



Welcome to Fordell School. As a new parent, you will naturally want to know what goes on at our school. This booklet is designed to help you to get to know the school and its activities.

Our Vision:

“Community partnership creating confident, connected, life-long learners.”

Our Values:

Respect, Responsibility, Courage, Compassion,

Our Learning Muscles - The 4Rs:

Reciprocity, Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflectiveness

Fordell School

The quality of our school is the key to your child’s future. What we do here is important. We have a powerful influence on how your child will picture themselves as learners and achievers of the future. We want our students to look back on their time at Fordell School and say that it prepared them well for the modern world. At Fordell School we design challenges and pathways that make for powerful learning, which are meaningful and relevant. Fordell School looks to the future by building on the best of the past and incorporating this with the knowledge of the present. We also seek new ideas and carefully evaluate changes that will lead to a better tomorrow.

Preparing Children for the Future

Our programmes are built around the following understandings:

- We develop the ability to use our knowledge, to act, to create, to invent but to do this within a moral sphere that will benefit and contribute to the growth of society
- We recognise that what we imagine, feel and create, can contribute to our developing understanding of the world
- We provide the tools and understanding to live and work in a world of data and information

Developing the Potential of Individuals

We create an environment which empowers every child to develop their learning by:

- Recognising individual needs and developing strengths
- Developing opportunities and giving encouragement so that children may discover, and believe in themselves as worthwhile and valued individuals
- Acknowledging and celebrating differences
- Instilling respect for the rights and values of all peoples and cultures
- Acknowledging a variety of experiences
- Valuing group cooperation, collaboration, problem solving and participation
- Ensuring all pupils are literate and numerate
- Modeling and implanting healthy practices and developing programmes to expand bodily awareness, psycho-motor abilities and positive attitudes towards sport

Recognising the Strength of the Community

We are a learning community of parents, children, teachers, and others. A community that:

- Recognises and solves problems together
- Works together through cooperation, collaboration, support and celebration
- Learns from experts, from each other and learns together
- Creates and invents

Learning from the Past

We are proud of our heritage and recognise:

- Traditions and beliefs that have become part of our school community
- Achievements of our past students
- A sense of craftsmanship and pride, whatever the task
- Our family, encompassing children, teachers, and parents of today, yesterday and those who will come tomorrow

- That knowledge and skills in basic communication and numeracy are important if people are to be effective in the modern world

School Expectations

Our school values are our school expectations – they are our everyday language in all that we do. We teach these values in group dynamics, collaboration, problem solving and awareness of one’s self. We encourage tolerance and respect towards others. We expect all people in our school to act with:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Courage
- Compassion

Our background

We are a full primary Year 1-8 school of 115 children with a Principal, 6 teachers, a teacher aide, caretaker, and an office administrator.

One quarter of our children live in the village. About one third live on farms, and as rural dwellers nearby, and some come from Wanganui. Many of our students come to school by bus.

The school community is very supportive of the school, with parents and caregivers turning out in large numbers to school functions, working bees and sports meetings. Sports teams are coached and managed by groups of parents and teachers.

The school is well provided with educational resources, a library, and a range of ICT equipment. The school is constantly updating, extending and widening the range of opportunities available to students to ensure they are well equipped for their future.

The local community includes a hall, 1km from the school, which is used by the school, and a swimming pool, 0.7km distance, which is used intensively during summer months for the swimming programmes.

Fordell Pre-school is adjacent to the school, and the school and pre-school work together to ensure smooth transition into school.

STAFF

Principal	Yvette Moorhouse	
Teachers	Years 6,7,8	Matt Johnston
	Years 6,7,8	Gabby Gloyn
	Years 5	Fiona Mair
	Years 3-4	Tom Abraham
	Years 2-3	Sarah Gray
	Years 0-1	Kaye Clow
Office Administrator	Juanita Forlong	
Librarian/ Teacher Aide	Juanita Forlong	
Teacher Aide	Paula Vincent	
Caretaker	Grant Gaisford	
Cleaning Fairy	Viv Jones	

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Linda O’Neill
Trustees	Linda O’Neill, Kelly Glasgow, Darryl Vincent, Stacey Houlahan, Nicky Gill, Yvette Moorhouse & Matt Johnston.

