



**MOUNT  
ASPIRING  
COLLEGE**  
Te Kāreti O Maunga Tititēa



# HOSTEL INFORMATION



Enjoy Success!



## MAC Hostel Programme

Thank you for your enquiry about the Mount Aspiring College Hostel. This leaflet is produced in conjunction with our prospectus and is designed to give more specific information about the Hostel Programme. If there is any further information you require please feel free to contact us.



“Hi, it’s Hayden Gemmell here. I attended the Hostel Programme. I would like to say the biggest thank you to MAC for such an enlightening year and it was from this year that I gained an insight into a positive and healthy way of life. I value this year immensely as an integral part of my life and it set me up for obtaining great achievements. The philosophies behind the school and the hostel programme are second to none.”



## MAC Hostel Features

The hostel provides accommodation for thirty Year 13 students wishing to attend Mount Aspiring College to take advantage of the outdoor pursuits and lifeskills programme.

The hostel is a well organised, supervised environment where students co-operate and learn to live together in self-contained villas of six in a simulated flatting situation. The hostel is co-educational, but each villa is segregated.

Life skills are taught at the hostel and overseen by the hostel manager and assistant manager.

Students share responsibility for budgeting, shopping and cooking within each of the flats on a roster basis. The hostel staff assist the students with planning, monitoring progress and assessing the final results.

Outdoor pursuits is a major focus of the hostel programme and in addition to taking the college Outdoor Pursuits course hostel students are also involved in an outdoor pursuits programme on Sundays. To take fullest advantage of the one year programme students should come with a good general level of fitness and an interest in developing their outdoor skills.

At the beginning of each year a three-day orientation programme is held for hostel students. Along with outdoor activities, it includes:

- Team building based on support, co-operation, trust, honesty and friendship.
- The acceptance of the strengths, weaknesses and opinions of others.
- Group approach to problem solving.
- Group requirements for members to take leadership roles and organisational responsibility.





The orientation programme is a key factor in preparing students for the outdoor pursuits programme and the hostel lifeskills programme.

The hostel manager lives on site and is responsible for the supervision of the lifeskills programme, the welfare of students, and maintenance of the hostel rules. Discipline is based on a concept of self-discipline and responsibility, but at the same time hostel operating and non-negotiable rules are essential. Group counselling will be undertaken to ensure students fully appreciate this concept, as breaches of the rules are unacceptable.

The hostel manager is supported by an assistant manager who also lives on site and is on duty at the weekends and some evenings, and an outdoor pursuits supervisor who co-ordinates the Sunday programme. In addition a member of senior staff from the college has overall responsibility for the hostel and its integration with the college.

#### The Outcomes

- The hostel seeks to encourage students to learn through carefully guided experiences - ones which are meaningful and impact upon them forever.
- The safe and controlled challenges of the outdoor pursuits programme provide an excellent physical balance to the demands of the college programme.
- The hostel programme will assist young people to make the transition from home to taking care of themselves. This goal can be reached while completing a full academic course.
- It is expected that the experience gained in Wanaka will be character building and will successfully prepare students for their next stage of development.



## Hostel Outdoor Pursuits

The Hostel Outdoor Pursuits programme runs every Sunday through Terms 1, 2 and 3 and for the first four Sundays in Term 4. It is designed to complement the school outdoor pursuits programmes in that it extends the skills that the students learn through the school programme and gives them the opportunity to explore the local environment more widely.

The programme is adventure packed and encourages the students to push their ability in the outdoors and to gain awareness of their own skills and limitations. It is also an important part of hostel team-building and encourages a strong sense of morale. It is run by industry qualified outdoor instructors and is compulsory for all hostel students. The students' attendance and participation is monitored and parents can keep up to date with their activities through the hostel Facebook page.

By the end of the year hostel students have received a good grounding in outdoor skills and experience which should provide them with the confidence to pursue a range of outdoor activities independently and with confidence.



I have to say that my son's year at Mount Aspiring College was the highlight of his educational experience.

Thanks so much to everyone at the school and the hostel for giving him such a great experience, education, and a fantastic launch-pad for the rest of his life. His personal development whilst with you all in Wanaka was most positive, and as his Dad, deeply appreciated.



Parent of Hosteller



# The Lifeskills Programme

The lifeskills programme is designed to prepare students for the transition from home to flatting. It provides them with the skills they need for independent living and prepares them for the sometimes challenging environment of living away from home with a group of peers, but within the supportive network of the hostel and college community.

The Mount Aspiring College hostel is based on a 'village' of five independent units plus two staff units attached to the college campus. There is room for 30 students who live in single sex units of six, sharing a bedroom with another student.

Within each unit the students are responsible for cooking, cleaning and managing a budget for six people. The hostel manager and assistant manager provide guidance and structure, with the expectation that by the end of the year the students will be taking responsibility to take care of themselves.

The Lifeskills Programme has been in place for many years and we are proud of the feedback we consistently receive.

“ As parents we have been overwhelmed with how well our daughter has adjusted to life at MAC and in the hostel. She is absolutely loving everything you have to offer, from the small class sizes, fantastic outdoor pursuits opportunities, enough freedom as well as control in the hostel, meeting all the new students and teachers, and of course life in the hostel. She tells us there is something to look forward to every day – we are so excited as well as envious when we hear what she has been up to!

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Parent of Hosteller





[www.mountaspiringcollege.nz](http://www.mountaspiringcollege.nz)



[www.facebook.com/mountaspiringcollege](http://www.facebook.com/mountaspiringcollege)

The best place to find out what is happening at MAC right now is to check our website. It contains pages full of everything you need to know about what goes on at Mount Aspiring College and lots, lots more.

You can also find us (and 'Like Us') on Facebook where we not only have a college page but also a Mount Aspiring College Hostel page. This will give you a more in-depth idea of the kind of things that go on and an idea of the busy schedule of activities that makes up the MAC Hostel Programme.

Use the web addresses shown or alternatively, use your smart phone to read the QR code above to instantly have our website at your fingertips.



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