



**Hamilton Christian School  
Hamilton**

**Confirmed**

**Private School  
Review Report**

# Private School Review Report: Hamilton Christian School

## 1 Background

The Chief Review Officer has a statutory duty to report on the performance of private schools throughout New Zealand.

Section 351 of the Education Act 1989, requires the Education Review Office (ERO) to review fully registered private schools, and to report to the Ministry of Education on whether each school continues to meet the criteria for full registration.

This review report was prepared in accordance with standard procedures approved by the Chief Review Officer.

## 2 Criteria for Registration

The school provides a safe and well-ordered environment for students and staff. Premises and equipment are suitable for purpose. In line with its mission statement Hamilton Christian School is clearly Christ-centred in all areas of school life and tuition. The board makes sound financial provision to support teaching and learning across the school. There has been considerable investment in computer technology to enhance the curriculum. Classrooms are well resourced and teachers are conscientious in providing attractive and informative learning environments for students.

The board is committed to employing suitably qualified teachers who have a Christian background, to work in the school. The principal is proactive in fulfilling his role as professional advisor to the board. He is well informed about education and with support from the deputy principal, provides informed professional leadership to the board, staff and parent community.

The principal has developed a robust appraisal process for staff. Teachers are well supported to meet expectations through a rich and varied programme of professional learning and development. They are providing effective programmes for learning, and students make very good progress as they move through the school.

Well-analysed, school-wide achievement data, especially for senior students, indicates high levels of achievement in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA). The number of students achieving endorsements and University Entrance passes compares favourably with other similar schools.

The school provides a broad curriculum that is strongly underpinned by Christian values and beliefs. Since the previous ERO review in 2011 the principal has worked collaboratively with teachers to embed the International Cambridge Primary Curriculum at Years 1 to 8. Currently the school is reviewing its curriculum and enriching this through the integration of aspects of *The New Zealand Curriculum*. As part of this review process teachers are developing a framework for teaching and assessment in writing that aligns with the Ministry of Education Literacy Learning Progressions. The principal plans to extend this model to reading, mathematics and science curriculum areas.

Parents are well informed about their childrens academic and all round development and progress. School leaders and teachers are increasingly involving parents as partners in their childrens learning.

The schools managers have attested that they comply with the provisions of section 35 of the Education Act 1989 in respect to their being fit and proper persons to manage the school.

ERO, trustees and principal have identified the following areas for continuing development:

- diagnostically using student achievement information to better inform teaching and learning
- involving students in discussions about their achievement information so that they understand it, and know how to progress to the next level.

### **3 Other Obligations**

There are good systems in place for the school's managing body to be assured that its other statutory obligations are met.

### **4 Other Matters**

#### **Provision for international students**

The school is a signatory to the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students established under section 238F of the Education Act 1989. The school has attested that it complies with all aspects of the Code.

At the time of this ERO review there were five international students attending the school.

The school has well-developed systems in place to care for and support international students. These students receive one-to-one tuition in English and are well supported to become actively involved in the life of the school. Designated staff members maintain close contact with international students, their families and home-stay carers. Students' academic progress is closely monitored and reported to parents.

### **5 Conclusion**

On the basis of the information obtained during the review, ERO considers that Hamilton Christian School meets the criteria for registration as a private school set out in the Education Act 1989.



Dale Bailey  
Deputy Chief Review Officer Northern

15 June 2015

## About the School

Location	Hamilton	
Ministry of Education profile number	451	
School type	Composite (Years 1 to 13)	
School roll	337	
Number of international students	5	
Gender composition	Girls 52% Boys 48%	
Ethnic composition	NZ European/Pākehā Māori Other European Other Asian Chinese Indian South East Asian Pacific	57% 4% 19% 7% 5% 4% 3% 1%
Review team on site	May 2015	
Date of this report	15 June 2015	
Most recent ERO report(s)	Private School Review Private School Review Private School Review	June 2011 October 2007 September 2004