The Board of Trustees is elected by parents and guardians of children attending the school. The Board’s role is to govern the school. Meetings are held twice per term and parents/caregivers are welcome to attend.

The Fundraising Committee

This group was formed to:

- Foster and encourage close co-operation and communication between parent / caregivers, the Principal, staff and pupils.
- Work together with the Board of Trustees and staff in the best interests of the children.
- Bring parents and staff together in social activities.
- Assist fundraising for improved facilities and opportunities for the school community.

For enquiries, please contact us on 3427828

SCHOOL HOURS

9.00am Morning school begins
 11.00 – 11.30am Morning break
 12.45 – 1.25pm Lunch
 1.30pm Afternoon school begins
 3.00pm Afternoon school ends
 School Office Hours From 8.30am daily
 Teachers can be contacted before 9am or from 3.15- 4.30pm.

CLASSES

Our teachers are the ones who inspire learning and bring out the talents in every child. They create opportunities that challenge, sets in place curiosity, skills and understandings that build lifelong learners.

ENROLMENTS

Fordell School has many wonderful features, and we welcome the opportunity to share them with you. It is important to us that you and your child feel comfortable and part of our school. It is our commitment to offer you time and information to enable you to make a quality decision regarding the future education of your child:

- You are welcome to come and visit the school at anytime
- Ask questions and walk around the school to see classes in action

If your child is nearly five and starting school:

- Arrange classroom visits to ease your child into school
- We need to see your child's birth certificate or passport for enrolment
- We need a copy of your child's immunisation records
- A pre-enrolment agreement for the safety of your child while on school visits is required to be signed by parents; please fill in the attached form and return to school
- Complete a Health Form providing details of any health problems or medication that your child requires
- Complete an Internet Safety Agreement
- Complete a Contact Details Form providing alternative contact details and phone numbers which can be used in the advent of an emergency, if you cannot be reached

SCHOOL CURRICULUM:

Our school's focus is on providing programmes that challenge and extend our students' learning. Literacy and Numeracy are a priority in all classes of the school. The morning sessions focus on these key learning areas of reading, writing and mathematics through a rich curriculum of relevant and context driven programmes. We work in a collaborative and flexible environment using the strengths of each teacher to develop and build on student's strengths and areas of need. Developing information literacy (the ability to access, process and record information from a variety of sources) and ICT skills are also an integral part of the school programme. Health and fitness skills are taught regularly, with children having opportunities to participate in a wide range of sports. The teaching and learning in our classrooms flow from our school's vision and the implementation of our inquiry learning practices of developing knowledge, using it and shaping future ideas or actions.

The school identifies children with individual strengths and talents and endeavors to provide opportunity for these to be further extended.

Opportunities for children to be involved in drama, music, science, technology and art are all part of our school rich curriculum.

HOMEWORK

Although homework is not compulsory, many teachers and parents see benefits from regular homework through the development of self discipline, the opportunity for families to share in their children's schooling and reinforcement of work covered at school. Class teachers set differing amounts of homework and will inform parents directly.

Parents are asked to encourage homework and check that the work is of an acceptable standard. It is very helpful to staff if parents sign their child's homework or their reading notebook. *Please contact the classroom teacher if you have any concerns or queries.*

TECHNOLOGY: YEAR 7/8 STUDENTS

The Year 7 and 8 students attend Technology at Cullinane College each Wednesday 11.00 – 1.00. Shoes must be worn at woodwork, and long hair must be tied back. The school is responsible for tuition fees. All material fees are to be paid by parents concerned.

SPORT, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, SWIMMING

These are an essential part of the New Zealand Curriculum and children are expected to participate. If a medical condition exists which precludes participation on either a long term or temporary basis, a note is required and a medical certificate may be appropriate in some cases. Swimming togs are required each day during the swimming season. The children will not be taken swimming if the weather is not suitable. We provide many sporting opportunities such as duathlon, cross-country, sailing, athletics, football, rugby, touch rugby, netball, T-ball, swimming, gymnastics, hockey and tennis.

