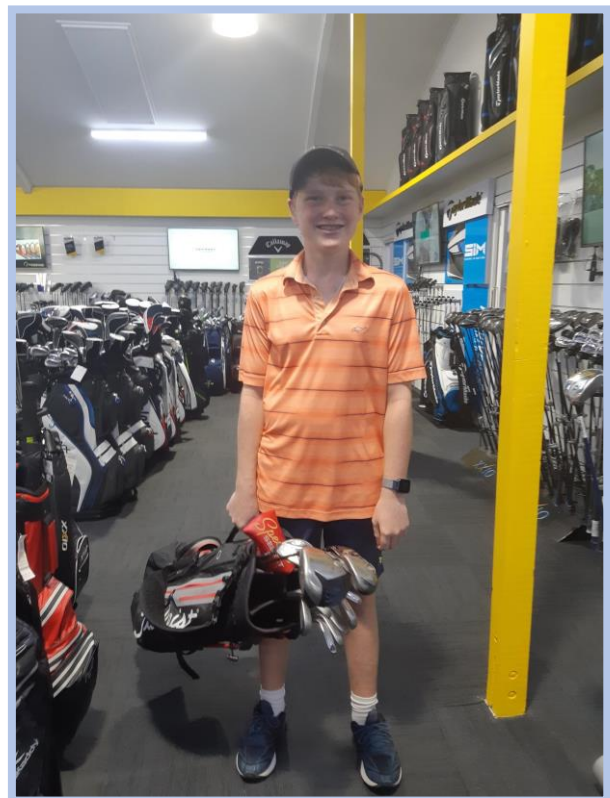
Timetable structure

The timetable is designed to allow students to maximize their learning through a number of contexts and experiences.

- Classes function from 08.30 am – 4.30 pm as need be according to personalised timetable
- Students commit to 4 -6 hrs.' per day of focused on-task learning.
- Each student has an individualized timetable that covers all classes.
- Students maintain contact with the School/Principal by phone, text or email.

Student management system

Mt Hobson Academy uses the services of EDGE Learning. This system has an app as well as access via a computer. This allows both students and or parents to have access to their timetable, attendance records, and academic credit progression results.



Our Staff

At Mt Hobson Academy, not only are our teaching and support staff highly qualified; they are also dedicated and enthusiastic about sharing knowledge and always on hand to support students' development in every way. With international experience and expertise, staff are able to empathize with students of all cultures and backgrounds, as well as enhance intercultural and interracial understanding.



**Saira Boyle,
MHA Principal**

**Post Grad Cert Education
Secondary, BSC Hon, GCI
Accredited Coach**

Villa Education Trust Board Members

Karen Poole (B.B.S)

Cameron Astill (Board Chair)

Josefina Me Fuimaono-Sapolu BCom/LLB, LLM Honours

Saira Boyle Post Grad Cert Education – Secondary (Dist); BSc (Hons); GCI
Accredited Coach





Term Dates 2023

Tuesday 31st January - All staff day
Wednesday 1st February – Mt Hobson Academy Teacher Only day

Term 1: Thursday 2nd February to Thursday 6th April
Statutory Holidays: Monday 6th February (Waitangi Day)
Friday 7th April Good Friday, Mon 10th (Easter Monday), Monday
24th (Teacher Only Day), Tuesday 25th April (ANZAC Day)

Term 2: Wednesday 26th April to Friday 30th June
Statutory Holidays: Monday 5th June (Queen's Birthday), Friday 14th
July (Matariki Observed)

Term 3: Monday 24th July to Friday 22nd September
No Statutory Holidays in Term 3

Term 4: Monday 9th October to Friday 8th December
(Dependent on exam dates)
Statutory Holidays: Monday 23rd October (Labour Day Observed)

School Fees – International Student

(All amounts inclusive of GST)



