

# Made for Girls.

## International Equestrian Programme



NGA TAWA  
DIOCESAN SCHOOL



KAUANUANU

MĀNA

MĀIA

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

COURAGE

# Welcome

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Nga Tawa Diocesan School is a New Zealand girls'-only school with a rich heritage spanning 134 years. At Nga Tawa, we celebrate a vibrant community deeply grounded in strong values and cherished traditions. Our commitment to nurturing excellence and fostering personal growth ensures that each student is empowered to reach her fullest potential in a supportive and inspiring environment. Nga Tawa welcomes international students aged 13 to 18 to join us in continuing a legacy of academic achievement and character development that has stood the test of time.





“Made for girls means knowing each Nga Tawa girl individually and catering for her specific learning needs.”

**Lesley Carter**  
Principal

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full prospectus



KAUANUANU | MĀNA | MĀIA  
RESPECT | INTEGRITY | COURAGE

Building on the strength and reputation of our academy, we are thrilled to introduce the Nga Tawa International Equestrian Programme (IEP) – a unique opportunity for international students to immerse themselves in the authentic New Zealand equestrian lifestyle.

Designed to provide a comprehensive, hands-on experience, the IEP invites students to delve into the world of horse care, riding, and competition, all while receiving personalised mentoring and training from experienced coaches. Participants will not only learn the ins and outs of managing their own pony but also gain access to a variety of riding opportunities, including tailored one-on-one lessons in our state-of-the-art all-weather facilities.





The Nga Tawa International Equestrian Programme is designed to cater to international students wanting an all-round New Zealand equestrian experience.

**Our international students have the opportunity to:**

- Learn about all the ins and outs of horse care in New Zealand.
- Care for and manage your own pony.
- Ride four to five times per week with access to a range of experienced coaches.
- Be involved in NZ riding opportunities (such as shows and farm rides).
- Set your own riding goals and work towards achieving them with the support and encouragement of Nga Tawa coaches and mentors.



A person is riding a dark horse in a large, dark outdoor arena. The sun is setting in the background, creating a warm orange glow. A dark building is visible on the left side of the arena.

Nga Tawa is home to New Zealand's largest on-site school Equestrian Academy. Set amongst 90 acres of rolling Rangitikei farmland, Nga Tawa's Equestrian Academy provides all the facilities young riders need including three all-weather arenas, 100 covered yards, a 1200m exercise track and a 9-horse truck. The Equestrian Academy is just 100 metres from the boarding houses and classrooms.

A group of people are riding horses in a grassy field. In the background, there is a road and a line of trees. A white horse is running in the foreground.

"It's great to work with students of all levels that are dedicated to be the best they can and have fun while they are doing it"  
- Andrew Scott, Head of Equestrian





Our International Equestrian Programme aims to seamlessly integrate our International Students into the Nga Tawa way of life. With supervision and mentoring along the way, we cater to all our equestrian students' goals and aspirations while in New Zealand.

We have a range of valued school horses and ponies who make our IEP possible. We work with riders of all abilities, from complete beginners to accomplished equestrians.

- Beginner
- Intermediate
- Advanced (prior notice required)

We endeavour to provide our equine partners with the best possible care and attention. Following Equestrian Sports New Zealand (ESNZ) and New Zealand Pony Club Association (NZPCA) guidelines, we aim to equip our international riders with the 'whole horse experience.'

On successful completion of the Nga Tawa International Equestrian Programme, students will receive the Nga Tawa Horse Management Certificate.



## **What a week for the International Equestrian Riders looks like**

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- Riding four to five times per week in our all-weather facilities.
- Minimum of one one-on-one riding lesson with our International Equestrian Programme coach.
- Ability to book additional lessons with other coaches.
- General horse care and duties for your own assigned school pony / horse.
- A weekly theory session working towards the Nga Tawa International Equestrian Programme Certificate.
- Tailored mentoring and competition opportunities based on abilities.



An aerial photograph of the Nga Tawa equestrian campus. The image shows a large, open area with several buildings, including a large white building with a blue roof and a smaller white building with a blue roof. There are also several smaller white buildings and a large, open field. The campus is surrounded by a line of trees and a fence. In the background, there are rolling hills and a small town. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark rectangle in the center of the image.

Nga Tawa is home to some of the best equestrian facilities in the country, set in a beautiful rural location that offers both space and opportunity. With expansive grounds, purpose-built arenas, and all-weather riding surfaces, our campus is designed to support a wide range of equestrian activities year-round. The peaceful countryside setting allows for daily riding in a focused and lively environment while still being conveniently located near many of New Zealand's key equestrian events and competitions. Our students benefit from regular access to local shows, farm rides, and off-site training opportunities, making Nga Tawa the ideal base for riders to develop their skills and gain real-world experience in a supportive and well-equipped setting.



At Nga Tawa, we pride ourselves on the comprehensive support we offer our riders and their horses. Our school horse truck travels across the Lower-Central North Island and is out most weekends during term time, transporting students and their ponies to a wide range of shows, training days, events and as scenic farm rides that add variety and adventure to their riding experience.

Onsite, our Equestrian Academy is backed by an exceptional team of equine professionals who provide holistic, wrap-around care. This includes access to a trusted equine vet, farrier, saddle fitter, equine nutritionist, physiotherapist, sports massage therapist, dentist, and clipping services. With this level of expert support, we ensure both horse and rider are healthy, confident, and performing at their best.







Complementing our outstanding facilities and support network is our team of fantastic coaches, each bringing extensive competitive experience in their chosen disciplines. Whether it's show jumping, dressage, eventing, or general riding, our coaches are not only accomplished riders themselves but also exceptional mentors who are passionate about developing young talent.

With coaches onsite daily, students benefit from consistent, high-quality instruction tailored to their individual goals and skill levels. This daily access to expert coaching gives our riders the best possible opportunity to grow in confidence, refine their technique, and succeed in their chosen discipline, both in and out of the competition arena.



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