SCHOOL SPORTS

The school is happy to organise teams and enter them for sports, but parents are responsible for transporting and supervising teams. School uniforms are to be worn. These can be purchased from the school office. All fees for sports teams are to be paid by parents.

CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

We pride ourselves on providing opportunities for all children in many diverse ways. We have annual events such as Do-athlon, Book Week, Science Week, Speech Competition, Ag/Pet Day, Grandparents' Day, Fordell School Production and House Challenges which develop student's strengths and talents.

AG/PET DAY

Like most rural schools, we hold an Agriculture/Pet Day in October or November. As well as lambs and calves, children bring other pets along. Children produce exhibits during the day prior to the event and these are judged by impartial locals. A schedule for the day is usually sent home in October. A Fordell Young Farmer Competition is held where all students have the chance to demonstrate their farming skills and knowledge. This day is an inclusive event enabling all students to learn about and experience life in a rural setting.

CLUSTER OPPORTUNITIES

The Fordell School Charter highlights the need for student contact with neighboring schools. This is achieved through sporting and cultural activities involving schools in the Wanganui East Rural Schools Cluster. This includes opportunities for the children to participate in: swimming events, Kiwi Sports, ballroom dancing, athletics, cross country running, leadership workshops, speech competitions, etc.

SCHOOL CAMPS

The school encourages and plans regular EOTC experiences. For Senior Hub students, this includes an annual school camp (Year 5 – 8 students go on a camp) and cluster leadership camp for Year 7 and 8 students. Parents will be expected to contribute to the costs of travel and camp fees, relating to food, shelter and leisure activities.

SCHOOL STATIONERY

We do not supply school stationery. Stationery lists are sent home at the end of the school year and are also available from the school office.

PARENT CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL

We are pleased to have parents, caregivers and grandparents actively involved in the school. At enrolment, parents will be asked about ways in which they might like to contribute to the life of the school. We welcome all parents and grandparents who are able to become involved, especially with morning reading and sports teams.

Parents are always welcome at the various inter-school fixtures. Both children and teachers delight in the support and interest shown by parents on these occasions.

Concerns

It is vital that problems or concerns are sorted out as early as possible. If parents have any concerns regarding any school matter, they should contact their class teacher first and arrange to meet. If the outcome is not resolved, parents may then make an appointment with the Principal. It is part of the Principal's role to deal with matters of this kind and the maximum co-operation will result if parents work through the right channels.

If this consultation does not prove successful, parents can then put their concerns in writing to the Chairperson of the Board.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school daily between the hours of 9am to 3pm, the school is legally responsible for your child's supervision. If for any reason you need to take your child out of school for an appointment, the school **MUST** be informed. Please notify the school by telephone by 9.15am if your child is absent.

REPORTING TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

The school policy is to arrange conferences in term one and three. These conferences are invaluable and contribute to a greater understanding of your child. A written report on each child is sent home to all parents in terms two and four. Parents are welcome to discuss the progress of their children at any time by making an appointment with the teacher.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

The school has, and continues to develop, an extensive selection of books in the library. All classes are timetabled to visit the library at least once a week.

The Public Library in Wanganui offers excellent facilities to those who become members. The mobile library bus calls at 10 am on alternate Mondays and is available to all students. We can arrange the forms to obtain library cards.

MONEY AT SCHOOL

When money is sent to school for whatever purpose, please ensure it is safely sealed inside a named envelope.

NEWSLETTERS (Fordell Flyer)

Information to parents is sent out via the school newsletter, the Fordell Flyer, once a fortnight. Please ring the school if you are not receiving your newsletter. Our website and Fordell School Facebook page are regularly updated and has important information for parents. You can also download the Skool Loop App for instant messages/notices that we send out, the current Fordell Flyer is also on here.