Overseas Student – less than 1 Term	\$830.00 per week (discounted if no agent is involved in the enrolment process)
Overseas Students Tuition Fees – Annual (These fees apply to students without permanent residences in New Zealand. They do not include the cost of private tuition which must be paid for separately.)	\$30,000.00 Inclusive of application fee, enrolment fee and NZQA standards fees. The annual tuition fees for overseas students must be paid in full by January 14 th to provide adequate time for a student visa to be issued by the New Zealand Immigration Service.
Overseas Students Tuition Fees (Information for agents)	\$28,000.00 (per year) (Commission negotiable)
Additional Costs	Additional costs throughout the year, will include:
	Any course workbooks, materials, and EOTC. All MHA students to have their own laptop for use. Costs for Gateway courses above a fixed provision, will be charged as extra. Teacher aide support is at a cost to the parents or to be provided by the parents.
Homestay Fees *	Homestay Administration Fee: \$250.00
	Homestay Placement Fee: \$250.00 (exempt for the first placement within a 12-month period). Average weekly charge: \$350.00 (please note, this fee can range between \$300.00 and \$400.00)

Notes:

- No refunds will be made except at the discretion of the Trust Board.
- Early notice of withdrawal of application should be given.
- One full term's notice in writing must be submitted to the principal prior to withdrawal of a student from MHA. Failure to do so will result in a full terms fee being charged.
- In cases where the parent or guardian has nominated another person as the 'person responsible for the payment of fees', then that *other* person will be responsible in addition to and not in substitution for the parent or guardian.
- Where fees become outstanding the student's place will be withdrawn with reasonable notice. Any debt recovery costs will be added to debt.
- Fee Protection Insurance – the school operates a fee protection scheme in the case of death by natural causes or accident of fee-paying parents. Upon payment of the first term's fees, new parents qualify for this scheme.
- In the event of suspension or expulsion of a student, a refund of fees will not be made.

Feedback and Comments



*“The influence you have personally had on *** had helped him through two impressionable years of huge growth and learning in a way which cannot be measured by academic results alone. He now has a far better attitude to learning. The pride, self-belief, sense of humor and respect you have fostered will be with him for life and will help him have the confidence to tackle future challenges. For this we are very grateful.”*

“The Academy has allowed me to be able to keep up with my academics while also balancing co-curriculars. It offers a different style of learning that allows for flexible learning. I like that I am able to do my schoolwork on a time basis that suits me and works with my schedule.”

“You have all done such a good job in setting high expectations for behavior and reinforcing the importance of respect, whilst allowing them the freedom to have some fun. I can’t thank you enough for playing a huge part in helping my son to grow from an impulsive kid who was disillusioned with the value of school into a lovely young man who actually enjoys learning and has increased his personal confidence level enormously.”

“What you have at your school is extremely special and should be preserved at all costs. To provide a school environment that achieves educational goals, but most of all is done so in a nurturing environment, gives teenagers the confidence to try new things and overcome fears that most of my generation were taught to conceal in clever ways, but to our overall collective detriment. It is simplistic to tell children to be more risk adverse, but to provide them with the platform to do so allows this to happen of its own accord.”

“Being at the Academy enabled me to achieve my goal of level 3 NCEA and University Entrance. The small classes meant that I had the full attention of the teacher and we were able to work at my pace. We could ask and discuss issues as a team. Outside noise and distractions are kept to a minimum so we can focus on our tasks. The staff are like family, they are keen to help you succeed. The teachers have strong links with outside providers that specialise in your interest. I was encouraged to get involved with a tertiary provider by doing holiday programmes this opened the pathway for me to continue my education after secondary school.”

“The class sizes are great. Children cannot ‘hide’ or ‘slip through the cracks. We like the work ethic and culture being encouraged.”

“Thank you so much for an amazing experience. I look back at it now and can’t believe how much I learned and developed.”



VILLA EDUCATION TRUST

a model for the 21st century

Mt Hobson Academy

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