SCHOOL TELEPHONE

Parents are welcome to phone the school to get an urgent message to their children. Such messages will be passed on.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

School assemblies are held fortnightly on a Friday. This is a chance for students to celebrate and share the work they have been doing. Parents are welcome to attend these assemblies which are held from 2.15pm in Room 5.

SCHOOL BUS

The school expectations/values also apply to the bus. A child left unattended at a school bus stop will be returned to school and home contact will be made. ***Please ensure that you are there in time to collect your child off the bus.***

Transit operates the school transport contract. There are two runs - the first to Ohaumoko Road and the second along No. 2 Line as far as 750 No 2 Line. We require that parents inform the school if their child is not on the afternoon bus.

TRANSPORT

Most of our contacts with other schools involve travel and while the bus will be used when numbers warrant it, parents will be asked from time to time to assist in providing transport. The school is fortunate to be able to call upon parents to assist with transport. All children under the age of 7 will travel on a booster seat when in private vehicles.

CYCLE HELMETS

The school has a responsibility to uphold the law regarding the wearing of cycle helmets. As from 1st January 1994 the wearing of cycle helmets when riding cycles is considered a priority within the school's health programme. Helmets are also required for scooters and skateboards.

BOOK CLUB

Usually twice a term children are able to purchase books through the Book Club. Brochures are sent home as they arrive.

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

All clothing and personal effects **MUST** be clearly and permanently marked with your child's name. A bin is kept outside Room 3 picked up during the day. These clothes are available for inspection by the children at all times. The clothing is laid out and children are taken past to reclaim lost items. Parents are invited to inspect the bin whenever they are at school.

Fordell School/Sports Uniform: Every student will need a uniform, these are worn on school outings and sport events. These can be purchased from the School Office. We do not hire/loan out uniforms.

Sunhats: All children are required to wear a sunhat outside during Terms 1 and 4. This is part of the Sun Smart policy. Ideally all students and teachers should wear a wide brim hat which provides maximum sun protection. These can be purchased from the school office for \$8.50.

PHOTOCOPYING AND LAMINATING

The school owns a photocopier which is capable of enlarging and reducing the original copy. A same day service is available for small runs, although more time may be required for large runs. Cost 20c per copy. The laminator can laminate up to A3 size.

Costs are A3: \$3.50; A4:\$1.95; Smaller: \$1.00. Laminating is an excellent way to preserve those special certificates, photos, etc.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

• DENTAL THERAPIST

The Dental Unit visits Fordell twice a year. Should your child require dental treatment in the period between visits, phone Fordell School to ascertain the whereabouts of the therapist

• HEALTH CHECKS

At various stages through a Student's life at school, checks are made on eyesight, hearing and general health. If you are concerned about any aspect of your child's health, an appointment can be made to see the Public Health Nurse who calls at the school regularly.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Our School Health Nurse calls at the school regularly. She is available to both parents and students for consultation. If you need to contact our Health Nurse, contact Good Health Wanganui, Public Health Centre.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- **PLAY GROUP** - A play group meets at the Fordell Hall on Wednesday mornings at 9.00am to 12am. The group is organised and run by the parents of pre-schoolers. There is no lower age limit. This helps local children to make an easy transition to Pre-School and on to school life as well as providing an opportunity for parents to meet together on a regular basis.

- **FORDELL PRE-SCHOOL**

The Pre-School operates for 2 to 5year old next to the school. They are open Monday through to Friday from 8.30am to 3.15 pm. The 30 free ECE hours are available. Pre-school works closely with Fordell School, thus ensuring excellent foundations and relationships are established before they

start school. Fordell Pre-school has excellent opportunities for individual growth and development are provided. Enquiries please phone 3427-878.

- **SWIMMING POOL** - The pool is owned and operated by the community. Access to the pool is by a key system. Please contact the school for information about how to obtain a pool key.
- **FORDELL HALL** - The hall is operated by a local committee. Bookings for the hall can be made through the Secretary, Mrs. Janet Wakeling 3427551.

Thank you and we look forward to welcoming you here at Fordell School.

Kind regards

Yvette Moorhouse

Principal

Fordell School

principal@fordell.school.nz

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